



PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

January 7, 2021
6:30 p.m.

REVISED AGENDA

Due to the Governor's order restricting gatherings of people, and in an effort to minimize the potential spread of COVID-19, the Village reserves the right to restrict attendance to the meetings. The Village encourages anyone who wishes to address the Village Board to submit a written statement to be read aloud at the meeting. Please submit such a written statement to Recreation Superintendent Kim Buscemi at KBuscemi@lith.org by 4pm on January 7, 2021. You may also join the meeting remotely by using your phone and dialing 1-669-224-3412, access code 131-235-621. When you join the meeting, please announce yourself as a member of the public. If you wish to comment, you will be allowed to do so during the Audience Participation portion of the meeting. Please be aware that the meeting will be recorded.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of November 5, 2020 Park & Recreation Board Meeting Minutes
4. Old Business
5. New Business
 - A. Informational Memorandum – Future Board Meeting Structure
 - B. Informational Memorandum – Parks Stewardship
 - C. Request for Board Action – Resident Survey Results
6. Staff Reports
 - A. Recreation Staff Report
 - B. Parks Staff Report
7. Village Trustee Liaison Report
8. Member Reports
 - A. Chairperson Tredore
 - B. Member Andrea
 - C. Member Anderson
 - D. Member Cairns
 - E. Member Donahue
 - F. Member Sivakumar
 - G. Member Wackerlin

9. Audience Participation

The public is invited to make an issue-oriented comment on any matter of public concern not otherwise on the agenda. The public comment may be no longer than 3 minutes in duration.

10. Adjournment

MEETING LOCATION

Village Hall
600 Harvest Gate
Lake in the Hills, IL 60156

The Village of Lake in the Hills is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who require certain accommodations so that they can observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the Village's facilities, should contact the Village's ADA Coordinator at (847) 960-7410 [TDD (847) 658-4511] promptly to allow the Village to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.

Posted By:

Date:

Time:



**VILLAGE OF LAKE IN THE HILLS
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING
November 5, 2020**

The Parks & Recreation Board meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Lake in the Hills Village Hall Board Room. Those present were Members Wackerlin, Cairns, Anderson, Sivakumar, Andrea, Donahue and Chairwoman Tredore. Also present were Recreation Superintendent Kim Buscemi, Public Properties Superintendent Scott Parchutz, Customer Service Specialist Tracey Padula and Recreation Supervisor Kristi Brewer. Trustee Murphy attended via telephone.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM

None

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Member Carnes made a motion to approve the September 3, 2020 minutes of the Parks & Recreation Board meeting. Member Donahue seconded. The motion was approved by a voice vote of 6-0.

Member Anderson made a motion to approve the October 1, 2020 minutes of the Parks & Recreation Board meeting. Member Donahue seconded. The motion was approved by a voice vote of 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Village Board Liaison Schedule – It was determined that the Village Board meeting would be attended once a quarter by a Parks and Recreation member starting in March 2021. Chairwomen Tredore offered to start the rotation. It was then decided to go alphabetically by last name member Andrea June 2021, member Anderson September 2021, member Cairns December 2021. If a member wants something to be reviewed at the Village Board Meeting it should be included in member comments. An action item will be added to the agenda to report back the following month.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Bark Park Survey results - Superintendent Parchutz clarified he wanted to specifically discuss the Dog Wash question from the Bark Park Survey results. He shared his idea of instead of hiring out the work to build the Dog Wash, his team could do all the labor and it would only cost the village materials. Superintendent Parchutz suggested also putting a bathroom in the shed verses the existing porta potty. Member Anderson shared concern about the \$18 cost to members being too high and would also like to get an idea as to what the materials costs would actually be. Member Andrea felt raising every Bark Park membership to include the Dog Wash might not be the right thing to do since members might already have their own means to groom their dog. Superintendent Parchutz will need to put more work into material costs and more discussion would be needed by the board on how and what to charge members.
- B. Sunset field 4,5,6,7 - Superintendent Parchutz reiterated what was being done on this project.
- C. Sunset Bike Path replacement - Superintendent Parchutz shared thoughts on using a toned down replacement plan to bring the costs down instead of changing the entire profile of the bike path.

D. Bark Park Parking lot - Superintendent Parchutz shared that this project would be scaled back as well to bring costs down.

