

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE  
MINUTES  
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
Monday, March 19, 2012 @ 6:30 PM  
Memorial Hall Board Room**

Chairman Kluchenek called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission to order at 6:35 p.m. at the Memorial Hall board room.

**Members Present:** Chairman Matt Kluchenek, Commissioners Banke, Dougherty, McCarthy, Otto, Owens

**Members Absent:** Commissioners Diane Griffin, Kathleen Mulligan and Ed Opler

**Others Present:** Trustee Doug Geoga and Jim Audet from Hinsdale Swim Club

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

Chairman Kluchenek mentioned a few changes to the minutes. Commissioner Owens moved approval of the January 23, 2012 Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes with the corrections. Commissioner McCarthy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Liason Reports**

Ms. Hassett reported that ACA will be discussing the upcoming proposed budget. Gateway will be able to limit the increase of 1.5% but the budget will be around a 4% increase.

Ms. Hassett reported that the July 4<sup>th</sup> craft fair will be done in-house for the July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013 fair. She reported on a t-shirt vendor that she has been in contact with that will be offering shirts at the fair on-site this year. Chairman Kluchenek asked about exploring revenue enhancements. Ms. Hassett mentioned alternative ways and the biggest expense is the contracted participants. Chairman Kluchenek asked who paid us on the parade route. Ms. Hassett mentioned that only for-profit businesses pay to be in the parade.

Commissioner Owens stated that bringing in the extra revenue from the craft fair will help offset the costs. Ms. Hassett mentioned some ways of raising money, but that would involve having cash sales which would require more supervisory personnel.

**Monthly Reports**

Ms. Hassett commented on the healthy race and encouraged the Commissioners and their friends to participate. There are currently 150 runners registered. The skate park is going to have some work done before it can open. The fields are being painted and the weather has provided that to be done earlier than normal.

Ms. Hassett told the Commissioners that the KLM dog cleanup was held last weekend. The pool staff training will start in April. Some marketing is underway for the pool and the Lodge.

The summer brochure will go out April 9<sup>th</sup> as a door hangar in a clear bag. Registration begins April 12<sup>th</sup>. This method of delivery is still cheaper than the post office.

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

### **Sports Summit Summary**

Chairman Kluchenek asked Ms. Hassett what kind of feedback was received from the Sports Summit. Ms. Hassett commented that she had good feedback and Little League will share Brook with lacrosse. Chairman Kluchenek thought the discussion was positive with a good notion of cooperation. Ms. Hassett believes that it could be held every other year instead of every year.

Chairman Kluchenek asked Ms. Hassett regarding the Summit. Ms. Hassett believes that most of the organizations are willing to work together. One of the highlights from the meeting is that the facility module has been added to webtrac. The module will show all of the fields, but will not have the Little League schedule since they don't provide the schedule to the Village. Ms. Hassett explained some of the basics of the new feature.

Commissioner Owens mentioned that the meeting was very informative and gave her a better perspective on the needs. Commissioner Banke stated that the village role for the programs became more apparent. Commissioner Banke expressed his ideas regarding the travel teams. He stated that staff really needs to be concerned and do a diligent job of providing the needs of the community.

Chairman Kluchenek asked if the travel teams are private. He wondered if there are any revenues from the travel teams. Ms. Hassett explained the fee structure. Little League maintains the fields and doesn't pay the player fee.

Chairman Kluchenek asked if we should look at the value of the traveling teams in regards to what they pay us for the field use. Commissioner Banke explained his view about the traveling teams. Ms. Hassett commented on how the needs are met for organization requests. Commissioner Owens commented on an email that she received about a shortage of 9 year olds for the Little League teams. Commissioner Banke stated that the fees have increased substantially and parents have to make choices. He stated that the fee is \$250 per child now. Chairman Kluchenek asked if this issue should be addressed at future meetings. Ms. Hassett explained the issue Little League is having and that they want to sell sponsorship signs to raise money. Chairman Kluchenek asked for this issue to be on the agenda for next month.

Chairman Kluchenek mentioned that he and Commissioner Banke work with Ms. Hassett on the issue. Commissioner Owens mentioned that Clarendon Hills had some similar issues a few years ago and some organizational changes were made to get kids involved. She will make contact to see what the changes were. Commissioner Banke mentioned that the cost to a family is the biggest concern to residents. Commissioner McCarthy asked Commissioner Banke if the conclusion should be that kids join the traveling team in order to really complete.

There was discussion about the requirements for Little League. Commissioner Dougherty commented that the best kids play for six innings and the others played only one or two innings. She also stated that she thought the participants were very cooperative at the Summit. Ms. Hassett stated that she believes that we are doing the best job possible to make things work for all the organizations.

Commissioner McCarthy asked about Duncan Field and if the village would be using it again. Ms. Hassett stated that AYSO will reimburse the village for the fees for the permits for spring and fall.

