

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE  
MINUTES  
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
Monday, July 19 at 6:30 PM  
MEMORIAL HALL BOARD ROOM**

Chairman Curran called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission to Order at 6:32 p.m. at the Memorial Hall.

**Members Present:** Chairman Jeff Curran, Commissioners Scott Banke, MaryBeth Dougherty, Diane Griffin, Ed McCarthy, Kathleen Mulligan and John Deppe (arrived at 7:00 pm)

**Members Absent:** Commissioners Bill Otto & Ed Opler

**Also Present:** Jerry and Lois Mejdrich, 515 Highland Road, Hinsdale

**Staff Present:** Gina Hassett, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Linda Copp, Secretary

Commissioner Dougherty stated that she was in attendance at last month's meeting. Commissioner Banke moved approval of the June 21, 2010 Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Dougherty seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Curran suggested moving Veeck Park up on the Agenda since there were residents present addressing that issue.

Veeck Park Update

Mr. & Mrs. Mejdrich of 515 Highland Road were in attendance with concerns regarding Veeck Park. Ms. Hassett stated that the sod has been laid and the field has been repegged. The irrigation system was damaged and is being billed back to the construction company. The infield will require six to eight truckloads of ball field mix dirt and that cost will be \$5,000-\$8,000. Ms. Hassett stated that Tuesday there will be a construction meeting with plans for the north burm. The dirt will need to be mixed with good soil so something will grow there. Chairman Curran asked Ms. Hassett to describe what sections are good. Ms. Hassett stated that 85% of the dirt is bad. The question will be the soccer field and if it needs to be reseeded. This was not part of the construction project and will be a Village expense. The construction crew has removed their dirt and good topsoil will need to be brought in at the cost of about \$10,000. The construction company will pay for some of the expense. The debris will be removed and the area will be reseeded.

Commissioner Banke asked if the baseball field needed to be tilled first. Ms. Hassett stated that it will to be tilled but it doesn't need to go deep and the aerator can be used on it. The base pegs have been moved so the foul poles would be correct.

Mr. & Mrs. Mejdrich talked about the original plans and the burm on the north end was not in the plan. Ms. Hassett explained that the cost of removing the spoils was not included in the original specifications. Mr. Mejdrich explained that things were dumped in that park before it was turned into soccer and baseball fields. They met Dan Hopkins and asked about the soil. His understanding was that the consultants were to pay for the removal of the dirt. He stated that they understood that the Village would do this with the cost being to the construction engineers.

Mr. Mejdrich also stated that there was to be a walking path in the original plans and now the specs did not include this path from the building westward and southward to connect to the existing sidewalk.

Mr. Mejdrich stated that the baseball diamond has not been maintained and the Village is back to using Veeck as a dump site and the residents are not happy about that. He suggested having the Trustees and Village Administration to take care of these issues. Chairman Curran concurred that the burm was not in the original plan and that the Park and Recreation Commission supported that there was to be a path around the park. Somewhere in the plan the dirt removal didn't get included. Chairman Curran stated that staff was also surprised that there was no path and that the burm is not going to be removed.

Ms. Hassett stated that she has been opposed to the burm from the beginning. It would cost about \$450,000 to remove the burm and there is no money to move the dirt somewhere else. Mr. Mejdrich stated that there is a 12 foot easement by the railroad tracks that was used by the tri-state tollway that could be a possible location for the dirt. He also stated that there has been vandalism on the new building and cameras or some type of monitoring device should be installed for surveillance of the plant and park.

Ms. Hassett stated that there are still many concerns regarding the park. Both AYSO and Ms. Hassett don't want money invested into the park until all the issues have been addressed. Mr. Mejdrich stated that the drainage was worked on at the site.

Commissioner Banke asked Ms. Hassett if perhaps the dirt from the burm could be discussed in conjunction with the Oak Street bridge project. Ms. Hassett said the long term plan is to grade the fields and move the dirt to KLM, but it could sit there for years. Commissioner Banke also stated that perhaps the hospital could use some of this type of material for their construction project. There has much exploration in this regard. The Commission thanked Mr. & Mrs. Mejdrich for coming.