STAFF REPORTS

Recreation Staff Report: Superintendent Buscemi shared that the winter brochure will be the last printed brochure going out November 19, 2020. From there out brochures will be available online only via our website. New classes have been added online and remotely as well as in person to accommodate everyone's comfort levels. Looking ahead into summer, because Men's Softball has been so successful, a co-ed softball program will be offered on Sunday afternoons. In planning for the spring brochure which will come out mid-February 2021, if the board has any program ideas or suggestions please share them within the next month. In addition, looking for any sponsorship connections where Superintendent Buscemi can reach out to for upcoming events. A Winter Wonder Fun Series will kick-off at Larsen Park to include Pond Hockey, Fishing Derby and other events which will all take place outdoors so that the Covid situation does not affect it. Superintendent Buscemi announced that after reaching out to People for Parks a \$2500 grant to fund a Virtual Interaction Playground was awarded to the Village. It has been purchased and will be installed next week. This is a projector that projects games onto the wall, floor or table allowing users to play without having to touch anything. The projector can sense the player's movements. A preview will be set up for the next meeting. Flurry Fest will be held December 12, 2020. Candyland theme and families will be required to sign up by time slots to allow for social distancing. Many of the cut-outs and lights will be on display till the end of the year so that not everyone needs to come out on that day. If anyone can volunteer to help as adult monitors that would help since as of now they mostly have high school volunteers. Email Superintendent Buscemi if interested in volunteering.

Parks Staff Report: Superintendent Parchutz shared Sunset field 4,5,6,7 fields are closed with repairs in progress. Turtle Island renovation is basically complete and ribbon cutting ceremony has been set. Echo, Horner, Hynes and the skate park are all completed and functional. Superintendent Parchutz is putting together Request for Proposal early next year for Ford School Classroom HVAC upgrade and Hain House renovations and repairs.

TRUSTEE LIAISON REPORT- None

MEMBER COMMENTS: Chairwoman Tredore asked since the last meeting was missed if anyone had park updates to please share. Member Wackerlin had Nockels Park, stated it was in good condition, tables by lake looked fine but parking lot service was old and can't see line stripes. Also brought up the pumpkin recycling that took place at Sunset Park and thought it was a nice feature. Chairwoman Tredore had Stoneybrook Park, shared there was a lot of grass and weeds in the mulched area, playground and flower bed sign area. Birds nest in the peak of the gazebo. Benches need touching up especially by basketball courts. Trash and broken balls in the spinner game located by the slide area which she reported from her last visit over a year ago but was never addressed. Landscaping screen material coming up from the mulch on North side in front of swings and also by basketball area which is a trip hazard. In addition to the two garbage cans already out there she feels another one is needed. Member Andrea had nothing to report. Member Cairns had Linda Fischer Park, stated everything looked great like a refresh was just done.

Chairwomen Tredore brought up a controlled burn that happened right between the houses in Meadowbrook and Fischer Park. The smoke was terrible and none of the residents were informed it was going to happen. Was wondering when this does happen and it's near a residence can the village put something out. Superintendent Parchutz will follow up to find out if it was a controlled burn and send out an email.

Member Anderson wanted to know if the village will be doing an ice rink this year. Superintendent Parchutz shared factors that went into the decision to not have one this year.

Member Sivakumar had Cattail Park which had a lot of weeds, multiple cracks and breaks in the asphalt, blue graffiti on ground, equipment was good but many of the benches were missing screws. Member Donahue had Larsen Park and stated building and grounds looked ok, benches looked grimy could use a good cleaning with possible paint.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – None

ADJOURNMENT

Member Andrea made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Anderson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a voice vote of 6–0. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Submitted by,

Tracey Padula
Customer Service Specialist



INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

MEETING DATE: January 7, 2021

DEPARTMENT: Recreation Division

SUBJECT: **Parks and Recreation Board Future Meetings Structure**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Board packets will look a little different moving forward. Staff have been working behind the scenes to enhance the information provided at meetings by providing agenda cover sheets for items being presented for the Board's consideration. The cover sheets will give the Board members an executive summary of the agenda item, along with the staff recommendations for moving forward. Sometimes this will be in the form of a suggested motion and sometimes it will just allow staff to provide the Board with valuable information.

The Board meeting agenda will include the agenda cover sheets under New Business when first presented, and will then move to Old Business if additional information is needed at future meetings. Staff reports will continue to be provided in the Board packet, with just highlights provided at the meeting. Board reports from each member will also be included on the agenda. This will provide an opportunity to share the activities members have participated in or improvements that have been identified. Board reports will also provide the opportunity to report back on the quarterly Village Board meeting.

At the joint planning session with the Village Board, it was suggested that a representative from the Parks and Recreation Board attend a Village Board meeting, once every quarter, to provide updates and gather feedback from the Village Board. It was suggested to attend the second meeting of the month.

As a reference, a copy of the Lake in the Hills meeting schedule has been attached. This schedule also includes the Parks and Recreation Board meetings. Please note, there is no Park and Recreation Board meeting scheduled in July.

The individuals who volunteered to attend the Board meetings are as follows:

Chairperson Tredore will attend the first meeting on March 25

June 24 - John Andrea

September 23 - Wendy Anderson

December 9 - Michael Cairns

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Lake in the Hills Meeting Schedule

SUGGESTED DIRECTION

None.

