

VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
Monday, March 18, 2013 @ 7:00 PM
Memorial Hall Old Board Room

Chairman Kluchenek called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:06 p.m. at the Memorial Hall old board room.

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

Members Absent: Commissioners Griffin and Otto

Others Present: Jude & Suzie Troppoli, Bill Barre, Viv Walsh, Jaine Petkus, Keith Medick, Doug Laux, Bendt Bladel, Matthew Halpin & Lisa Lundgren

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

Commissioner Mulligan moved approval of the January 21, 2013 Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner George seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports

- Administration and Community Affairs Committee

Ms. Hassett reported that Jennifer Braun, the Lodge manager attended the ACA meeting. The Trustees were not happy that Jennifer had not been making sales calls. The video is available for Commissioners to watch.

- Gateway Special Recreation Association Report

Ms. Hassett reported that the budget is being prepared and they are working toward capital planning for replacement of vehicles in the budget process.

Monthly Reports

Ms. Hassett commented on the reports. Approval has been received for the grading of the lacrosse field at KLM. That will start in April and the fields will be offline through the fall.

- The summer brochure is at the printer.
- The Egg Hunt is Saturday, March 30 at Robbins Park this year. It will provide for better traffic control and some can walk to the park. The Bunny Breakfast will be held at the Community House.
- Fields are beginning to be striped.
- Platform tennis is wrapping up.
- Commissioner Owens asked who the new Little League president is. Ms. Hassett stated who the new President was.
- Commissioner George asked who Kurt's replacement is. She will attend a meeting in the future.

- Ms. Hassett reported that a lot of the pool staff are not returning. There will not be any Groupon deals considered. It is our year to host the town team conference meet but there has to be an indoor location so she is working with the high school for space for the meet. The conference is the weekend of July 13 and is the same weekend as the HSC swim meet. Commissioner Owens suggested getting some prior Town Team staff to help with the conference.
- KLM is over budget on marketing, but everything else is in line.

Old Business

Golfview Hills Homeowners Request

Chairman Kluchenek asked about the background to the request. Ms. Hassett commented on the history of how many have had memberships. They have about 15 families that would purchase memberships if the non-resident rate was lowered. Commissioner Otto and Ms. Hassett had worked together to arrive at the \$350 membership fee. Clarendon Hills charges \$310 for their friendly rate to neighboring communities.

Ms. Hassett stated that the early bird rate is \$290 and this would be a slight difference above that but below the non-resident rate. Commissioner Owens asked if it would be families or individuals. Ms. Hassett commented that the rate would apply to families. Chairman Kluchenek asked about the fees for non-residents and how much higher those rates are.

Ms. Hassett stated that any other community would pay the non-resident fees and this would only apply to Golfview Hills residents. Chairman Kluchenek liked the idea but believes the rate should be higher than \$350. Commissioner Owens asked about the friendly rate at Clarendon Hills. Ms. Hassett explained that Clarendon Hills needs the revenue, so they offer the friendly rate to surrounding communities. Chairman Kluchenek asked how many of the 15 families were members of the Clarendon Hills pool. Ms. Hassett does not know that information. Chairman Kluchenek asked the Commission for their opinions on the rates. Commissioner Owens suggested \$400 as the family rate. Commissioner Mulligan believes that the non-resident rate should be evaluated for next year. Commissioner Banke believes increasing participation is good and agrees with the \$400 rate but believes that placing a cap on those memberships is a good idea.

Commissioner Banke made a motion to offer the \$400 rate for family memberships for Golfview Hills with a cap of 20 families. Commissioner George seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously with the provision that it will be a one year agreement. Ms. Hassett believes that the non-resident rates are too high and should be lowered due to health clubs and other organizations that compete. Ms. Hassett believes we would get more non-resident memberships if the rate was lower. Ms. Hassett stated that Clarendon Hills has new amenities this year so that could conflict with our memberships, but could increase Super Pass sales.

New Business

Janie Petkus Burlington Park Presentation

Ms. Petkus presented her plan for the improvements at Burlington Park. Ms. Hassett stated that Dave Cook and the horticulturist do want to see the plans to see if it is the best plan. Ms. Petkus presented three options. The idea is to bring some color to the park and

have a variety of different looks. Option #1 has 5 planters on the pavement with different plantings four times a year.

Options 2 and 3 have planters in the grass space. Option 2 has 3 larger planters and option 3 has three planters in the soil. Ms. Petkus suggested having the plants changed four times a year and she will find out prices once a plan is accepted. Ms. Petkus also stated that she would like a bronze plaque in her husband's honor if the village approved. The money from the memorial has always been designated for Parks and Rec.

Chairman Kluchenek believes that the first option is dangerous for kids because of being on concrete. Ms. Hassett stated that anything done there could be integrated into the irrigation system at the park. The Commission agreed on option 3. Commissioner Owens asked how long the funds would be able to cover the plantings.

