



Village of Lake in the Hills

600 Harvest Gate, Lake in the Hills, Illinois 60156

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 3, 2022

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. Roll Call was answered by Members Wackerlin, Cairns, Sivakumar, Donahue, Carman, Vice-Chairman Andrea, and Chairwoman Tredore.

Also present were, Public Works Director Tom Migatz, Superintendent of Public Properties Scott Parchutz, Recreation Superintendent Kim Buscemi, Recreation Supervisor Kristi Brewer, Trustee Wendy Anderson, Assistant Village Administrator Shannon Andrews, and Recording Secretary Dana Popovich.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept the Parks and Recreation meeting minutes of January 6, 2022 was made by Vice Chairman Andrea and seconded by Member Cairns.. The motion was approved by a voice vote of 7-0.

Old Business

None

New Business

A. Presentation - Elk Grove Village Park District Site Visits

Assistant Village Administrator Andrews discussed the recent tour that her and Superintendent Buscemi took on January 21, 2022. She reviewed the four different sites that they visited. First was the parking lot that served as municipal parking that connected four critical Municipal buildings. There is parking all around, a stretch of green land, a water play area, and they host concerts. Second, was the Al Hattendorf Center, which has a Senior/Adult Center, a Preschool, walking path, inclusive play area, bocce ball, picnic tables, outdoor play games (ladder ball/corn hole), outdoor exercise area, which is along the walking path, a butterfly garden, and musical play features. Third was Audubon Park, which has a Skate Park, tennis, and basketball courts, playground area, ziplines, sensory and musical play features. Fourth was Jaycee Park which was an all-inclusive park. Some of the area had a prepared surface, some just had a modified surface. There was a younger child area, older child, ziplines, and swings. There was a bridge structure you can go over and under, which is to help children with special needs, and a small play area on a slope for climbing. Assistant Village Administrator Andrews said the the budget for the all-inclusive playground, was approximately \$160,000.. Assistant Village Administrator Andrews ended her presentation by asking the Board if they had any questions for her.

Vice-Chairman Andrea asked how high the bridge was, and if there were hand rails. Member Wackerlin responded that there were hand rails on each side. Member Wackerlin also inquired about what surface it was on. Superintendent Buscemi responded that is was a pour and play area and other areas were manufactured wood chips.

Member Carman asked what was the most popular feature? Assistant Village Administrator Andrews responded to that by saying, the tire swing, seesaw, and ziplines.

Trustee Anderson thanked Shannon for the information and that the take away is the cohesiveness of the playgrounds.

Member Sivakumar asked about the Health beat equipment and if it was like the Ninja Fitness System? Superintendent Buscemi spoke to that and said that there is an abundance of health equipment to choose from.



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Chairwoman Tredore asked for the addresses of the parks that they visited. Assistant Village Administrator Andrews responded and said she would send them the information. She also added that Deicke Park in Huntley has some inclusive features that the Board could take a look at. Chairwoman Tredore said she would like to take her grandchildren to the park and get a kid's view.

B. Informational Item - Lynn Dillow Playground Replacement Survey Analysis

Public Works Director Tom Migatz went over the analysis of the survey they did. First item what were the ages of the users of the parks. More than half that responded were between the ages of 5-12. Next were adults, and then children under 5. So, it shows a need for all ages. Next was the question of how often were the parks used. Eighty-eight responded with once a month. Thirty-two percent said once a week. The majority walk or bike to the park. There were a few responses why they didn't use the park. They said their children were just too old.

One of the questions asked was how much of a need for an inclusive park in that area, and the response was not much of a need. We would have to evaluate what type of equipment we would want at that park. The question on what would make the park better. Swings were at the top of the list, then a sitting area. Obstacle course was next on the list, followed by a splash pad. One thing that came up often was the frog element and the need to keep that there. That is how they identify that park. We asked if anyone would be interested in a focus group. Out of thirty-six responses, nineteen said they would be interested and majority of them provided contact information. Its important to know how people rank what they want in a park. Top of the list was swings, ziplines, slides and climbing features. Track slides, monkey bars, bridges, and tandem swings were next on the list. The last group were sensory panels, tunnels, and inclusive elements. This gives us an idea of what is important when moving forward with this project. Public Works Director Tom Migatz asked the board if they had any questions or any requests.

Chairwoman Tredore said she would like to see ziplines and swings.

Member Donahue wanted to make it known that the same amount of people who want the frog to stay, was the same amount of people who have someone in their household with special needs.

Member Wackerlin liked the idea of a themed park. It gives the park an identity. He stated that the survey result see it as a neighborhood park and not an all-inclusive park.

Assistant Village Administrator Andrews spoke to that, and said we should consider adding inclusive equipment. She said the goal is to include inclusive features at each park we redo.