2021 LAKE IN THE HILLS MEETING SCHEDULE



Committee of the Whole
 7:30pm - Village Hall
600 Harvest Gate

January	12 & 26
February	9 & 23
March	9 & 23
April	6 & 20
May	11 & 25
June	8 & 22
July	6 & 20
August	10 & 24
September	7 & 21
October	12 & 26
November	9
December	7

Planning & Zoning Commission
 7:30pm - Village Hall
600 Harvest Gate

January	18
February	16
March	15
April	12
May	17
June	14
July	12
August	16
September	13
October	18
November	15
December	13

Police Commission
 7:00pm – Village Hall
600 Harvest Gate

February	2
May	4
August	3
November	2

Board of Trustees
 7:30pm - Village Hall
600 Harvest Gate

January	14 & 28
February	11 & 25
March	11 & 25
April	8 & 22
May	13 & 27
June	10 & 24
July	8 & 22
August	12 & 26
September	9 & 23
October	14 & 28
November	11
December	9

Parks and Recreation Board
 6:30pm - Village Hall
600 Harvest Gate

January	7
February	4
March	4
April	1
May	6
June	3
July	No Meeting Scheduled
August	5
September	2
October	7
November	4
December	2

Police Pension
 4:00pm – Village Hall
600 Harvest Gate

January	18
April	19
July	19
October	18



INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

MEETING DATE: January 7, 2021
DEPARTMENT: Public Properties Division
SUBJECT: 2021 Parks Stewardship Program

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Village empanels a seven-member Parks and Recreation Board that provides input to staff regarding the many recreational programs and opportunities offered to participants. The Panel also makes recommendations on the makeup of the Village's thirty-six recreational parks. As part of this process, staff asks members of the Parks and Recreation Board to act as park stewards by visiting one park per month from March through October. During these visits, members report on conditions observed at the park, their general impression of the site, ideas for improvement, and any public input they gathered.

In an effort to improve the way Public Works receives this input, staff created an inspection form that is simple to complete and prompts answers to general questions. Board members will present their observations at the next available meeting following their assessment. Staff also asks that the stewards include photos if possible to help identify any concerns or observations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

ATTACHMENTS

Parks Steward Inspection Form
Parks Steward 2021 Calendar

SUGGESTED DIRECTION

None.

Park Name: _____

Board Member Name: _____

Date of Visit: _____ Time of Visit: _____

What did you like best about the park? _____

What needs improvement or attention? _____

What would make the park more appealing to the public? _____

Did any members of the public have any thoughts about how the park meets their needs? _____

Other comments: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK!

Park Steward Schedule 2021

	Diane Tredore	John Andrea	Brad Wackerlin	Mike Cairns	Wendy Anderson	Sai Sivakumar	Tara Donahue
March	Avalon Park	Barbara Key Park	Bark Park	Ken Carpenter Park	Celebration Park	Cattail Park	Echo Park
April	Ford School Park	Butch Hagele Beach	Horner Park	Indian Trail Beach	Edward Wm Hynes Park	Jaycee Park	Linda Fischer Park
May	LaBahn Hain House/Nockels Park	LaBuy Park	Larsen Park	Leroy Guy Park	Lynn Dillow Park	Nature's View Park	Normandy Park
June	Plote Field	Richard Taylor Park & Skate Park	Rolling Hills Park	Ryder Park	Stoneybrook Park	Sunset Park	Turtle Island
July	Echo Park	Cattail Park	Celebration Park	Ken Carpenter Park	Bark Park	Barbara Key Park	Avalon Park
August	Linda Fischer Park	Jaycee Park	Edward Wm Hynes Park	Indian Trail Beach	Horner Park	Butch Hagele Beach	Ford School Park
September	Normandy Park	Nature's View Park	Lynn Dillow Park	Leroy Guy Park	Larsen Park	LaBuy Park	LaBahn Hain House/Nockels Park
October	Turtle Island	Sunset Park	Stoneybrook Park	Ryder Park	Rolling Hills Park	Richard Taylor Park & Skate Park	Plote Field

