

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

Tuesday, October 14, 2014
Memorial Hall – Memorial Building

Chairman Banke 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 Banke, Commissioners Baker, Conboy, Keane and Mulligan

Members Absent: John George, Susan Owens

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

Others Present: Ken Knutson, The Hinsdalean
Brian & Julie Schwab, 828 S Adams, Hinsdale
(Brian is a boy scout attending the meeting to observe)

Commissioner Mulligan moved approval of the September 9, 2014 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Baker seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports

Gateway Special Recreation Association

Ms. Hassett explained that the superintendent has resigned and they are in the process of filling that position. There are some vehicle issues that need expensive repairs and a decision has to be made on replacing the vehicle. They are looking at leasing a vehicle through Ray Graham.

There is no ACA report because it met this week instead of last week.

Revenue Expense Report

Ms. Hassett commented on the report. Program revenue increased in September and most of it is platform tennis revenue. Expenses have increased and 95% of the programs are contractual. Very few are hired village staff; most are used with a contractual company at 80/20 split.

Platform tennis has increased primarily due to the timing of the revenue.

KLM Lodge revenue projected increase is approximately \$4,700 over last year. Caterer license fees are down because there is no longer a per person charge and less annual caterers. Several have not been asked back, one day caterers do have to pay a single day fee and a refundable deposit.

Pool revenue was down \$24,436, primarily in membership revenue, which includes the loss of super pass revenue. Daily fees decreased approximately \$5,000, lesson revenue increased and town team revenue was down. Expenses increased due to increased staff wages.

Chairman Banke stated that it looked like the overall revenue for the pool was down about \$77,000 and asked if the village Trustees are concerned. Ms. Hassett stated that they are concerned in the decrease in revenue, but revenue is all weather dependent and a big part of the loss was the decrease in Super Pass sales. Commissioner Mulligan asked about the town team revenue being down and if that is a concern. Ms. Hassett stated that staff has talked to Clarendon Hills Park

District about combining the teams and that this was a rebuilding year with new coaches. Some of the challenges are the competitive swim clubs and high caliber clubs.

Ms. Hassett stated that Westmont swim club is building an indoor facility. They currently use the Westmont High School pool and rent space from Hinsdale as well. It is somewhere in Willowbrook and they will have two 25 yard indoor pools.

Chairman Banke asked if the village owns the property west of the pool parking lot. Ms. Hassett stated that there is a soccer field on it. Commissioner Conboy asked if there was more than one pool manager. Ms. Hassett explained that there is one pool manager and then a manager of each team. Commissioner Conboy asked if the pool dates could be extended and if it was rented for pool parties.

Ms. Hassett stated that there would not be staff available to extend the dates and it is difficult to get staff the last two weeks of the season. It is available after 8 pm for rentals, but most of the interest is from private swim club rentals. Commissioner Conboy also commented on use of alcohol in the facility for private rentals. Ms. Hassett will have to check with the insurance company if that would be allowed.

Chairman Banke asked about personnel services and if they would be elevated for next season. Ms. Hassett stated that will be discussed with the budget review. The customer service was up because of better service. Ms. Hassett stated that we are waiting to see what numbers Clarendon Hills provides of how many Hinsdale residents purchased passes there.

Recreation Program Report

Ms. Hassett reported that this weekend will be the Fall Festival at the Middle School. Staff is in the planning stages for the Holiday Express and the Santa Breakfast the weekend of December 6.

Ms. Hassett reported that tennis lessons declined, but Tom Lockhart handled the program differently so this was a baseline to start with. There will be a better basis in 2015 with additional information. There are other opportunities in town besides Hinsdale Tennis Association. Customer service was improved and Mr. Lockhart could concentrate on the instructions. Commissioner Mulligan stated that there could be some more flexibility for those that don't want six weeks of lessons.

Ms. Hassett commented on the work at the fields and the turf conditions. The weeds are bad and additional fertilization is being looked at for the fall. Park maintenance will be going out to bid and there will be weeding of the playgrounds and the berms at KLM in the new contract.

Ms. Hassett reported that sidewalk work will be completed at the end of the month. Staff is still looking at alternatives for the Veeck Park walking path. Chairman Banke asked about the tractor at Veeck. Ms. Hassett reported that the pipe in the storm water building needs replacement and that is why the tractor is there. Commissioner Mulligan commented that perhaps we should meet with the residents there by the park to see what they would want.

The Burns Field tennis courts were not in the 5 year plan, and the conditions are getting worse. There are significant cracks and the original courts were installed in the 60's. Most of the contractors stated that to fill the cracks would only last about 2 years. The other option is to regrid the asphalt and then put a new overlay. There are some new products that are flexible and are warranted for 10 years against cracking. To crack fill the existing surfaces would be at least \$60,000 and would only last 2 or 3 years.

