

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
September 8, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Waverley called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman Alice Waverley
Commissioners Darren Baker, Chris Boruff, John George, and Steve Keane
Absent: Commissioners Heather Hester and Greg Moore
Others Present: None
Staff Present: Brad Bloom, Assistant Village Manager/Director of Public Safety
Heather Bereckis, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation
John Finnell, Superintendent of Parks and Forestry
Sammy Hanzel, Recreation Supervisor
Maggie South, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of minutes- June 9, 2020

Commissioner Boruff motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Commissioner Keane seconded the motion. A voice vote was called and all were in favor.

LIAISON REPORTS

A. Gateway Special Recreation Association Report

Ms. Bereckis presented the report. Gateway is back in a limited capacity for the summer. A number of programs, such as softball at Veeck were able to run. They will run a platform tennis class on the KLM courts this fall thanks to the cooperation of the Hinsdale Platform Tennis Association. Gateway will also use the Burns Warming House as a sensory room for one-on-one sessions with participants. An audit was completed and everything was in order.

MONTHLY REPORTS

A. Recreation Staff Report – August 2020

Ms. Bereckis presented the report. The Lodge will be hosting the high school's transitions program beginning September 21st, or when they are able start classes in person. Caterer's licenses continue to come in. Numbers are down from the previous year. Most major expenses were front-loaded into the beginning of the year. Requests for 2021 continue to come in, and staff is hopeful that next year will be a much better year. About half of these requests are rescheduled events from this year. Ms. Bereckis explained the current staffing situation at the Lodge to the Commission.

The Fall/Winter brochure is entirely digital this year, with postcards sent to all residents to inform them of the change. Registration numbers are holding steady. This will not be a permanent change, but it makes sense due to the current circumstances. Ms. Bereckis described the benefits of the online brochure platform. As staff does not have access to the schools this fall,

some programs may need to be cancelled as the weather gets colder. Programming continues to be as robust as usual.

Fall Festival will be open on a registration-only basis this year, in order to control numbers. Although the event will be slightly scaled back, it will still take place at Katherine Legge Memorial Park. The downtown businesses will still be open for trick or treating at their discretion. The Village does not typically regulate trick or treating. The Drive-In Movie, Movies in the Park, and Lunch on the Lawn events were well-attended. This winter, staff will be hosting Photos with Santa and Letters to Santa. Due to ongoing restrictions, Holiday Express will likely not take place. Staff is working with the Economic Development Commission to host holiday events.

Fields are booking very well, especially due to COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines. The lacrosse field regrading at Katherine Legge Memorial Park is finished. Trees have been planted and the field is being watered. The field will be offline through spring of 2021 to make sure the field is properly established. Staff has tried to make sure that the water from drainage will stay on the Hinsdale side, and not run off onto the Burr Ridge side. Mr. Finnell noted that the existing spruce trees will likely need to be replaced, as they are susceptible to disease.

The pool opened up on June 22nd and closed on Labor Day. Residents have been very complimentary and excited that the pool was able to open this summer. Preliminary numbers looked good, with most days selling out. A full report will be available in November or December. Staff is waiting on the Illinois Department of Public Health to sign off on bid documents before going out to bid and hopefully starting work on the pool this winter. All work must be completed according to the grant schedule.

Ms. Bereckis also presented the parks maintenance report to the Commission. Mr. Finnell and his staff are still completing clean-up from the storm in August. Unfortunately, this has meant that work for fall and winter has been pushed back. Mr. Finnell and his staff will begin installing benches at Katherine Legge Memorial and Robbins Parks.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Park Surveys

Parks have been assigned to each Commissioner. Each Commissioner was given a checklist of what staff is looking for at each park. Surveys should be completed by November for the January meeting in order to plan for spring. Park Clean Up Day will likely focus mostly on litter collection from the beds.

NEW BUSINESS

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all capital expenditures have been placed on hold, including the Paddle Hut. The revised design will be ready to go out to bid when the Village can resume carrying out capital projects.

The pickleball courts at Brook Park have been very busy and popular this summer. A new schedule has been put out to help people know when and how to play. Programming is currently being held on the courts.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

OTHER BUSINESS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Grant Update

Ms. Bereckis updated the Commission on the status of the PARC Grant. At this time, it has been put on hold.

B. Pedestrian Bridge at Veeck Park

Mr. Bloom and Ms. Bereckis presented the information regarding the new pedestrian bridge to the Commission. The Village is waiting for Western Springs to make their selections as well.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 13 at 7:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, Commissioner George motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Boruff seconded the motion. A voice vote was called and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53pm.

ATTEST:

Maggie South, Administrative Assistant