Park Steward Schedule 2021

Parks Stewardship Program	2021	
Avalon Park	Diane Tredore	March
Barbara Key Park	John Andrea	March
Bark Park	Brad Wackerlin	March
Ken Carpenter Park	Mike Cairns	March
Celebration Park	Wendy Anderson	March
Cattail Park	Sai Sivakumar	March
Echo Park	Tara Donahue	March
Ford School Park	Diane Tredore	April
Butch Hagele Beach	John Andrea	April
Horner Park	Brad Wackerlin	April
Indian Trail Beach	Mike Cairns	April
Edward Wm Hynes Park	Wendy Anderson	April
Jaycee Park	Sai Sivakumar	April
Linda Fischer Park	Tara Donahue	April
LaBahn Hain House/Nockels Park	Diane Tredore	May
LaBuy Park	John Andrea	May
Larsen Park	Brad Wackerlin	May
Leroy Guy Park	Mike Cairns	May
Lynn Dillow Park	Wendy Anderson	May
Nature's View Park	Sai Sivakumar	May
Normandy Park	Tara Donahue	May
Plote Field	Diane Tredore	June
Richard Taylor Park & Skate Park	John Andrea	June
Rolling Hills Park	Brad Wackerlin	June
Ryder Park	Mike Cairns	June
Stoneybrook Park	Wendy Anderson	June
Sunset Park	Sai Sivakumar	June
Turtle Island	Tara Donahue	June
Avalon Park	Tara Donahue	July
Barbara Key Park	Sai Sivakumar	July
Bark Park	Wendy Anderson	July
Ken Carpenter Park	Mike Cairns	July
Celebration Park	Brad Wackerlin	July
Cattail Park	John Andrea	July
Echo Park	Diane Tredore	July
Ford School Park	Tara Donahue	August
Butch Hagele Beach	Sai Sivakumar	August
Horner Park	Wendy Anderson	August
Indian Trail Beach	Mike Cairns	August
Edward Wm Hynes Park	Brad Wackerlin	August
Jaycee Park	John Andrea	August
Linda Fischer Park	Diane Tredore	August
LaBahn Hain House/Nockels Park	Tara Donahue	September
LaBuy Park	Sai Sivakumar	September
Larsen Park	Wendy Anderson	September
Leroy Guy Park	Mike Cairns	September
Lynn Dillow Park	Brad Wackerlin	September
Nature's View Park	John Andrea	September
Normandy Park	Diane Tredore	September
Plote Field	Tara Donahue	October
Richard Taylor Park & Skate Park	Sai Sivakumar	October
Rolling Hills Park	Wendy Anderson	October
Ryder Park	Mike Cairns	October
Stoneybrook Park	Brad Wackerlin	October
Sunset Park	John Andrea	October
Turtle Island	Diane Tredore	October
Kennedy Triangle	N/A	



REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

MEETING DATE: January 7, 2021

DEPARTMENT: Recreation Division

SUBJECT: 2020 Resident Survey Results in Regards to Recreation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Resident Satisfaction Survey was conducted this fall. The Village received a total of 436 responses to the survey for a response rating of 29%. A link to the survey results is provided below.

The overall quality rating of recreation programs was 92% positive, with very satisfied at 23% and satisfied at 69%. Please refer to attached item 1.

One of the items in the survey that was found to be of interest to the Recreation Division, was that social environment was ranked as the number one important attribute for the residents and recreation was rated last. Please refer to attached item 2. In prior surveys, safety was the most important attribute. This may speak to the mindset of the community during the pandemic year where socialization opportunities have been limited. However, staff feel recreation plays a very important role in providing socialization opportunities to the community. Therefore, moving into 2021, this will be a focus to highlight to our residents.

Currently with CDC guidelines limiting in-person programs, staff have added many new virtual programs. As these programs are marketed in the Winter brochure, it will be highlighted that while staying at home, patrons can still enjoy socialization through live, virtual programs. In addition, outside programs are being offered, even during the cold months, so the community can gather and socialize safely. In January, a family Winter Wonderfun Kick Off Party will be held at Larsen Park. An Ice Fishing Tournament and a Pond Hockey Tournament are also scheduled. A new, outside Pop-Up Winter Storywalk is planned for February and March. Virtual Preschool and Back-2-School Remote learning programs strive to meet the social and emotional needs of the students. Understanding the community's need of a social environment, the Recreation Division will continue to provide a wide range of programs and events, marketing the opportunities for socializing.

Another item that was noted in the survey result comments, was the need for more adult programming. Please refer to the attached item 3. Often, adult programs are missed by residents in the brochure because they view the recreation brochure as containing children programs only. Moving forward, the senior section of the brochure and website will be labeled "Adults/Seniors". Staff is currently working on re-vamping the senior club and senior serenity Wednesdays. Trips have been popular in the past and will continue in the Spring. UFO (unfinished craft objects) was added in the fall on Saturdays. Parent Night Out programs will be added in the spring. These nights will be focused on providing adults with an outing at a local restaurant while staff watch their children. A co-ed softball league is also being added this summer.

