

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
MEETING OF THE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

Tuesday, February 11, 2014
Memorial Hall – Memorial Building

Chairman Kluchenek called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:02 p.m. at the Memorial Hall board room.

Members Present: Chairman Kluchenek, Commissioners Banke, Baker, Keane, Mulligan and Owens

Members Absent: Commissioner George

Also present: Tom Lockhart, Hinsdale Tennis Association
Kim Fornack, The Doings

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

Commissioner Banke moved approval of the January 14, 2014 Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Baker seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Kluchenek commented on the ACA minutes from January 13, 2014 that were included for information. Ms. Hassett stated that the March meeting has been changed to the end of February, so there will not be a meeting in March. Commissioner Baker asked if there was any discussion at ACA regarding the pool improvements.

Gateway Special Recreation Association

Ms. Hassett commented on the Gateway report and the attendance numbers have changed drastically. Chairman Kluchenek asked if the board is more responsive. Ms. Hassett stated that day camp transportation is now done in house with Ray Graham. They are working real hard to provide the financials when an increase was requested. Chairman Kluchenek asked if the budget has changed. Ms. Hassett stated that a 1% increase was awarded and each community pays about a 1.5% increase. Gateway is working on a capital process and is working with IDOT for vehicle replacements. The vehicles are aging and entering into an agreement with the state is the most challenging.

Revenue Expense Report

Ms. Hassett explained the report. She commented that there are a few capital projects yet for the year but there will not be many projects for the rest of the fiscal year. Commissioner Baker asked about admin/support and the overage on repairs and maintenance. Ms. Hassett stated that it is usually miscellaneous and could be supplies or it could be miscoded.

Chairman Kluchenek asked Ms. Hassett to explain the Commissioners role in the budget. Ms. Hassett explained the five year capital plan should be presented in July for the following budget year. That would get to ACA in the fall.

Recreation Program Report

Ms. Hassett explained that the cold weather has affected some of the programs. The snow falls have hindered the ice rink because most of the snow falls have been on the weekends. The parks staff have had some calls regarding clearing the parks. During the extreme cold, people were encouraged to stay inside.

Commissioner Banke stated that the ice rink got a lot of use when the middle school was closed. Ms. Hassett commented that Staff is trying to keep track of the days that it is open.

Platform tennis courts heaters have had some issues because the conditions have been so cold. Commissioner Keane asked who fixes the heaters. Ms. Hassett stated that they are sent out for repairs. There are some other options that would be difficult to retrofit. Ms. Hassett stated that some of the courts will never heat correctly due to the way they were constructed.

Commissioner Owens asked about the survey for the town team. Commissioner Owens wanted to know how many families it was sent to since only 10% were returned. Ms. Hassett stated that there were 110 families, so that is only 10 or 11 that were returned. Commissioner Owens believes the comments were what were expected. Ms. Hassett explained that you get what you pay for in the budget and most staff are only 1st or 2nd year employees.

Ms. Hassett commented that the super passes were sold out in 3 days. Residents have stated that they will join Clarendon Hills pool instead. Ms. Hassett stated that she has talked to the village manager about lowering the non-resident rate. The village manager will talk to the village president about possible amenities. Chairman Kluchenek stated that we do need to know if there is any appetite for changes before going to the board. Ms. Hassett stated that funding a new improvement doesn't mean that memberships will grow.

Commissioner Baker asked about how the number is determined for super passes. Ms. Hassett stated that they tell us how many we can sell and that there is no written agreement with Clarendon Hills Park District. A written agreement could hinder the sales. Commissioner Baker stated that they will benefit economically from this limit.

Ms. Hassett stated that Hinsdale Swim Club pays a fee to Clarendon Hills for use of the pool during swim meets. They pay CHPD \$3,500 for the 3 days of the swim meet. Ms. Hassett requested a reduction from Clarendon Hills and an amount of \$2,500 was agreed to. It is guaranteed revenue for Clarendon Hills.

New Business

Hinsdale Tennis Association Lease Agreement

Tom Lockhart was present. Ms. Hassett explained the terms of the previous agreement and the flat rate that was charged. The participation has declined in the last few years and Mr. Lockhart decided to have parks and rec take the registrations.

By putting it into the brochure, it will make it easier for families to commit to the program. Ms. Hassett thinks that registration could be greater by us handling the registrations. Mr. Lockhart commented on the private lessons and has come to the meeting regarding what the amount would be to use the courts. Ms. Hassett believes that \$1500 is adequate for the high caliber athletes.

Commissioner Owens stated that Tom was always flexible and believes that people have taken advantage of that. Mr. Lockhart stated that he believes that the program will grow a lot going through the village. Ms. Hassett stated that 80% of the revenue will go to Mr. Lockhart and the village gets 20%. That is the standard for the field. Chairman Kluchenek asked why there is need for the private students. Mr. Lockhart explained that these are state champions and the top players in the field. It is not an enrollment based program and they train for a few weeks at a time. Ms. Hassett stated that players at that level usually don't pay for the court time. Mr. Lockhart wants to be fair and wants to build up the program through the brochure.

