

Words can't express my regret when I tell you I have made a mistake with respect to the executive meeting back-up tapes. After the June 14 release of closed minutes, I cleaned up and organized the written and tape files. Feeling I could do so, I discarded discussion tapes associated with the written released minutes. I felt I had this backlog of tapes, starting in January 2004, and I systematically worked through the list of released minutes to match up with the corresponding discussion tapes, which tapes I marked "released". I have been Board Secretary for over 6 years, and before that I worked for the District as Recreation Secretary for 17 years. I've always felt confident in my handling of Park District confidential records. Until July 26th, when Attorney Konsky was updating you on the Alms/Partridge lawsuit, I had been oblivious to my mistake. Realizing the tape record you were discussing couldn't be transcribed because of what I had done – it hit me like a ton of bricks.

On Monday, July 31st, I told Bonnie of my mistake, and Attorney Konsky. At Attorney Konsky's request, I have inventoried the tapes in storage, to determine what records are gone.

I am solely responsible for this huge mistake and it will not happen again. Whatever I need to do to account for it, I will do.

I know the perception of bungling these tapes will be out there, and I do not want the District and Board to be blamed. Please know I would never purposely put you or the District in the position I find myself in. It was a thoughtless mistake on my part, but an honest one.

To guard against future mistakes I will:

- Use only one side of one tape, per recording
- I will inventory tapes on a semi-annual basis, as I have always done with the formal written minutes.
- At no point will I attempt to organize or clean up the back-up tapes unless directed to do so by this Board.
- I will continue to store the tape records in the safe along with the confidential minutes.
- I will ask for an outline or plan of action for release of the confidential tape records from Attorney Konsky.

August 7, 2006


V. Joyce McLemore
Secretary of the Board
Peoria Park District

