

Honorable Howard W. Jackson, Mayor of Baltimore (cont'd)

opinion of the committee, such areas are too far removed from the center of the neighborhood population to adequately serve this community.

There has been and, in the opinion of the committee, there will continue to be a steady increase in the number of persons residing in the vicinity of the area in question. As the population increases, the demand for all types of municipal services correspondingly increases. There is just as much need for parks and for recreational facilities in thickly populated areas as there is for schools and we believe that there is a definite need for a park with recreational facilities in this neighborhood. Our opinion in this regard corresponds with that of the Park Board and of the Board of Public Recreation, which latter Board passed the following resolution on January 6, 1941:

"The Board of Public Recreation desires to express its firm opinion that it would be unfortunate to give over the remainder of Venable Park for any other use than recreation. A section such as that to the north, west and south of Venable Park, containing a large population, should not be deprived of this area, which is the only one of importance in that vicinity. It comprises about five acres, and that is none too large for such a purpose. While this park is not all available for recreation purposes at the present time, it is to be hoped that it will be adequately developed in the near future."

The Board of School Commissioners, by its resolution at the meeting held on January 9, 1941, authorized its President to recommend to the Public Improvement Commission the payment of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00) for the property referred to in this report, a copy of which resolution was presented to the committee. The majority of the committee does not believe that such a suggestion constitutes a satisfactory solution of the matter, because even though the \$60,000 is made available to the Park Board, no site in the immediate neighborhood could be purchased which would adequately serve the need for recreational and park facilities in the area.

The tract of land in question was purchased out of the proceeds of the 1935 Park Loan. It is our opinion that this property, having been purchased out of park loan funds, should not be devoted to any other use so long as it is needed for the use for which it was originally acquired. It is our considered judgment that this property is needed for park and recreational purposes and that no emergency