

PARKS AND RECRATION BOARD MEETING

NOVEMBER 3, 2022

Call to Order

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

Also present were, Director of Parks and Recreation Trevor Bosack, Recreation Superintendent Kim Buscemi, Superintendent of Public Properties Scott Parchutz, Recreation Supervisor Kristi Brewer, and Recording Secretary Dana Popovich.

Audience Participation

None

Approval of Meeting Minutes

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

Old Business

A. Facility Use Policy Updates

Director Bosack reviewed Chapter 8 of the Village's Municipal Code (Parks, Lakes, and Beaches) that was discussed in the October 6th Parks and Recreation meeting, outlining the Facility Use Permit process in Section 8.13 of the code, specifically the Facility Use Permit application. Some of the notable changes would be holding a credit card for a certain period of time to ensure there were no damages to the rental property. At the last meeting, the Board wanted to know if texting the renter before and after their rental would be possible. Director Bosack said that it would be more about procedure than policy, and they do use texting for class, camp, and other activities. A redlined version of the revised policy is attached. Director Bosack said at this time staff is seeking a motion from the Parks and Recreation Board to recommend updates to the Village Facility Use Policy for consideration by the Village Board. If the updates are recommended by the Parks and Recreation Board, staff will present the updated Village Facility Use Policy to the Village Board at an upcoming Committee of the Whole meeting for approval.

Motion to recommend the updates to the Village Use Policy was made by Member Sivakumar, and seconded by Vice Chairman Andrea. The motion was approved by a voice vote of 7-0.

New Business

A. Informational Item – Garden Plots

Director Bosack discussed the garden plots that are located by the Public Works facility. In August 2022, staff received a phone call from a frustrated garden plot renter who presented a list of comments and concerns regarding their experience as a garden plot owner. The items that were discussed included path maintenance, poor soil quality, the proximity to water, plots flooding, the overall condition of the site, and plot owners abandoning their plots. Director Bosack reached out to Brenda Dahlfors, who oversees the University of Illinois Extension Master Garden program. She met staff onsite to review the garden plots. The review took place near the end of the season. There were a number of overgrown and abandoned plots. Ms. Dahlfors had two recommendations, one was to remove all the weeds, and till on a regular basis. Second, was solarization, the solarization method is using plastic tarps to cover the plots and create a greenhouse effect, which basically kills any vegetation underneath. With that

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said, Director Bosack discussed that there are basically three options. One, would be status quo, and maintain it the same as always. Two, would be to spend 2023 improving the site. Rototill it and then solarize the existing plots and improve the site for 2024. Lastly would be to eliminate the garden plots and determine a long-term solution in the Parks Master Plan. Director Bosack asked the Board for feedback.

The Board thought sending out a survey would be a good idea. Member Carman thought maybe the site could be used for composting, and find somewhere more suitable for the garden.

After much discussion the Board decided that a better location would be more suitable for the garden plots.

B. Informational Item – Financial Analysis

Director Bosack went over the third quarter financial analysis. He went over the breakdown of various programs. Superintendent of Parks and Recreation Kim Buscemi said the trend in the various programs seems to be moving upward as we emerge out of Covid. Superintendent Buscemi asked the Board to look over the information, and asked if they had any questions. No questions from the Board.

Staff Reports

Superintendent Buscemi discussed upcoming events such as Pumpkin Chunkin, Turkey Shoot Out, and Hero Week. On Veteran's day there will be a color guard ceremony in the morning, and a pinning ceremony in the afternoon. Superintendent Buscemi invited the Board to stop by if they have a chance.

Recreation Supervisor Kristi Brewer discussed the Lights on Afterschool Program celebrating any program that takes place between three and six o'clock. She talked about Dog Walk of the Dead, and how they had a great turn out. Pet Suites was the sponsor and they provided a prize for best costume. She talked about Friday after the pinning ceremony they will be supporting Operation Gratitude which sends care packages to first responders, veterans, and people of that nature. Supervisor Brewer said they will be sewing, knitting, and making cards. She said they are hoping to send fifty completed projects to Operation Gratitude. She said that there is a box in the hall asking for donations for various items.

Superintendent Buscemi pointed out a picture in the board packet. It is a picture of the new benches over at the annex preschool. She discussed Movie night that was in cooperation with NISRA and the Algonquin Library. Goldfish Swim School sponsored the event. There was an event the beginning of October called the Back to School Jam at the skate park. The Algonquin Library and the Lost Woods Sanctuary were also part of the event. Creative Cultures Tattoo Shop was there and helped with the skating competition. They also decorated some boards. Superintendent Buscemi discussed some the adult, senior trips that were done with some of the other Villages.

Village Trustee Liaison Report

None

Member Reports

Vice-Chairman Andrea said he saw the benches at the preschool and they looked really nice. He also inquired about the rooms we rent at Village Hall and the Hain House. He wanted to know how many people do they hold.

Director Bosack responded between forty-six and fifty for the smaller room. Over a hundred in the bigger room.

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Vice-Chairman Andrea then inquired about the Fen, he said he know its not Lake in the Hills who runs it, but he just wanted to know why they don't allow dogs.

Recreation Supervisor Brewer responded that she thinks it is because no one picks up their dog waste.

Member Sivakumar asked if there are signs at Sunset Park saying dogs need to be leashed. She said there are dogs off leashes all the time.

Vice-Chairman Andrea responded that it is in the Parks Rules and Regulations that they be leashed.

Member Carman wanted to let the Board know about the McHenry Green Expo was coming up this Saturday ten to three. She also wanted to let people know that McHenry County has a much higher rate of depression and diabetes, than any other part of the state. She said that is why having the activities that the Parks and Recreation department put out is so very important, and she wanted to say thank you.

Member Donahue said that parents are looking for a breakfast with Santa. There are two major restaurants that have canceled their event. She is hoping that maybe we could put something together.

Superintendent Buscemi thanked her for bringing that to our attention. She said she will see what they could do.

Adjournment

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

There being no further business to discuss, the Parks and Recreation Board meeting was adjourned at 7:34 PM.

Submitted by

Dana Popovich

Recording Secretary

Dana Popovich