ATTACHMENTS

Item 1 Recreation Division Survey Summary

Item 2 Quality of Life Survey Summary

Item 3 Recreation Division Survey comments

Link to full summary of Resident Survey Results 2020:

<https://www.lith.org/government/departments/administration/resident-survey-results>

RECOMMENDED ACTION

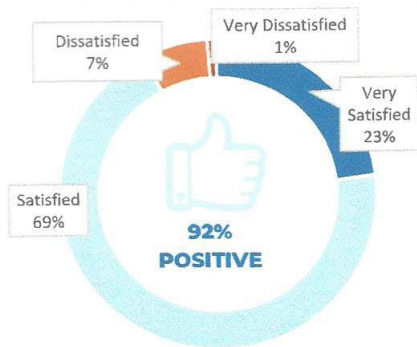
Recreation Staff is seeking feedback from survey results and in particular, new adult/senior programs.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES

RECREATION DIVISION

The Recreation Division included questions on programming interest levels, participation, and overall quality of services. In a question set measuring interest in programs, nature-based programming was the top rated category (75% interested). This is consistent with a division survey conducted online earlier in the year, that also showed nature-based programs as the top-ranked program category.

Preschool (28%) and Early Childhood Programs (27%) were the bottom rated program categories. While this may represent respondent interest levels, it should be noted that 62% of respondents indicated they did not have anyone under the age of 18 living in their residence.

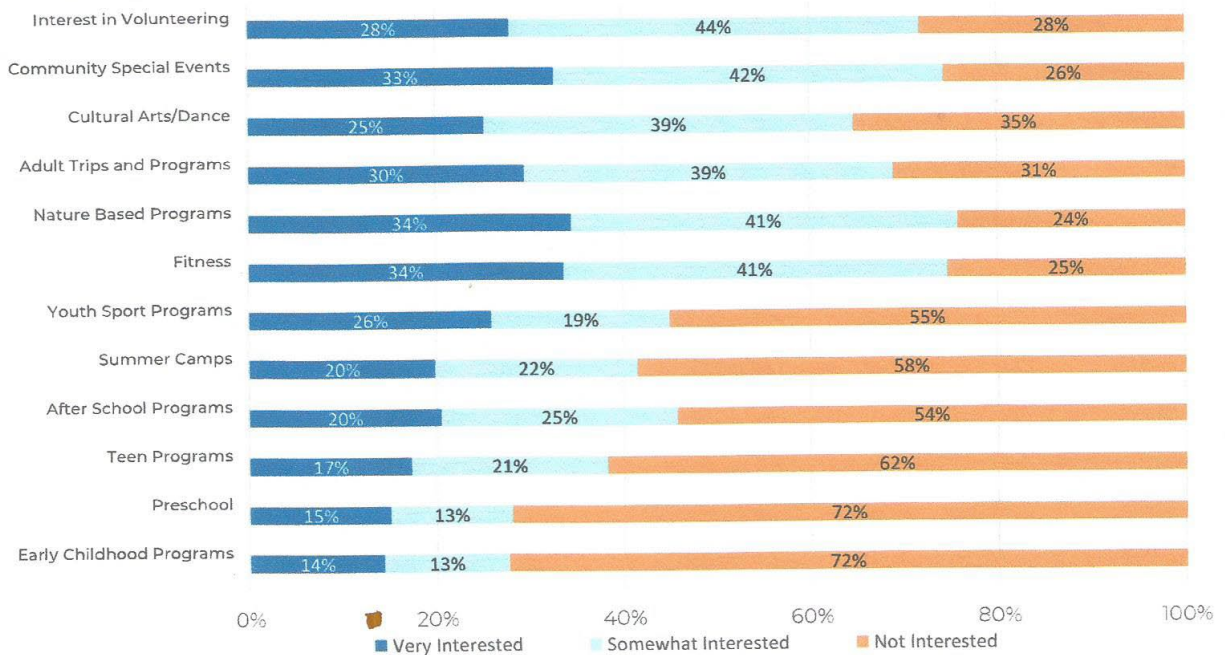


OVERALL QUALITY OF RECREATION PROGRAMS



PARTICIPATION IN PARKS AND RECREATION SERVICES OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS

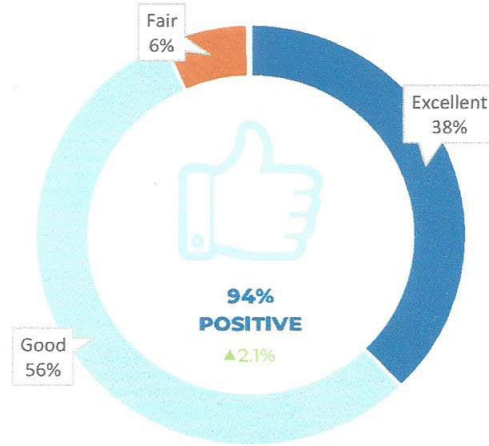
PLEASE INDICATE YOUR LEVEL OF INTEREST IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES



