

# WINNETKA TALK

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## TELLS ROTARIANS OF ZONING BOARD TASKS

**Robert Kingery, Chairman of Winnetka Board of Appeals, Sums Work of Four Years**

Up to August 20 the zoning board of appeals of Winnetka had considered 228 proposals to amend or grant exceptions to the zoning ordinance. On these 228 problems which have come before the board more than 250 meetings were held, averaging approximately one a week, in the four and one-half years since January 17, 1922, when the ordinance was put into effect.

Those were facts presented to the Winnetka Rotary club at its luncheon last Friday by Robert Kingery, chairman of the Winnetka zoning board, in a talk on the zoning law as it applies in Winnetka.

Fourteen requests were for re-zoning, he stated, only two of which were approved and recommended to the Village council and one of those was passed by the council in part only. The only re-zoning which has been done in the village is a 300-foot frontage on Linden street between Scott avenue and Merrill street, and the northwest corner of Center street and Chatfield road, both being changed from "A" residential to "C" commercial.

### Solve General Problems

There have been twelve general problems such as amendment to the text of the ordinance, special interpretation of the ordinance without reference to a specific project, and zoning of newly annexed territory.

Fifteen cases were architecture of commercial buildings. The board of appeals serves as a special committee on architecture of commercial buildings appointed by the Village council.

Of the remaining 187 problems which the board of appeals has considered, 106 requested exceptions to the ordinance have been refused, thirty-six of them pertaining to private garages on "A" residential property.

Only eighty-one exceptions have been granted, forty-four of them being garages on "A" residential property and in twenty-one of the forty-four cases changes were made in the plans before approval was given.

### Garages Bring Problems

The experience in Winnetka has been that an exceptionally large share of cases which come to the board of appeals concern private garages. In many cases the board of appeals has been able to work out with the owners a scheme whereby the garage is attached to the residence or is otherwise made a part of the architectural treatment.

The board takes every opportunity to recommend that in all new houses built in Winnetka on the smaller lots the garage be made a part of the house, thus leaving a larger part of the lot open for lawn and gardens and not cut up by a driveway and a separate building, Mr. Kingery said.

The day has practically gone when the garage is considered in the same way a stable or barn used to be and is kept at the greatest distance possible from the residence, he explained. Architects are building garages as integral part of houses in a large number of the residences being built today.

## Fossum Breaks Course Record at Playfield

Oscar Fossum, 1021 Cherry street, entered Winnetka's hall of fame last Sunday when he negotiated the Skokie Playfield golf course in 61, or five under par. This established a new record for the course, the previous figure having been 64.

In achieving his remarkable score Mr. Fossum annexed five birdies and a eagle. His card showed up as follows:

Out— 4 3 3 2 4 3 4 4 4 —31  
Par— 4 4 4 3 4 4 3 4 3 —33

In — 4 4 3 4 4 3 2 3 3 —30  
Par— 4 4 3 4 4 4 4 3 3 —33

Friends who have followed Mr. Fossum's play recently predict that he will be heard from in National golf circles if he maintains his present pace.

## Park Board Plans Golf Matches for Playfield Course

September 4 and 5, will witness the first rounds of the Park board tournament at the Playfield golf course, and the qualifying rounds for the Marten cup, which can be played anytime during the week-end will get underway.

On Labor Day, a 36-hole match play against par tournament will be staged, any time during the day. Prizes will be awarded for low net, scores for 18 and 36 holes, and low gross score for 36 holes.

But on September 12, will come the real excitement, for a mixed foursome tournament, during the afternoon, is being planned. "Bring out your husband, and help him win the prizes to be awarded," is the Park board's challenge to the fair golfers. "This will be a most interesting 18-hole handicap match, and promises to bring big crowds to the Playfield. This will give you a great chance to don the rainbow socks, the plaid sweater, the plus-8-knickers, and astonish the girlfriend with some mean drives and classy puts. And here is the opportunity you have been looking for to sparkle out some good golf, and bring in a low score."

## Council Approves Zoning of Manus Subdivision

The Village council Tuesday evening passed an ordinance for the zoning of the Manus Indian Hill sub-division, south of Winnetka avenue between the railroad and Ridge road, recently annexed to the village.

Lots fronting on the street parallel with and west of the railroad are zoned for business, in accordance with the recommendation of the zoning board of appeals, which several weeks ago held a number of public hearings on the subject.

It is provided that property zoned for business shall carry certain restrictions as to the type of architecture of buildings to be erected for business purposes.