## **Monthly Reports**

### June 2010 Revenue/Expense Report

Ms. Hassett stated a lot of the payments have posted through June. The July 5<sup>th</sup> expenses are not included. She is still working with finance with the deferred revenue accounts to try to get correct account information. Ms. Hassett stated how some of the accounts have been coded incorrectly and she is working on finding the errors. Some codes that don't have any revenue yet this year have been found and moved to the correct account. Ms. Hassett gave an example of how revenue was sent up to finance to be coded to concessions and it was coded to an account for the police department.

Chairman Curran asked for a follow up at the September meeting. Ms. Hassett stated that she is working with finance for next year's deferred revenue.

### Recreation Program Report

Ms. Hassett reported on the parade. There were a few problems with parking on 9<sup>th</sup> Street and some of the color guard didn't like the further walk. There were some complaints about the Medinah Motor Corp. with the noise. Some of the parade participants would not move back when the bikes came to do their tricks. Ms. Hassett stated that one possibility could be more barricades. Chairman Curran asked if there was any feedback from the Medinah's. Ms.

Hassett stated that they do take safety seriously and there were people preceding the group to ask the crowd to move back.

Commission Mulligan commented that some streets were wide enough for the motorcycles, but there was an issue in some downtown areas. Commissioner Banke asked for barricades on both sides of the staging streets for next year. Commissioner Banke also stated that there were areas that didn't have no parking signs. There will need to be better signage next year if it is on Washington again. Ms. Hassett commented that she believed the groups were larger because of being on the 5<sup>th</sup>. She is hopeful that Garfield will be done next year. Commissioner Banke stated that he had a request to reach out to the military organizations more.

Commissioner Deppe asked how many people attended. Ms. Hassett does not have any figures, but stated that it was well attended. The craft fair was successful as well. That is run by a third party so it takes a lot off of staff to not have to run it ourselves. Commissioner Deppe asked if there were only two complaints. Ms. Hassett stated that there actually was only the one complaint and there was much positive feedback. Ms. Hassett stated that we are still receiving donations for the parade. The vendors' money is still coming out and she will report those numbers in September. Commissioner McCarthy asked if money was collected for Community Services. Chairman Curran asked about the vendors from the craft fair and if Ms. Hassett had any figures from those sales. Ms. Hassett does not have those figures.

Party in the Park will be held at Veeck Park on July 30. Ms. Hassett commented that she was hoping that the park would be done by then. Hot dogs, chips and water will be served by staff at no charge. \$10,000 was spent on playground mulch and it will be dispersed soon. The playground equipment has been neglected and she is more comfortable that the parks will now be at a safe level with the new mulch. Melin is a pesticide free park so it requires more manual labor. Ms. Hassett stated that some of the tennis courts are cracked and have weeds coming through the cracks. Ms. Hassett commented that the planting in the downtown is now done in-house and is looking good even with the budget cutbacks.

Hinsdale Swim Club will donate \$4,000 for lane lines. They have been repaired as much as they can be. It will cost about \$8,000 to replace all ten of them. This weekend will be a one day swim meet and Hornets Swim Club will be using the pool for an hour and a half in the evenings. Hinsdale Swim Club will be paying to use the pool. Ms. Hassett stated that there have been complaints from residents about the early closing on the weekends. The issue will be addressed in the winter when the spring brochure is printed. The lap swimmers are disappointed that there will not be lap swimming available starting August 16 when the back to school hours have started.

Ms. Hassett stated that the pool has not had the Star Guard review yet. They come only once for the review. She believes that they will be coming soon.

## **Park & Recreation Commission Follow Up Items**

### Hinsdale Platform Tennis Association Update

The item that ACA approved has not gone to the Village Board. The Village Trustees and Manager Dave Cook will be having dialogue with Burr Ridge before it goes to the board. Some suggestions will be sent later this week.