Ms. Hassett stated that they are instructional courts and she will have a dialogue with the high school about sharing the cost. Chairman Banke asked if this would be in the next fiscal year and would the village be looking to the Commission for what vendor to use. Chairman Banke suggested that we invite vendors to give a proposal. Ms. Hassett stated that if the village doesn't want to fund at this level, something needs to be done but she does not recommend the crack fill.

Old Business

Peirce Park Playground Update

Ms. Hassett stated that there was a small delay on beginning the project because there was a question why it did not go through the Plan Commission. The village attorney stated that if it was something different than like to like project, it would need a plan review. It was board approved and is moving forward. Weather permitted, the playground should be done mid-November.

Ms. Hassett stated that there still is a possible tenant for the Arts building with some improvements approved.

KLM Lodge Fee Update

ACA did approve the recommendation to increase the fees and it will now go to the board. The fees will go in effect December 1st.

Platform tennis

Some of the heaters will be replaced under the platform tennis courts because they get very wet. The electric is along the base so the boxes get under water when they get wet. They were not constructed correctly and would not have passed an electrical plan. Ms. Hassett will prepare a report for next month on the number that have been replaced. There will be four heaters instead of six because they are bigger.

Old Business

Park Request North of Ogden Avenue Update

Ms. Hassett stated that Oak Brook has a small parcel of land that is located on Spring Road by Graue Mill and they might partner with Hinsdale to see if there would be interest in installing a park there. Chairman Banke asked if this would qualify for an OSLAD grant. Ms. Hassett stated that Design Perspectives looked at the parcel at Washington and Ogden and there is some opportunity for a very small playground but there would be a cost to clear the area. Ms. Hassett stated that there might be able to be a walk path to the Oak Brook area.

The Village Trustees are aware of the request, but it is still primarily at the Commission level. Ms. Hassett will need to get a dollar figure to move forward and a traffic study would also be required.

Ice Rink Discussion

Ms. Hassett reported that one light pole by the ice rink will be repaired. A staff memo was given to the board for approval of a rink at Burlington Park. Burns would have two rinks and one at Burlington, if the board believes that is a good idea. Two smaller rinks at Burns would be easier to fill because they would not be as deep. One rink would be for hockey players. The rink last year was 95 x 205, which is much bigger than it needs to be.

Ms. Hassett stated that a rink at Burlington Park would be nice but it is all related to weather. The Chamber is deciding on what they will be doing at holiday time depending on what happens with the ice rink. The goal would be to have it ready for the Christmas Walk, weather permitting. Chairman Banke mentioned about making a sled hill by the Memorial building for a weekend.

Review of the Five Year Capital Improvement Plan

Ms. Hassett commented on the draft 5 year plan. Chairman Banke asked Ms. Hassett for the pressing park needs. Gina explained what is in the draft plan for 2015/16.

- Replacement of a vehicle
- Brook Park - nothing scheduled
- Burns - \$150,000 for resurfacing of the tennis courts
- KLM - nothing scheduled
- The shelter and drinking fountain at Peirce could wait until 2016 to see how the park settles and get some feedback from the residents.
- Robbins – \$100,000 for tot lot. It is on Community House property so we can ask them to help with that. Play surface would be better than wood chips. Commissioner Keane asked how Ms. Hassett came up with the amount. Ms. Hassett stated that there is no checklist, but IRMA evaluates the equipment and that is what is considered. Commissioner Conboy asked if there is a safety barrier between the parking lot and the park. Ms. Hassett stated that there is but some people don't close the gates and we are constantly changing the locks. Commissioner Conboy stated cement barriers should be considered.

Chairman Banke asked about repair decisions, such as resurfacing. Ms. Hassett explained that this was the first year they were done in conjunction with road and street repaving. Robbins has two lots and one needs resurfacing and will be done in conjunction with road work for better pricing. There was discussion on the lots that have been done and if the vendors want to do the park projects.

- Stough – nothing scheduled
- Veeck – skate park equipment
- Platform tennis – nothing scheduled. The big issue will be the decking around the courts.
- KLM Lodge – \$42,000 for carpeting and chair pads
- Pool – pump, painting and slide in diving well, electronic valve replacement to decrease man hours. \$14,000 for a climbing wall, \$14,000 for lane lines and reels and \$20,000 for pool renovation design particularly in the baby pool area. The sand continues to be a battle and causes issues with the other pools and the area is outdated. Any pool renovation has to go through the IL Dept of Public Health, so any project would be done at the end of the 2016/17 season. Commissioner Keane asked if the high dive would be removed to add the climbing wall. Ms. Hassett explained that the low dives and high dive are not used at the same time, so maybe one of the low dives could be removed. The climbing wall could be added to the east wall and the slide would not be used at the same time as the wall.

Ms. Hassett stated that the feedback from the Commission regarding the pool will be important in addition to the other park projects. Anything over \$10,000 would be over the capital plan.

Adjournment

Since there was no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Baker moved to adjourn. Commissioner Conboy seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission was declared adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Copp, Secretary