## **New Business**

### Groupon Offer

Ms. Hassett explained the memo from Kurt Lindemann regarding the proposed offer. Commissioner Owens asked if there will be a limit on how many are sold. Ms. Hassett stated that there can be a limit on how many are sold and that there could be a limit of one per household. Ms. Hassett stated that it will be a marketing tool to this area. She explained that there can be a daily deal once you have the first offer. She explained that it will not generate a large amount of revenue but the pool would already be open so we would not be losing money on it.

Commissioner Owens commented that it is a great idea but believes that we should limit the amount that is offered. Ms. Hassett commented that they would not be offered until after the pool is open and there would be a redeem by date.

Chairman Kluchenek commented that people could get upset if they have already purchased a visit pass. Commissioner Owens suggested not starting until after June 1<sup>st</sup>. Commissioner Otto asked about the dates mentioned in the memo. Ms. Hassett explained why the date would have to end by mid-July and the visits are transferable. It would be limited to one per household. Commissioner Otto suggested running it for 3 days or until the limit is reached. He suggested selling the pass for those 3 days to everyone.

Chairman Kluchenek suggested selling it as a 5 visit pass for anyone, adult or child. The Commissioners had discussion about the issue. Chairman Kluchenek wanted to know how far away the perimeters would be. Ms. Hassett explained the marketing component and it can help other businesses in town as well. Commissioner Owens asked what the downside would be to limiting the amount. Commissioner Otto suggested 48 hours as the limit to purchase them.

Commissioner Banke stated that it is a great experiment and he believes it is worth a try. Chairman Kluchenek agreed but thinks that it could have consequences. Ms. Hassett explained that it can be monitored through the computer to know how many are used. Commissioners Banke and McCarthy both agreed that there needs to be a maximum number.

Ms. Hassett explained that the daily deals can be done on the slow times to generate customers. Commissioner Owens believes that it could help with keeping the pool open longer in August and later in the evening. Ms. Hassett will put it on the agenda to discuss next month.

## **Hinsdale Swim Club Agreement**

Commissioner Dougherty asked why HSC was allowed to stop purchasing the individual memberships. Jim Audet from Hinsdale Swim Club spoke regarding the history of the use by the swim club. He explained how the members used to pay an individual fee to go to the pool. He explained that it was easier to have a check come from the swim club instead of having each member get an individual pass. The new fee agreement is for a 5% increase per year since the new system started of paying a yearly fee.

Mr. Audet stated that HSC donated some items over the years, some of which are lane lines. Ms. Hassett stated that HSC is the recognized swim club and they serve Hinsdale residents or students of the high school. HSC is competitive swimming and the Town Team is recreational. Commissioner Owens asked about the Central high school area. Mr. Audet stated that most come from Hinsdale.

Ms. Hassett mentioned that this is the last year of the agreement. The Master swimmers are competitive adult swimmers and swim in the lanes that HSC has. A recreational swimmer cannot swim with them. Chairman Kluchenek asked how the fees compare to Clarendon Hills. Mr. Audet didn't know those fees. Commissioner Owens wanted to know how other swim clubs started using the pool. Ms. Hassett explained that a 50 meter is rare and so other organizations call for the opportunity to use it whenever it is available.

Mr. Audet explained the history of the swim club. Chairman Kluchenek asked about the fees HSC pays and the fees paid by other swim teams. Ms. Hassett stated that the other teams will swim whenever time can be made available for them. Commissioner Owens asked Ms. Hassett to explain the proposed fees on the memo. Mr. Audet commented on the donations that they have made and that if the fee was to increase substantially, they will not be able to do the donations. Ms. Hassett stated that the other teams will pay more for the luxury of having the 50 meter pool.

Chairman Kluchenek suggested having additional discussions with staff to try to close the gap a little. Ms. Hassett mentioned about the 3 day weekend that our pool is closed that Clarendon Hills gets paid \$3000 for that weekend so our residents can swim there for those 3 days. Commissioner Dougherty asked about the benefit of the master swimmers and their relationship with the swim club. Mr. Audet stated there are 30 of them and they only swim with the swim club in the summer. Commissioner Dougherty asked why they were taken in under the HSC umbrella. Mr. Audet stated that it was a former Park and Recreation Commissioner decision for the master swimmers to become part of the swim club. Commissioner Otto asked Jim Audet if it would be a burden if we went back to the individual memberships. Mr. Audet doesn't know what those consequences would be.

Mr. Audet explained that the youngest swimmers swim at the High School so they would not be included in the swim pass revenue. Only the older swimmers swim outdoors.

Chairman Kluchenek suggested talking to Ms. Hassett about the options. Commissioner Owens asked about the 3 day meet loss numbers. Ms. Hassett mentioned that it is common for pools to close for a swim meet. The bulk of the members don't go to Clarendon Hills

during that weekend and Clarendon Hills pool just lets everyone in on that weekend. The Commission thanked Jim Audet for his time.

**Adjournment**

Since there was no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner McCarthy moved to adjourn. Commissioner Dougherty seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting was declared adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Linda Copp, Secretary