QUALITY OF LIFE

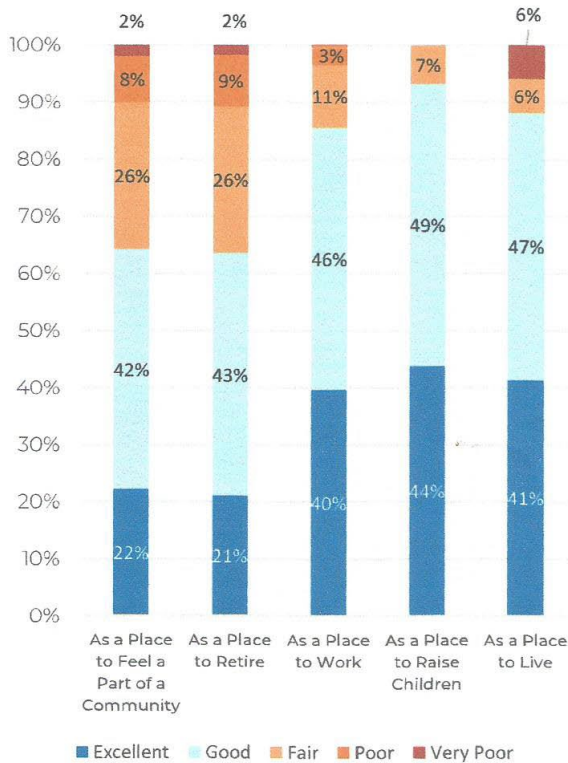
The 2020 survey asked Lake in the Hills residents a variety of questions relative to the Village's general quality of life. Overall, 94% of residents gave a positive rating of 'Excellent' (56%) or 'Good' (38%). This positive sentiment is consistent with responses from previous years, with a 2% increase from 2016.

Further questioning showed that residents identified Lake in the Hills as a place to raise children as the most favorable aspect of quality of life. When provided ten categories, residents ranked the social environment as the most important attribute of living in the Village, followed by housing and local retail and services.



OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE

HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE VILLAGE ON THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS OF QUALITY OF LIFE?



RATING QUALITY OF LIFE ATTRIBUTES FROM MOST IMPORTANT TO LEAST IMPORTANT

- #1 SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT
- #2 HOUSING
- #3 LOCAL RETAIL & SERVICES
- #4 HEALTHCARE
- #5 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT & POLLUTION
- #6 EDUCATION & SCHOOLS
- #7 SAFETY / CRIME
- #8 TAXES & THE POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT
- #9 PUBLIC SERVICES & TRANSPORTATION
- #10 RECREATION & THE CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT

Item 3

Please provide any comments or feedback relative to the Recreation Division in the Village.	
	Definitely needed. Maybe park district?
	If you have had an experience in the past 12 months with one of the following Village departments, please rate the level
	Get something going w/ golf. Have a village league and cut a deal w/ one of 3 local courses. Seniors as well. My dad is 101 years old and still playing in crystal lake league.
	Haunted Halloween House on Annandale brings too many people to LITH. Noise, garbage, difficult driving & parking.
	Have lived here 22 years. Have used some programs when I had toddlers. Not so much anymore. Am retired and moving in the future.
	I have not used any recreation programs. Hopefully after the COVID 19 disappears I will be more involved.
	I have offered to host/provide professional education seminars at no charge thru the rec division only to be rebuffed because the volume of offerings was being downsized. I live & work in the area.
	I like all there but I'm 83 and Handicap
	I love all the events LITH offers.
	I may not use some of the programs but I feel they are important for a healthy community.
	I would like to see more youth sports programs offered.
	If my daughter decides to stay here + raise family, then early school/Childhood programs would be useful.
	I'm kind of in a stance of "the more the merrier"
	Implement LITH Park District with pool. Implement visibility program within park district.
	KEEPING KIDS BUSY AND ACTIVE KEEPS THEM OUT OF TROUBLE
*	Let's add some programs that are geared to middle-aged couples. Examples could be couples cooking classes, couples yoga, couples movie night at the beach. These classes be offered on the weekends when working adults have the time.
	Love the new Edward Hynes park. So updated. My granddaughter is in love with it.
*	Maybe some time of "singles" event. Single parents to seniors.
	More cultural and community events
*	More programs for seniors, and online programs for seniors.
*	More programs for young adults-
*	More teen and adult programs please!
	MY WIFE AND I ARE RETIRED IN OUR 70S. WE PRETTY MUCH SPEND THE SPRING AND SUMMER ON OUR BOAT UP ON THE CHAIN OF LAKES.
	N/A
	Need springboard diving classes. These are available in multiple other communities.
	No comment.
	no kids in my house
	No small children in household.
	No small children or teenagers in the home, but do believe that it is definitely the right thing to offer these programs and keep them busy. Children benefit from early learning programs, so they should be continued or added, whichever one of those is correct. Allergies keep me from too many outdoor ventures but a Nature Based program would be a nice addition to the program list for some. Also, the community special events would be a welcome addition for many who need to get out and about.
	None
	not at this time
*	Noticing over last couple yrs this division no longer offers any adult sports as it always had. As a result, am forced to seek neighboring town(s) athletics programming services...at non-resident fees. Very unfortunate! Pls. consider re-instating such programs (basketball, flag football, softball, etc.). As a retired P+R professional, I am willing to volunteer my time to administer such sports programs.
	programs for kids w/ special needs and disabilities would be great.
	Retired
	retired
	Teen sports programs
	Tend to utilize Huntley's park district because of better programs/facilities.
	Tennis programs for teens