Ms. Hassett will present the plan to Mr. Cook and the village horticulturist. It doesn't have to go before the village board. Ms. Petkus asked if the fountain color could be changed from blue. Ms. Hassett stated that there were plans for having plantings at Burlington Park when the fountain was installed that were never done.

The Commission thanked Ms. Petkus for the plans and the memorial funds. Commissioner Owens made a motion to approve plan 3. Commissioner George seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Robbins Park Proposal

Keith Medick and Doug Laux presented the plan for using the concession building at Robbins Park for an ice cream shop. They believe it would be a great draw to the park. The building is currently not being used except for storage for football and soccer. They think it could serve the community and would not cause congestion in the area. They would like to take the structure and invest into it and make it an ice cream shop with water, candy, sodas, etc.

Mr. Medick stated that they would make the investment to add windows and would tile the structure. In addition new sinks and grease trap would be added. Signage would have to be approved and to code. The hours of operation would be when sports teams are using the park, after school until mid-evening and mid-day to early evening on the weekends.

Chairman Kluchenek was concerned about subsidization. Mr. Medick and Mr. Laux have met with the village planner, Sean Gascoigne, Ms. Hassett and Dave Cook. Chairman Kluchenek asked if there would be a lease agreement and what they would be willing to pay. Mr. Laux stated that the area is 209 square feet and they would be willing to pay \$20 per square foot. Chairman Kluchenek asked about repairs and if they would cover the expenses. Their concept is to employ some kids from the community and they could also clean the bathrooms, even though they are the village responsibility. Ms. Hassett stated that the exterior would be the village responsibility. The Trustees would have to approve any lease agreement.

Chairman Kluchenek asked Ms. Hassett what the process is. Ms. Hassett stated that based on the lease agreement, it is a permitted use since it is already has the use of a concession stand. The Plan Commission would need to approve the windows.

Commissioner Owens asked about the concession stand at Brook Park. Ms. Hassett stated that we get no revenue from them, but make sure that they follow health codes. Falcon Football hires Fullers to supply the food. Mr. Medick stated that Pitchin' Kitchen puts the revenue back into field dry and other expenses. Usage of Little League has been down so that revenue has been down. Ms. Hassett stated that this is not something that has to go out to bid.

Ms. Hassett stated that the Agreement doesn't have to come back to Parks & Rec and she would work with ACA for the market price for the lease agreement. Commission Banke asked about why they need a lease agreement when they are willing to put \$50,000 into the facility. Mr. Medick stated that even at \$20 per square foot, it is only \$350 per month. Commissioner Owens believes it is something great for the park and gives Robbins more to offer. She believes that it would improve the property values in the area.

Ms. Hassett explained about the other park locations and the concession buildings amenities. Commissioner Owens stated that if Little League or AYSO don't pay any rent, why would this group have to pay. Ms. Hassett stated that this would be a for-profit business, so it is different. Their next step would be to meet with President Cauley and the neighbors for their feelings.

Commissioner Mulligan feels that there are benefits to the park. Chairman Kluchenek doesn't want to set the rental amount and would leave that to the board. He believes some credit should be given for the amount of money that will be invested. Mr. Medick and Mr. Laux requested some picnic tables or benches for people to sit on. Ms. Hassett stated that there is money in next year's budget for picnic tables. Chairman Kluchenek stated that he would like to see some healthy items on the menu. Mr. Laux stated that space would be the issue, but protein bars could be offered.

Commissioner Banke made a motion to accept the proposal. Commissioner Owens seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The request will go to ACA.

Hinsdale residents regarding the pool

Bill Barre, 16 S Bruner, Hinsdale commented on the letter that was submitted to the Parks and Recreation Commission. The lap swimmers are asking for 50 meter lane lines at 5 pm and that on weekends the adult swimmers are not put in only 2 lanes. If swim teams are there, they would like them to be there from 9 – 11 am.

Mr. Barre explained the prior policy about the 25 yard lane lanes and the swimmers want two 50 meter lane lines instead. He stated that at 5 pm, the attendance drops and they feel that having 2 lanes is not an inconvenience for anyone. Swim teams do the same thing but the adult swimmers do different types of strokes and at different skill levels.

The lap swimmers in attendance want the Commissions support to make it policy. Ms. Hassett explained why the policy was changed and that she does not agree to have a policy

stating that the lap lanes must be put in when it is a pool for everyone. HSC is there in the morning and competitive teams are there later in the day. Ms. Hassett stated that there are already contracts with some of the swim clubs up until noon. If there were not swim clubs paying for that time, the pool could not be open at all during the morning lap swim. The board has instructed staff to find all additional sources of revenue.

Commissioner Owens commented on the letter and asked for a summarization of what hours they want. Mr. Barre explained that they want 2 lanes Monday – Friday from 5 to 8 pm and all 8 lanes for 1 hour on weekends.

