



## **VILLAGE OF LAKE IN THE HILLS PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING March 4, 2021**

The Parks & Recreation Board meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Those present were Members Wackerlin, Cairns, Anderson, Donahue, Vice-Chairman Andrea and Chairwoman Tredore. Also present were Public Properties Superintendent Scott Parchutz, Administrative Services Manager Peter D’Agostino, Communications Specialist Alexandra Reynolds and Customer Service Specialist Tracey Padula. Recreation Superintendent Kim Buscemi attended via telephone.

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Vice-Chairman Andrea made a motion to approve the February 4, 2021 minutes of the Parks & Recreation Board meeting. Member Anderson seconded. The motion was approved by a voice vote of 6-0.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Request for Board Action 2021 Playground and Skate Park Replacement Project** - Manager D’Agostino reviewed the key points for both replacement projects. At the February 4, 2021 Parks and Recreation Meeting the top three design concepts were chosen. Those vendors were then asked to participate in the request for proposal process beginning on February 19, 2021. Although three skate park vendors were invited to participate, one vendor decided not to continue in this process. He then opened up the floor for discussion before asking the Parks and Recreation Board to select one final design concept for each location which will then be recommended to the Village Board of Trustees at their March 23, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting. After much discussion, concept 1 was chosen unanimously for the skate park project at Sunset Park and concept 2 was chosen by a 5-2 vote for the playground project at Ford School. Chairwoman Tredore asked if the board had a voice in the color selection. Manager D’Agostino explained there are palates to choose from and asked if they had any recommendations. Board discussed and suggested bright colors. He said he would go back to the vendor to request electronic copies which he will then forward in an email to the board with a link to take a survey on which one each member likes best.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Informational Memorandum Park Feature Friday Campaign Presentation** – Specialist Reynolds shared information about the “Park Feature Friday” social media campaign, which spotlights Village parks. Posts are published on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, and they describe the featured park’s amenities, highlight significant moments in the park’s history, and share the park’s address and current photos. The overall goal of the campaign is awareness. The series also highlights the work of the Public Properties Division, particularly when features coincide with equipment replacements, and the Recreation Division as they seek to educate community members about the many parks available to them. Between September 2020 and February 2021, staff featured Leroy Guy Park, Echo Park, Horner Park, Linda K. Fischer Park, Sunset Park, and Larsen Park. Moving forward, the goal is to feature one to two parks per month to include Nature’s View Park, Celebration Park, Barbara Key Park, and Lynn Dillow Park. She then opened the discussion for questions. Vice-Chairman Andrea asked if the Village marquees could be used to highlight this program and any new features added to the parks. Member Anderson suggested that the board members could be tagged in the posts or that they could be sent an email with links to the posts so they can see any comments. Member Wackerlin suggested that staff keep an ongoing list of comments made on each feature. Member Anderson also suggested that future posts list the upcoming Parks and Recreation Board meeting date and time to give the public the opportunity to voice their concerns in person. Specialist Reynolds

considered all suggestions and would look into the possibility of incorporating the ideas into future park features.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

**A. Recreation Staff Report** – Superintendent Buscemi reviewed the upcoming events which include Family Bingo on March 12 which is filled for in-person but virtual is still being offered, Pop Up Winter Story Book will be set up at Village Hall next week, March 20 is the Lucky Gold Hunt at Ken Carpenter Park which has also filled up so another time slot was added at 2pm in addition to the 11am time slot. April 3 is the Bunny Trail outside of Village Hall which will be handled similar to the Furry Fest event offering numerous photo opportunities along with eggs being handed out along the way. A detailed list of Volunteer opportunities is listed in the board report and please let her know if anyone can participate or even just stop by for a quick visit on the day of the event. A thank you to Member Sivakumar for participating in the Daddy Daughter event. Superintendent Buscemi shared that preschool will be going Hybrid in April and May which will allow the kids to be in-person one day a week while the other days will remain virtual. Fall registration is also open for preschool along with Summer Camp registration.

**B. Parks Staff Report** – Superintendent Parchutz introduced the draft for the new and improved Parks Steward Inspection and Feedback Form that was created to replace the old one. He asked the board to review and submit any comments or changes directly to him. One suggestion from Member Wackerlin was to add a check box labeled existing under the potential features that would enhance the park section. Once input is gathered and the form is completed it will be distributed to the board at the next scheduled meeting. Superintendent Parchutz informed the board that the pickleball courts would be added for 2022 budget approval. Thor Guard has been ordered and staff will be installing in April and May. Ford School HVAC is moving along with Nicor to install the new gas line in March once the ground thaws. Five-Year Capital Project Plan was included in the staff report for the board to review. Chairwoman Tredore asked if a list could be provided showing the scheduled replacement dates for all parks. Superintendent Parchutz replied he could provide for the next meeting.

## **PARK STEWARD REPORTS**

A. Chairwoman Tredore – Visited Avalon Park. What is best about this park is its location to the homes making it easily assessable. There is open greens space to expand the park. The park is almost 20 years old so it is ready for an upgrade. With the snow it was hard to see everything but there was chipped paint. What would make the park more appealing would be new equipment and expand the footprint of the park. There was nobody at the park because it was still under snow but during a prior visit in the fall the parents commented how nice it was to have a neighborhood park but its outdated.

B. Vice-Chairman Andrea – Visited Barbara Key Park and he saw people using the bike path and fishing even though the weather was cold and it was later around 5:30 pm. Only suggestion he had was to add a garbage can. Also commented that this park has allot of features that other parks don't have.

C. Member Anderson – None

D. Member Cairns – Visited Ken Carpenter Park and liked that there is lots of space but also felt this was an area for future improvement in figuring out how to best use all the space. Everything looked good. Lots of seating and sufficient trash cans. He then asked if the big area along the road was meant to be a flood plain. Superintendent Parchutz said yes.

E. Member Donahue – None

F. Member Sivakumar – Emailed Chairwoman Tredore her notes from her visit to Cattail Park which was shared. All of the equipment is in very good condition and the park itself is well maintained with some minor issues which include cracks in the concrete by the gazebo in two areas, metal pillars of the gazebo could use either a good cleaning or paint, red paint or ink by the seat walking towards the gazebo and benches. Mulch missing from under the swings and needs to be filled. At the last meeting a young resident commented that a basketball half-court would be a great addition and she agreed the park is tailored to younger children and something like that would make the park more appealing to older age groups. The day she visited, there were approximately 6 children playing in the age range of 7-9 years of age. They all said they like the park especially the round spinning wheel but wish that more could be added. She also wanted to thank the staff for taking care of the prior issues that were reported such as the graffiti by the gazebo and the picnic benches that were not bolted down. All was fixed and looked great.

G. Member Wackerlin - None

**TRUSTEE LIAISON REPORT** - Trustee Murphy was not present.

**MEMBER REPORTS** - None

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION** – None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Vice-Chairman Andrea made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Cairns seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a voice vote of 6–0. The meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.

Submitted by,

Tracey Padula  
Customer Service Specialist