

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
MINUTES
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Monday, September 17, 2012 @ 7:00 PM
Memorial Hall Board Room**

Chairman Kluchenek called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Memorial Hall board room.

Members Present: Chairman Kluchenek, Commissioners Banke, George, Griffin, Otto, Mulligan and Owens

Members Absent: Ed McCarthy

Others Present: Trustee Geoga, Janie Petkus

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

Commissioner Mulligan moved approval of the July 23, 2012 Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Commissioner George seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports

Ms. Hassett reported that ACA did not meet in September. Staff will take the new KLM rental fees to ACA in October. Commissioner Mulligan asked if the Lodge Committee will meet before October. Ms. Hassett stated that the goal is to raise the fees by December 1st. Ms. Hassett explained that the fees will be broken down according to what type of event it will be. Part of the change will be a proposal to remove the \$2 per person service fee from caterers.

Commissioner Griffin asked if liquor is still not allowed at KLM. Ms. Hassett stated that alcohol is allowed in the lodge and if the tent is in the proximity of the lodge it is permitted. Ms. Hassett stated that we do prefer to have the preferred list of caterers and bartenders used. Chairman Kluchenek asked when the next meeting will be for the taskforce. Ms. Hassett stated that there is no scheduled meeting.

Monthly Reports

Ms. Hassett stated that revenues are up in some areas but the lodge is the challenging aspect. Ms. Hassett stated that she is working on Veeck field over seeding to finish that project. Spraying was not done at the parks yet due to the weather. Some contracts from OSLAD have been returned and she hopes the project will be done by the end of October.

Ms. Hassett asked the Commissioners for their opinion regarding having another 5K race. Last year most of the participants were from RML and no board members or Commissioners from the Village participated. The agreement for 2013 came back with a flat fee of \$5000 and Ms. Hassett does not feel it is worth it for that amount of money.

Chairman Kluchenek asked how the village got involved in the race. Ms. Hassett explained that it was a way to get additional revenue for new items that are not maintenance issues. Each organization received \$9000 after expenses this year. Commissioner Mulligan stated that 95% of the runners were from RML and the intent was for the users of the park, like sports teams, to participate but that didn't materialize.

The Commissioners agreed that we should give it one more chance, but not for \$5000 and that it needs a specific purpose. Ms. Hassett stated that there needs a strong Village presence or there won't be a 50/50 split with RML. Chairman Kluchenek feels that it could turn people away if they don't like the specific goal but he doesn't know if the Commissioners have the authority to choose a specific purpose.

Commissioner Owens asked what the expenses were for the race. Ms. Hassett doesn't know the exact amount but \$18,000 was the total profit. Commissioner Otto asked if moving the date would make it better. He feels that fall could be better since most races start in the spring.

Chairman Kluchenek asked the Commissioners for their opinions. Commissioner Mulligan stated that the Commissioners need to rally people to participate. Ms. Hassett stated that a Commissioner should attend AYSO or similar organization board meetings to promote the race.

Ms. Hassett stated that the Fall Festival and an outdoor movie are coming in October. Falcon Football is replacing the scoreboard at their expense.

The lodge revenue is down but some of the summer months bookings were down partially because of the loss of the lodge manager. In order to give clients the attention they want, some extra staff may be required for the contracts. Then the Lodge Manager Jennifer Braun can make sales calls part of the time.

Commissioner Mulligan stated that it is a great venue for businesses. There is a lot to promote for businesses but the wifi needs to work.

Janie Petkus stated that her husband's memorial was at KLM and many of the people in attendance didn't realize the facility could be used for events other than weddings. Ms. Hassett stated that there will be some ads in the Hinsdalean for lodge promotion.

Ms. Hassett stated that platform tennis is in full swing and memberships continue to come in.

Ms. Hassett explained about the few residents that complain every year about the lap swimming hours ending in August and letting Hinsdale Swim Club rent the pool for private rentals. Ms. Hassett will review options for next year.

Gateway Special Recreation Association

Chairman Kluchenek asked Ms. Hassett to give a recap of their services. Ms. Hassett explained the organization and to belong to one requires a special recreation tax to the residents. Many of the organizations listed levy more than the costs of the program.

Hinsdale is the only one that levies the cost of the contribution. If a community doesn't levy the tax, they pay the non-resident fees. If you do that model, residents don't take non-residents and you don't get first choice at programs. There is no guarantee that there will be space in a program.

Ms. Hassett explained that Gateway offers door to door transportation, so anyone not part of it cannot get the bus service. The legal obligations would be to provide the services in our regular programs and have to provide an aide for them. The mission is to offer quality programs for individuals with disabilities.

Chairman Kluchenek asked what it would cost the village if we were not part of an SRA. Ms. Hassett doesn't know the figures but it would be astronomical and we don't have staff to provide special care. Ms. Hassett explained more about Gateway staff and the participation in the program.

Trustee Geoga stated that the concerns are whether or not this still makes sense. He believes that it is time to do this for Gateway. Trustee Geoga noted that user contracts such as the one with the pool were doing the right thing. Trustee Geoga stated that the Commissioners and the Board are the ones that should be looking at reviewing items. Trustee Geoga stated that just because the organization is doing a good service doesn't mean that alternatives shouldn't be looked at.