### BANKS CLOSED MONDAY

Monday, September 6, is Labor day, a legal holiday, on which the Winnetka banks will be closed.

## Pass Ordinance for Organization of Health Board

An ordinance which has been pending for some time in the Village council was passed by that body at its special meeting Tuesday evening of this week providing for the organization of the health department of the village with a Board of Health, as required by a recent decision of the Illinois Supreme court.

The ordinance places the administrative work of the health department under the supervision of the village manager and provides for the appointment of a health officer, by the village council, on recommendation of the village manager.

The personnel of the Board of Health will be identical with that of the village council, which is given broad powers for the adoption of health rules and regulations.

## North Shore Line Gets Permit for New Substation

The application of the Chicago, North Shore and Milwaukee railroad company for permission to erect a substation in Winnetka was approved by the Village council at a special meeting Tuesday evening.

The station will be located on lot 14, block 13, Winnetka Park Bluff subdivision, adjacent to the road's right-of-way southwest of Community House and in the rear of what is known as the Champion residence, on Lincoln avenue.

This action was taken after a number of public hearings and after considerable debate in the council itself. Chief consideration is the extent of damage to residential property on Lincoln avenue.

It was finally concluded that in view of the attractive design for the building, as submitted by the North Shore company, guaranteeing noiseless operation, and the opinion of the zoning board of appeals, that property values would not be seriously depreciated, that the permit should be granted.

## Council Passes Plan Commission Ordinance

The Village council at a special session Tuesday evening passed the Plan Commission ordinance, in which provision is made for a reduction of membership of that body from twenty-three to nine. Eugene Rummel, former president of the village when the original plan commission was appointed in 1915, addressed the council, strongly urging the commission be made a small body, not exceeding nine.

The purpose of the ordinance is to establish the Plan Commission as an official body, giving the village jurisdiction over proposed sub-divisions within one and one-half miles of the village limits.

### RETURNS TO BUSINESS

B. W. Blow, Winnetka excavating contractor, has returned to the village after several months' stay in Denver where he was taken seriously ill last June while attending the convention of Rotary International in that city. Mr. Blow was confined to a Denver hospital for several weeks.

## HISTORIC STRUCTURE DOOMED BY HIGHWAY

**School House Built in Sixties Under Direction of Artemus Carter Razed for Roadway**

Winnetka's first dramatic society, Winnetka club, and its Public Library were organized in an old house that is being moved this week to make room for the through traffic highway which is passing through Winnetka just west of the Chicago and North Western right-of-way. In its rooms a group of Episcopalians once held Sunday school. Once a week it was open as a library, and here the people met and organized what we now know as Winnetka's Public Library. All of Winnetka's dances were held in its oil-lamp-lighted rooms, and the shows, minstrels, and benefits were held there.

### Built in Sixties

Moved three times, it has had an interesting history.

Through the efforts of Artemus Carter, president of the Village for several terms, the structure was built as District School No. 2 in about 1868 or 1869, and was located at Elm and Walnut streets. This happened before Winnetka was an incorporated village. Later the village took it over and it was a village school for a short time.

Moved to face on Walnut street, it became Copeland hall, or the village community house, and finally was sold and moved west to its present location after being converted into a residence.

### Doomed by Progress

But highways must be made, and traffic must be served, and this old hall, once known as a school-house, then, as a community house, as a library and lastly as a residence, has given away for a third time to the progress of a growing village.

Work on Winnetka's section of the new traffic highway is progressing satisfactorily it was stated at the Village hall this week. Windes and Marsh, village engineers, have been on the ground making the necessary surveys and removal of structures situated in the path of the thoroughfare is rapidly nearing completion. Actual work on the roadway is expected to begin in the very near future.

## Burning Car Brings Run for Firefighters

The Winnetka fire department was called to Cherry and Chestnut streets, Thursday morning to extinguish a fire in a car belonging to Ernest Haynes. The machine was considerably damaged before the flames were extinguished. The fire is thought to have resulted from gasoline leaking from a small can carried in the rear of the car. Mr. Haynes is in the employ of the Winnetka Park board.

### NEW STATION PROGRESSES

Work is progressing rapidly on the new Winnetka fire station. Much of the brick work is completed and work was started on the superstructure and roof rafters Thursday.

### HEAR ROTARY LEADER

Allen D. Albert, former vice-president of Rotary International, addressed the Winnetka Rotary club, September 3.