Village of Lake in the Hills Recreation Division Monthly Report – January 7, 2021

Dates of Interest:

- * January 18 Winter Wonderfun Kick-Off Party - NEW
- * January 23 4-On-4 Pond Hockey Tournament
- * January 30 Ice Fishing Tournament
- * February 1-28 Pop-Up Winter Storywalk - NEW

Report submitted by Recreation Superintendent, Kim Buscemi

***Tier 3 Mitigation Program Update** – Tier 3 affected that last several weeks of December programs. Approximately ten classes had to be canceled and approximately \$1400 had to be refunded. However, many families requested the money to stay on their household accounts to be used for future programs. Hot Shot Sport programs and Kid Rock programs were converted to virtual classes instead of being canceled.

***Spring 2021 Brochure** information is being collected and formatting will begin in January. Spring programs will run March 15 – May 31. Staff will continue to offer a wide variety of in-person and virtual programs.

***Program Contractors** – Independent Service Provider agreements are being renewed for 2021. This year these agreements will include a 70/30 split of resident fees (70% goes to contractor, 30% goes to the Village). A handbook has been developed for the contractors to inform them of general Village procedures that they might encounter or need to follow.

Report submitted by Recreation Supervisor, Kristi Brewer

***Preschool Academy** - The first session of Remote Preschool Academy ended on December 18, 2020. The final enrollment for this program was 33 students. Two virtual experiences were provided to students during December. The first experience was a 'Read-Along' session with the Early Literacy Educator, Jenni Storm, from the Algonquin Area Public Library District and then 'Stories and Songs with Santa' virtual visit. Staff would like to thank Village Trustee Ray Bogdanowski for playing the part of Santa during this virtual experience.

Remote Preschool Academy is anticipated to resume session two in January. This session will run from January through March, and staff is working on planning for a potential hybrid or in-person program depending on mitigation requirements for session three. Registration for session two began in early December.

***Back-2-School FuntastiCAMP** program primarily serves children in school districts 47, 158, and 300, providing remote learning assistance, mentoring, and recreational activities for those in grades kindergarten through seventh grade.

The program is expected to continue in January 2021 and support the community with remote learning as needed. The minimum number of campers each day is 10.

August: Averaged 10 campers per week

September: Averaged 11 campers per week

October: Averaged 12 campers per week

November: Averaged 16 campers per week

December: Averaged 16 campers per week

***Winter Break No-School Camp** was scheduled for December 21 – 30. It did not meet the minimum number of campers necessary to meet the budgeted amount. The minimum number of campers required per day is 10.

***Winter 2021 Brochure**

In-house Early Childhood programs will be offered that include virtual and at-home activities. These include "Tiny Tot Tinker" Boxes created by Preschool Academy staff and include additional activities to further early childhood education and development. At-home virtual enrichment activities will consist of a prerecorded themed session of stories, crafts, and healthy snacks. In-person socialization classes and Parent/Child are offered to assist with learning to play and interact with others.

Three Kahoot Virtual Game Show nights will be offered that include several kahoot games and prize packs to the top three winners. A virtual art show will also occur in late February to showcase the artwork of all ages for the winter-themed showcase.

eSports events will resume as the Recreation Division builds a community-based following for this upcoming recreation trend. The league consists of in-person and virtual experiences to bring socialization away from virtual interactions by hosting in-person gaming programs mixed with virtual programming as the league develops. Through the Village of Lake in the Hills eSports League, programming seeks to build a friendly, all-age gamers community to compete together. Gaming is much more than pixels on a screen — they're an opportunity to build friendships, develop teamwork, decision-making skills, and even earn collegiate scholarships or start a career. Three in-person tournaments will be offered during the Winter 2021 brochure season and even include a retro-tournament for the Atari game Pong.

Report submitted by Recreation Coordinator, Casie Peltz

***Flurry Fest** - On Friday, December 4, the Recreation Division welcomed community members to a socially distant Flurry Fest at Village Hall. The annual event was modified to take place outdoors using time slots with limited ticket availability to distance groups. In total, 283 people attended. The lights will remain up through the holidays for the community to walk through and enjoy on their own.