Mr. Lockhart explained that if he doesn't provide the service someone else will. There are only a few people that don't pay, so it isn't very profitable. Chairman Kluchenek asked why the private program can't be run through the village. Mr. Lockhart explained that they are only here for a day or two and it would not be possible when you travel a lot.

Ms. Hassett stated that if we tried to make a player buy private coupons from the department, it could make those players go somewhere else. Mr. Lockhart stated that there are less than 10 players in the category. Mr. Lockhart explained about how tournaments could work if the program grows.

Commissioner Mulligan asked about the \$1500 rental of the courts. Mr. Lockhart explained that it is 10 kids paying \$20 each per day. Ms. Hassett stated that all weather updates etc would be handled through the department now that could not be provided with Mr. Lockhart running it. Ms. Hassett also stated that we don't want to be the competitive aspect, only the recreational side.

Commissioner Owens stated that she believes the higher elite group could help the recreational aspect. Mr. Lockhart stated that the program has something for everyone where you can train as a beginner and it can grow as high as you want. Mr. Lockhart currently has four instructors but has the capacity for more instructors if the program grows.

Ms. Hassett stated that weather dates will be built into the program at the end of the sessions. Mr. Lockhart stated that when the surface is wet, the courts are slick and the surface is too fast because they are overused. Commissioner Banke stated that it makes sense that the village receives some revenue for the usage of village courts. Ms. Hassett

will talk to the village manager regarding the agreement with the high school. Commissioner Mulligan stated that if we can get more revenue from any camps, then more money could be allocated for the courts.

Commissioner Banke stated that the service is outstanding. He asked Gina about the courts at Burns being used by the high school. Ms. Hassett stated the inter-governmental agreement is general and they have not offered or asked for any repair of the courts. Burns has not been resurfaced in at least ten years.

Commissioner Mulligan made a motion to approve the HTA agreement. Commissioner Banke seconded and the motion passed unanimously with the stipulation that it will be a one year agreement.

Dog Waste Service Provider

Ms. Hassett gave the history of the agreement. The company wants an agreement and the village does not have staff to fill them. It is very reasonable price point.

Commissioner Baker asked about the business model and if he is asking us to subsidize the service. Is it worth looking into advertising and do we get an offset if there is a windfall. Ms. Hassett stated that it is a Colorado based company and just getting into the Chicago market and she can certainly ask. The containers are no longer free but the bags still are. Commissioner Owens asked about the term of the agreement to see if there are any other companies that do the same thing. Ms. Hassett stated that the advertising artwork is approved by staff and are usually dog centered. Chairman Kluchenek suggested that we control the space if available. Ms. Hassett stated that staff doesn't have the time to fill the stations. Chairman Kluchenek suggested that we get a few stations to advertise and someone needs to review the contract to shorten it. Ms. Hassett stated that two stations would be plenty to promote the lodge or anything else.

The Commissioners commented that the contract is too long and should be reviewed. Ms. Hassett will go back to the vendor and ask for a shorter contract and two stations to advertise.

KLM Charity Concert Discussion

Ms. Hassett explained the request. The lodge is booked all Saturdays for this summer so it would need to be an event in 2015. Ms. Hassett doesn't believe it is a good idea to have the damage and wear and tear to the park. It is appealing to the vendor because the park is fenced in and has good control access points.

They are requesting the area by the lacrosse field. That location is not ideal so it would need to be below the hill by the creek where concerts have been in the past. Ms. Hassett is concerned that there would be others who could also request a similar event if permission was granted. There would be at least a \$5000 fee for use of the park because of the extras that would be involved and the lodge and fields being off line. They would have to provide additional port-a-potties, extra police presence and any additional trash pickup etc.

This would be a one day event on a Saturday with a professional stage for approximately 500 – 1000 attendees. There would not be enough parking for an event of this size.

Commissioner Mulligan stated that if it is a for-profit event, the village should be making money on it. Ms. Hassett stated that there have been requests for Burlington Park and there are guidelines for that. Ms. Hassett is concerned on the overall impact to the park and even though there would have to be restoration, it could not be restored in 24 hours.

Commissioner Banke is concerned that they have controlled access spots for the revenue and the police presence would have to be enormous. He is also concerned that this person has no previous experience at doing an event like this. Ms. Hassett is also concerned about a 3rd party running an event. Commissioner Owens asked how someone would come to a concert and have access without walking right in unnoticed. You are able to get into KLM through the back.

Ms. Hassett thinks there are more concerns than benefits to this scale of an event. Ms. Hassett will ask for more details and costs, including liability of \$2,000,000. Police, fire and paramedics costs would all be part of the contract.

Adjournment

Since there was no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Owens moved to adjourn. Commissioner Mulligan seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting was declared adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Copp, Secretary