

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
July 23, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Waverley called the meeting to order at 7:08pm.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Chairman Alice Waverley, Commissioners Darren Baker, Chris Boruff, and Greg Moore

Absent:

Commissioners Steve Keane, Heather Hester, and John George

Others Present:

Marty Brennan, HPTA President

Staff Present:

Brad Bloom, Assistant Village Manager/Director of Public Safety
Heather Bereckis, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation
Maggie South, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) Approval of minutes—June 18, 2019

Commissioner Boruff motioned to approve the minutes of the June 18 meeting with the recommended changes. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. A voice vote was called and all were in favor. The motion passed.

LIAISON REPORTS

a) Gateway Special Recreation Association Report

Ms. Bereckis discussed the report. A new vehicle has been purchased through the state cooperative and should be in use by the end of September. Ms. Bereckis explained that the new vehicle can accommodate multiple wheelchairs and passengers. She and Mr. Bloom also noted that Gateway will no longer be purchasing their fuel from the Village pumps due to a puncture in the unleaded tank. Gateway is now looking at establishing a new agreement with Countryside. Village vehicles will be acquiring fuel from another source. This may cause higher than average fuel costs for the next few months. Ms. Bereckis also called attention to the report on Special Olympics.

MONTHLY REPORTS

a) Recreation Staff Report – June 2019

Ms. Bereckis explained that the Lodge is doing well. People are coming in and taking tours, and the Lodge looks good through August. Ms. Bereckis reminded the Commission that fall and winter rental numbers did pick up at this time of year last year. A wedding photographer will be taking promotional photos for the Lodge for free in exchange for their business card being given out in the promotional folders. Social media handles will change to follow the branding change from “Katherine Legge Memorial Lodge” to “The Lodge at Katherine Legge Memorial Park”. Chairman Waverley and Commissioner Moore pointed out changes that needed to be made in the graphs presented in the packet. Ms. Bereckis will provide updated numbers to the Commission. Fall/Winter brochures will be available July 29 with registrations beginning August 5. Staff are working on the Winter/Spring brochure.

Ms. Bereckis thanked the Commission with their help for the Fourth of July parade. It was very well received by the community. The weather cooperated and the festival went well. Police won the turtle race again. The Commission was complimentary of the parade. It's a great community event, even for those who live outside of Hinsdale.

Cardboard Boat Regatta was cancelled due to the weather and low pre-registration. Cardboard Castles (Unplug and Play) at Veeck is happening, with prizes donated by community businesses. Christmas in July and Mermaid and Pirate Meet and Greet are coming up at the pool. Ms. Bereckis noted that the Cardboard Boat Regatta will not be rescheduled due to limited pool availability.

Fields have been booked for the fall. Cross Country and Football have begun at various parks. The updated Community Pool report was provided to the Commission. Despite a rough start, the Pool is doing well. Passes are still selling. Income is looking as if it will finish ahead of last year. 72% of Neighborly passes are sold to LaGrange or LaGrange Park.

Ms. Bereckis presented the maintenance highlight. Seasonal positions were not filled.

b) Treasurer's Report- Preliminary End of FY 18/19

Ms. Bereckis presented the report to the Commission. She invited feedback from the Commission regarding the report. Commissioner Moore and Chairman Waverley requested clarification on the athletics section. Ms. Bereckis clarified that athletics registrations are in continued decline, despite positive feedback. People are registering for more specialized teams or travel teams. Programs for younger children tend to fill, but athletics programs for older children do not. Early childhood reflected potential co-ops with other park districts that didn't materialize, but staff are still seeking other opportunities. Chairman Waverley suggested looking at niche areas to focus on. Ms. Bereckis explained that staff are pursuing more nature-based programs or programs that aren't offered in a traditional preschool setting. The Commission discussed and offered their feedback regarding the report.

OLD BUSINESS

a) HPTA Naming Request for the Platform Hut

Ms. Bereckis presented the public comments received by the Department regarding HPTA's Naming Request. Commissioner George submitted his approval of the request via e-mail. All comments received were positive. The Commission discussed the public comment received. Mr. Brennan offered to answer any questions the Commission may have. He noted that feedback he has received has been positive and that they would like to announce this recognition at the beginning of the paddle season.

Commissioner Boruff motioned to send the HPTA Naming Request to the Board of Trustees. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. A voice vote was called and all were in favor. The naming request will now be passed to the Village Board of Trustees for a first and second read at their August and September meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

OTHER BUSINESS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

a) Pool Audit

Ms. Bereckis informed the Commission that staff have made recommendations and the audit is with President Cauley. After he and the Board of Trustees review it, it will come to the Commission. Mr. Bloom clarified the types of recommendations that staff were asked for. Once the Board approves those recommendations, it will come before the Commission. Commissioner Boruff, Commissioner Baker, and Mr. Bloom discussed the Commission's role in the process.

b) OSLAD Grant

The Department is applying for an OSLAD Grant. Ms. Bereckis explained what an OSLAD Grant is, and noted that one was previously granted in 2011 for improvements at Katherine Legge Memorial Park, including the construction of the South Shelter and the nature playground. Governor Pritzker has also discussed PARC Grants becoming available. These funds, if awarded, would be able to aid staff in updating the pool per the audit. Ms. Bereckis described the differences between PARC and OSLAD Grants and the process of applying for them. Commissioner Baker asked that the survey from a few years ago be recirculated.

c) Construction Update

Ms. Bereckis noted that the paving at Katherine Legge Memorial Park has been completed. The step to the front door of the Lodge has been eliminated to make the building more accessible. Pickleball courts should be completed in two weeks. An opening ceremony has been planned. The pickleball pros would like to plan a small tournament for that day, likely before a meeting on a Tuesday evening in early September. The benches at Burns have been completely installed. Memorial Grounds and Robbins are next on the list for bench installation. It is unlikely that all 33 benches will be completed this summer, however, staff will work until there is heavy snow to install them. Donations are still being accepted. The Commission offered feedback for the pickleball court opening ceremony.

d) Summer meeting schedule

Ms. Bereckis noted that there is no August meeting. She reminded the Commission about park surveys.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Baker motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Boruff. A voice vote was called and all were in favor. The motion passed. The special meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was adjourned at 8:00pm.

ATTEST: _____
Maggie South, Administrative Assistant