Chairwoman Tredore liked that idea.

Vice-Chairman Andrea thinks we should just make this what we do at for any park replacement. Include the standards in the Parks Master Plan.

Public Works Director Tom Migatz thanked everyone for their time.

C. Informational Item- Recreation Fourth Quarter Program Statistics Report

Superintendent Buscemi reviewed the fourth quarter program statistics, and started in the fall with the Preschool Academy and Beyond the Bell. Preschool Academy was back in person starting this fall. Four classrooms are being used Monday thru Friday. Staff hosted over a dozen new events during the fall and



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utilized over a dozen different locations throughout the Village.

At the end of the fourth quarter, overall recreation programs are running at a 157% cost recovery rate and have engaged 4,799 people. The Recreation Division's overall budget cost recovery ended at 36%. The Division's cost recovery was budgeted at 38%. Superintendent Buscemi included spreadsheets that breaks down all the individual programs and the program areas. Lastly, registration numbers were also included. Superintendent Buscemi asked if anyone had any questions and there were none.

Staff Report

Superintendent Buscemi reviewed her staff report starting with the Winter Weekend at Woods Creek Lake. They included Pond Hockey Tournament, new Youth Hockey, and Ice Fishing Derby. She then went over the strategic planned goals and objectives. Some new activities this year included MLK Day, which was a school day off, where they played disc golf and frozen football. Even though it was quite cold, we had over 40 people come out and enjoy themselves. Two events were cancelled, due to lack of enrollment, which were Chili cook-off and Cookie bake-off. Two other new events are the Winter Wiffleball and Teen Skate Park trip. Senior Programming is currently being reviewed and we will be making some changes this Spring.

Recreation staff determined a list of attributes that contribute to personal and social values, which will be considered when developing programs and events, which are physical & mental wellbeing, stretching skills, socialization, reducing screen time, safety, inclusivity, enriching relationships, nature, culture and uniquely LITH. Staff will evaluate where target audiences are spending their recreation time and/or money by October 2022. Staff will identify whether there are barriers to program registrations and utilize technology to assist in streamlining the process by May 2022.

Recreation Staff will update and improve parks infrastructure to make the facilities more comprehensive and attract more regional users by an annual review and identify parks and facilities capable of administering a quality experience for youth, teens, or adults and develop a seasonal program plan rotation and implementation. Revise Parks Master Plan to identify shortfalls and improve recreational facilities by December 2022.

Recreation Staff will work to create new partnerships with other Parks and Recreation organizations to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and breadth of the Village's programming by annually identifying new opportunities to co-op with other recreation organizations to maximize the Village's return for a variety of events and semi-annually review the partnership with NISRA by consulting on major community event plans to ensure inclusion opportunities for all populations.

Superintendent Buscemi reviewed the first Ice Bowl event that was held at Linda K Fischer Park-Disc Golf Course. Food donations were required in addition to the program fee. They ended up taking in 173 pounds of food for donation.

Superintendent Buscemi reviewed the Grinch Flurryfest, which had to be moved due to bad weather. They had over 750 people attend, 525 were residents. Superintendent Buscemi asked if there were any questions and there were none.

Superintendent of Public Properties Scott Parchutz passed out the Park Steward 2022 schedule to the Board. The kickoff will be in March. He then asked if the Board had any questions. There were none.



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Village Trustee Liaison Report

Trustee Anderson said she appreciated that Assistant Village Administrator Andrews and Recreation Superintendent Buscemi went to visit the Elk Grove Park District site and shared the information with the Parks and Recreation board.

Member Reports

Member Wackerlin asked Public Properties Superintendent Parchutz how much time did he need to prepare the reports. Superintendent Parchutz responded that he would appreciate at least a couple of day notice.

Member Sivakumar said she was grateful for the information pertaining to the Elk Grove Village Park site visit. Assistant Village Administrator spoke and said that Recreation Superintendent Buscemi was the one who set that up and thanked her as well. The Parks and Recreation Board all said thank you to Superintendent Buscemi.

Member Donahue said it was great to see that we could include some of the great features into any of our parks.

Member Carman asked if we should be looking at invasive plant species and if everyone knew what they were. This is in regards to park visits.

Vice-chairman Andrea said he was delighted about the price point for the park.

Chairwoman Tredore also wanted to thank them for all the work they did in putting together the presentation. She also asked for the addresses of the parks they visited.

Audience Participation

Walter Weinert asked if they would be having the Run through the Hills 5K and 10K race in April. Recreation Superintendent Buscemi responded yes, we will be doing the race. Walter said he would like to volunteer for that.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vice-Chairman Andrea and seconded by Member Wackerlin. The motion was approved by a voice vote of 7-0

There being no further business to discuss, the Parks and Recreation Board meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dana Popovich".

Dana Popovich