Ms. Hassett stated that the high school uses the pool the last two weeks of August on weekdays when the pool is closed for back to school hours. Mr. Barre stated that there are 20-25 swimmers per day at various times and they don't feel that it would impact any of the swimmers. Mr. Barre stated that he feels the managers are too young to make a decision.

Matthew Halpin, 938 Allmen Ave, Hinsdale stated that when the pool was built, there was foresight to build a 50 meter pool but now this is being used as leverage. They don't want to exclude the swim clubs, but they need time as residents. Chairman Kluchenek stated that the pool doesn't pay for it self and there are Trustees that are willing to shut down the pool and that is why swim clubs are paying to use the facility.

Ben Bladel, 549 N Elm, Hinsdale gave the Commissioners his copy of what was sent to the newspapers last summer. He stated that 25 meters is not the same as the 50 for avid swimmers. He stated that he didn't like the policy of the pool closing in mid-August when it goes to back to school hours. He doesn't believe it is true that Hinsdale can't afford to keep the pool open until Labor Day. Chairman Kluchenek stated that the Commission has no access to the budget.

Bill Barre commented on what they would like and doesn't believe they can't be attained.

Commissioner Mulligan stated that their passion is a wonderful thing but the swim clubs are filled with Hinsdale swimmers and they petition to utilize it as well. The constraint is the fiscal pressure and no one wants the pool to disappear. There has been frustration but we need to figure it out to make it work best for everyone.

Mr. Halpin explained that they understand that the clubs need the facility, but if the lap swimmers knew that the lanes would be there, they think that there would be more lap swimmers. Chairman Kluchenek stated that he doesn't know if it can be resolved. Vivian Walsh, 16 S Bruner, Hinsdale stated that she has been intimidated because 4 or 5 swimmers have to share a lane and knows people have left to go to Lifetime so they can count on lanes.

Ms. Hassett stated that we need to keep all members happy and it can not be guaranteed at a certain time each day. Staff can work with the pool managers but does not want a policy for it. Saturday time agreements have already been established and HSC does not want to give up any lanes. Commissioner Owens asked if lanes could be made available in August for these lap swimmers. Ms. Hassett explained that the time available in August is

available only to HSC and not to regular pool members because the pool is on back to school hours when it is closed during the week.

Ms Hassett commented about the 5-8 pm time and that this year there are not as many rentals and it would be up to staff to work on the process. Ms. Hassett stated that the Saturday's and last half of August have financial restraints.

Bill Barre stated that it was like this for 34 years that at 5 pm the lane lines went up and believes that the pool is never crowded at 5 pm. The lap pool is 8 lanes and they want ¼ of it for a couple of hours. Ben Bladel asked who makes the rules and if any of the Commissioners are swimmers. Chairman Kluchenek explained that they are an Advisory Committee and how the policies are made. Mr. Bladel complained about swim clubs being able to use the pool that are not residents when he can't use it.

Chairman Kluchenek suggested that one representative from the swimmers, Ms. Hassett and one Commissioner should get together to try to make it work. Matthew Halpin doesn't believe that it is micro managing to set a policy. Ms. Hassett will not guarantee that there will always be lanes in at 5 pm. There is a lot of frustration on both sides that needs to be resolved and needs to go away. Commissioner Mulligan stated that not everyone will get what they want. Chairman Kluchenek asked Ms. Hassett to put a suggestion together.

- Hinsdale Tennis Association Agreement

Ms. Hassett stated that this Agreement is for the current season. She stated that the only marketing HTA does is the advertising in the summer brochure. Chairman Kluchenek stated that there is a problem because the enrollment is declining. Chairman Kluchenek wants to renew the agreement but feedback is necessary. Commissioner Banke commented on the decline in enrollment in all services and his concern about residents going elsewhere for their recreational activities. He believes that there are 3rd party services offering more and the village has become much more fiscally conservative. He believes that the Trustees need to know that and start evaluating.

Commissioner Mulligan stated that our facilities are competing against more financially backed facilities. Commissioner Owens stated that the pool and tennis also compete with weather where indoor facilities don't have that issue.

The Commissioners discussed issues regarding choices parents have to make about programs. Chairman Kluchenek asked the Commission if programs should be looked at to see if they still work. Commissioner Banke stated that a survey could help with that. Commissioner Mulligan stated that there is demographic change right now than parents from 10 years ago.

The Agreement will move to ACA.

- KLM Review – this item will be deferred until next month.

- Community Pool Concessions Agreement

Ms. Hassett stated that there have been no concerns and there are no other companies that want to do it. Commissioner Owens asked about the increase. Ms. Hassett stated that the

village doesn't like flat revenue. Ms. Hassett stated that the concession business is weather related and the owner hasn't complained but he can't absorb much more of an increase. Commissioner Owens stated that the prices have increased and believes some of them are too high.

Commissioner Owens moved approval of the request. Commissioner Banke seconded the request and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Since there was no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Banke moved to adjourn. Commissioner Mulligan seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting was declared adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Copp, Secretary