Trustee Geoga believes that the Commission should consider these issues: What are our legal obligations to this group of people; what alternatives are there; participating in Gateway is not a trivial expense that all residents contribute to; some of their operations are not efficient, such as the pricing structure; the timing of their budget process since it doesn't coincide with the Village budget timeline. Trustee Geoga doesn't know if Gateway looks at the programs to see if change is needed to them.

Trustee Geoga requests objective people to evaluate and make a recommendation to ACA.

Chairman Kluchenek asked the Commissioners for their thoughts. Commissioner Mulligan agreed that there is a need for an objective review of the services. Chairman Kluchenek stated that the best way to understand it is to attend a board meeting. Ms. Hassett explained that Seaspar has board members but Gateway representatives are park district members.

Ms. Hassett explained how the agency got started and explained the communities that are in the agency. All but two of the agencies are park districts and there is a board of directors. Commissioner Owens asked about the main expense being contracted out to Ray Graham. Ms. Hassett explained that Gateway doesn't have staff, health benefits or an office to pay for so they contract with Ray Graham for the services.

Commissioner Otto asked what would happen if Hinsdale pulled out and if they could still use the transportation. Ms. Hassett stated that no transportation would be available. Chairman Kluchenek asked if Hinsdale could join another SRA. Ms. Hassett stated that the closest would be Seaspar but the cost would be twice as much.

Ms. Hassett explained that Gateway families pay about 50% of the cost of the program. Ms. Hassett explained that the money paid to them are for the superintendent and staff at Ray Graham in addition to supplies. Ms. Hassett stated that one to one aide is billed back to Gateway outside of the program on a seasonal basis.

Commissioner Owens asked what other communities don't participate in an SRA. Ms. Hassett commented that the ones that are not members are communities that don't have recreational services that are offered.

Ms. Hassett stated that Hinsdale and Western Springs could combine but the funds have to be used for those recreational services. Commission Owens asked what the legal requirements are to provide these services. Ms. Hassett believes that there could be legal ramifications for withdrawing. Ms. Hassett commented that the new housing on Maple are all potential clients for Gateway. Chairman Kluchenek stated that it makes sense to put together a sub-committee for this item. Chairman Kluchenek thanked Trustee Geoga for his presentation.

New Business

Hinsdale resident Janie Petkus spoke about her late husband, Bob, a former Parks and Recreation Commissioner. In lieu of flowers, she is putting together a fund for Parks and Rec that she would like to use at Burlington Park. Ms. Petkus will make a presentation at a later time for ideas for some planters at Burlington Park. She asked the Commission for ideas for the funds. Chairman Kluchenek thanked Ms. Petkus for the generous offer.

Athletic Usage Agreements

Ms. Hassett commented on the Little League Agreement and the use of the Pitchin' Kitchen. Ms. Hassett stated that AYSO stores items at Veeck, but there is no formal agreement to do that. One of the challenges is that athletic organizations rent out the facility to a 3rd party and some of the fields are used for events without permission.

Chairman Kluchenek asked if this is just informational. Ms. Hassett stated that she would like some of the Commission members to look at priority use and legalities of the Agreement. Commission Banke stated that it is a good idea for all recreational organizations to have documentation of what is expected of them.

July 4th Recap

Chairman Kluchenek stated that he doesn't believe the event is a success when we lose \$14,000 on the event and he believes that there has to be a way to come close to recouping the costs.

Ms. Hassett stated that the revenue stream in other communities comes from alcohol sales. She does not believe that there should be alcohol at a family event. Commission Banke stated that a huge amount of people come from other communities and there is revenue generated from the local businesses for that day. Chairman Kluchenek stated that it is a huge attraction but it does need some thought to see if there is a way to minimize the loss.

Commission Otto stated that at some point the village provides some services that have cost and this is one of those. Commission Owens stated that the term "loss" really should be a

necessary expense and asked about charging political groups an entry fee. Ms. Hassett stated that we currently do not charge that group to enter the parade and only for profit businesses pay a fee. Commissioner Owens believes that the buck slip was a better way to solicit donations than the newspaper.

Special Use Permit Fees

Ms. Hassett commented on the ice cream social for Hinsdale Hospital at Burlington Park. That event turned out to be way more than requested. The Hospital hired a 3rd party event planner for this year and no plan was submitted for the event. Ms. Hassett explained some of the issues from the event. Ms. Hassett explained the new application and the fees involved for the special use.

Chairman Kluchenek asked what is the minimum number of people is to pay the fee. Ms. Hassett stated it is more of what the usage is, not the number of people. Chairman Kluchenek asked about the statement in the contract regarding the village having the right to increase the fee. Ms. Hassett stated that this would be staff costs for clean up. Chairman Kluchenek also asked for the Hold Harmless Agreement to be revised.

Commission Griffin suggested a fee for the dog walkers at KLM. Ms. Hassett stated that if it was a dog park, there would be fees that would have to be sent to the County.

Ms. Hassett commented on the Disc Golf open house and that there has been a lot of use. Commissioner Mulligan asked if lessons can be offered. Ms. Hassett will investigate options.

Adjournment

Since there was no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Owens moved to adjourn. Commissioner Griffin seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting was declared adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Copp, Secretary