### Design Perspectives KLM/OSLAD Submission

The Grant has been submitted and we could perhaps receive requests for more information. Ms. Hassett has not received any request so the next step would be a request for a presentation in Springfield sometime in early fall with the interviews in November. Commissioner Banke asked if there should be a dry run of the presentation. If a presentation is requested, Ms. Hassett will have Design Perspectives help with the presentation.

Commissioner Dougherty thanked Ms. Hassett for adding the disc golf to the grant. Ms. Hassett stated that the location for the disc golf could change from the plans, but location was not critical for submission of the plans.

### Tree Inventory Update

Chairman Curran asked for a plan and recommendations. Ms. Hassett stated that it is not feasible to take an inventory at this time. The Village does not have the means to do that. There is a GIS program that can do that, but there are no plans to purchase that at this time. Ms. Hassett stated that the master plan will be expiring. Chairman Curran asked about opportunities with state funding.

### Co-Operative Programming with HCA and the Community House

Ms. Hassett stated that if other organizations do a program, we try not to do it. HCA or Community House feels that it would be detrimental to their program if we compete with each other. We do have some seasonal community events.

### **New Business**

None

### **Correspondence**

#### Pool

Chairman Curran asked about the pool music issue. Ms. Hassett stated that there are two residents that don't like the music being played at the pool. The pool staff has rules to follow regarding the playing of the radio. The managers have been told that the radio is to be turned off at 6:00 pm. There have only been two complaints. Ms. Hassett stated that a pool survey is being drafted that will cover this issue and many others.

Commissioner Deppe suggested that the question of paying a higher rate for a pool pass to have longer hours be put on the survey. He wants residents to understand that services cost money. Chairman Curran asked about including other options that residents may have considered and to ask if they are using multiple facilities or just the Hinsdale pool.

Ms. Hassett stated that pool memberships have continued to decline over the last three years, primarily due to Salt Creek memberships. She also commented that Tom Lockhart from Hinsdale Tennis Association has lost a lot of people to Salt Creek and he will be taking a loss this year. He pays a flat rate, not a percentage. Commissioner Deppe stated that we have to be willing to work within the economic times to redo contracts if necessary. Staff needs to be able to work with residents in these economic times.

Chairman Curran stated that the survey does need to ask what options the residents would want. Commissioner McCarthy stated that he talked to a business man about what it would take to landscape a park for free. Commissioner McCarthy stated that a business can just park a vehicle to advertise in return for maintaining a park.

Ms. Hassett commented that there is 3 year contract for mowing and very minimal landscaping. Ms. Hassett stated that the flower beds are done in-house. Chairman Curran asked if that company has an exclusive right for advertising. Ms. Hassett stated that there is no advertising involved. Chairman Curran stated that we could entertain options for seasonal sponsorships.

Commissioner Deppe asked if it has been proposed to include advertising in our brochures. Ms. Hassett stated that it is an opportunity that has been talked about. The Village feels strongly that it needs to be open to all businesses.

#### ACA

Ms. Hassett received the annual request to waive the fee for rental at KLM from Glorious Gardens.

#### Gateway SRA

The bill has been received and they are working on the programs and getting the board members involved. Chairman Curran asked if there was much notice of Countryside pulling out and if there are any others that are pulling out. Ms. Hassett stated that a two year notice is required.

Ms. Hassett commented that Hinsdale is second in participation and most of that is basically because of our location. Hinsdale does levy a special tax to pay this expense.

#### New Business

Commissioner Banke asked if there could be a discussion of the brochure to be on-line. Ms. Hassett will break out the expenses on the cost of the brochure and list the pros and cons in the report. Ms. Hassett stated that the fall brochure will be inserted in the Hinsdalean rather than the US mail.

Chairman Curran stated that there will be no August meeting because there will not be a quorum and no hot issues for the agenda. Commissioner Deppe moved approval and Commissioner Banke seconded the motion. The next meeting will be September 20.

Commissioner Banke asked about looking at the warming house and paddle courts at Burns in September. The Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Burns with the regular meeting following at Memorial Hall at 7:00 pm.

#### **Adjournment**

Since there was no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Deppe moved to adjourn. Commissioner Dougherty seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting was declared adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Linda Copp