Division staff offer their thanks to Trustee Bogdanowski for getting Santa to the event, to the members of the Public Properties team for their efforts in building and lighting the display, to Melody Living for their exclusive event sponsorship, and to the many volunteers who helped make the event a success.

***Winter 2021 brochure**

Three special events are being offered, each with structure modifications.

New – Winter Wonderfun Kick Off Party - Survey responses indicate a desire for increased nature and outdoor programming, so this event was created. This free event is being held on a school day off and has been planned with COVID mitigations in mind. Tickets will be required and there will be three time slots available for a limited number of participants.

Daddy Daughter Date - This annual event is extremely popular and usually fills with a waiting list. Because we have to limit participation, the event has been modified to accommodate up to 50 people in 3 different time slots.

Family Bingo Night - A new virtual option has been added to this fun annual event to allow participation even if families are not comfortable meeting in a group setting.

Contractual Youth Variety Programs - Thirty-six sections are being offered in the winter brochure with the addition of 3 new Independent Service Providers offering 17 new sections. Virtual programs have been expanded to offer 14 sections and in-person programs will offer 22 options.

Report Submitted by Recreation Coordinator, Michelle Steffey

*** Special Events**

Holiday House Decorating Contest currently has 23 homes registered to be judged. Last year (2019) 10 homes had entered. Judging will be done via a self-guided tour from December 16-20. Ballots are available on the website, <https://www.lith.org/home/showpublisheddocument?id=2132>. The winner will be announced on Friday, December 28th. Visit McHenry County Tourism developed a Light Up McHenry County contest and included the Village's entries. This was a nice way to get more exposure for the Village's entries and the event itself.

Letters from Santa - A total of 99 letters were written. 80 were residents, 4 non-residents, 10 employees and 5 from the Santa letter drop-box outside of Village Hall. Staff added the Santa Letter drop-box for residents who visit the Flurry Fest lights during the month of December, could request a letter from Santa.

The Recreation Division staff, and the Back-2-School FuntastiCamp campers have been making holiday cards for local seniors living in Melody Living and The Residences of Lake in the Hills. Enough cards have been made so that every senior resident will receive one. A holiday board has also been made to hang in each of the mail rooms at these two locations.

***Contracted Youth Sport Programs** - During Tier III Mitigations, which paused indoor sport activities, youth sports providers were able to provide virtual options to participants via zoom for the remainder of the classes. Youth sports classes will resume after the first of the year. Offerings include Ninja Warrior classes, Basketball, Baseball, Soccer sports classes and karate classes.

***Winter 2021 Brochure**

Youth Sports programs

The popular Hot Shots sport classes have expanded offerings this winter and will include classes on Saturday mornings. This winter, a new virtual karate program will be provided by Karate Academy.

Adult/Senior programs

Karate Academy will also offer a New Body 90 virtual workout classes for adults. The new outdoor, winter special event series will include 4x4 Pond Hockey and an Ice Fishing Tournament. With the continued inability to run senior programs in-person, winter activity boxes will be dropped off at homes of participating seniors to enjoy.



**Village of Lake in the Hills
Public Properties Division
Monthly Report – January 7, 2021**

Submitted by Superintendent of Public Properties, Scott Parchutz:

***Sunset Fields 4, 5, 6, and 7 Erosion Mitigation Project**

Currently the Sunset ballfields 4,5,6, and 7, are closed and are undergoing turf and field renovations. The plan is to remove the infield mix and install topsoil and grass seed to the infields. This will stop rain water from rolling across the new turf and in essence stop any further erosion and damage to the bike path. The repairs will be done using in-house labor with a limited amount of material costs. Once completed we expect that this field will rival our other high-end ballfield located at Plote field and will target an older age group of users.

***Turtle Island Renovation**

The Turtle island renovation is complete with exception of a few punch list items.

*** Parks Lightning Protection Early Warning System – Thorguard**

The Parks board approved a motion to sole source the purchase of the Thorguard lightening prediction system in 2021. Thorguard has been in continuous use within the Village since 2006 without issue.

*** Ford School Classroom – HVAC Upgrade**

The old school house has an electric element style furnace to heat the building. Issues with the unit malfunctioning and its unreliability the plan for 2021 will be to run gas to the structure and add air-conditioning which will help with dehumidification and mold control.

***Hain House Renovation and Repair Project**

The Hain House will undergo a series of repairs beginning with foundation crack repairs, the re-piping of exiting water lines which has reduced the water pressure to below the 65-psi required for adequate flow for sinks and exterior sillcocks. Repairs will also include a new on-demand water heater, a sump pump for basement catch basin and new electric heater with dehumidification equipment which will help to combat humid conditions in the basement for mold growth.