

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

Tuesday, January 27, 2015  
Memorial Hall – Memorial Building

Chairman Banke called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Memorial Hall board room.

**Members Present:** Chairman Banke, Commissioners Baker, Conboy, George, Keane, Mulligan and Owens

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Gina Hassett, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Heather Bereckis, Recreation Supervisor  
Suzanne Ostrovsky, Management Analysis  
Linda Copp, Secretary

Commissioner Keane moved approval of the December 2, 2014 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner George seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Liaison Reports**

**Gateway Special Recreation Association**

Ms. Hassett discussed the transportation issues to the vehicle. There is a Committee looking at capital items to budget for a new vehicle in the coming years.

**Revenue Expense Report**

Ms. Hassett commented on the report. Ms. Hassett stated that revenue is \$3,876 over prior year and continuing to trend over the prior year. Expenses are down and relates to the timing of expenses. Platform tennis has increased \$2,321 which includes 74 new memberships. HPTA still needs to provide the list of league players. KLM revenue over \$10,000 and rental revenue increased due to additional wedding events. Caterer license fees are down because of less caterers. Picnic revenue was up due to an increase in athletic field rentals. Ms. Hassett explained the fees for the picnic shelters.

Ms. Hassett stated that operating expenses are up due to increased contractual services particularly the mowing and the reconstruction of the berm. Part of those fees were reimbursed by Burr Ridge.

Ms. Hassett explained why Suzanne Ostrovsky and Heather Bereckis were in attendance.

**Recreation Program Report**

The highlights were the holiday express with two trips. Mowing and landscaping contract will be brought to the board next week and it will include maintenance at KLM Lodge, the Arts Center, butterfly garden and the berm by the paddle courts. It will increase the number of mows which are related to the weather.

There has been some interested in the Arts Center but S/D 181 is no longer interested due the expenses it would take to fix the building. Commissioner Owens asked if there was a way to get

someone in there long term. Ms. Hassett explained that is the goal. The village may work with a broker to find a tenant to pay the near market rent. Commissioner Owens asked if the village would consider cost sharing or incentives. This capital budget does have money to spend on the building, but we are waiting to see if there is a tenant first. The goal is to have someone in the building. Commissioner Mulligan asked if there would be code requirements. Ms. Hassett stated that it would be depend on the usage. The windows need to be replaced but it is a historic building. The building would not be owned by the user, it would be a lease agreement.

Ms. Hassett stated that KLM revenue has increased and is trending upward. January and February are quiet revenue months. Chamber of Commerce event brought in all the Chamber members and the event went very well.

Ms. Hassett stated that the platform tennis heaters have been a challenge and they don't have good electric. The new style heaters needed gas line changes and staff continues to work on the issues.

Chairman Banke asked about the new sign holders at Burlington Park. Ms. Hassett explained that the process is handled by the village clerk and paid from the EDC budget. It is generally used for the non-profit companies and village use.

Commissioner Baker asked about the ice rinks. Burlington Park will not be constructed or the 2<sup>nd</sup> rink at Burns. The weather has not cooperated so the liners will be saved for next year. The boards are reusable.

Ms. Hassett stated that another layer of water will be put down at Burns on the one rink. The rink at Burlington was made smaller due to an electrical box that was located inside the rink area. Chairman Banke asked if Burns can be larger if Burlington doesn't get built. Ms. Hassett stated that the rinks were made smaller so they would freeze at a faster rate with one rink for hockey and the other for regular skaters. When it snows here, all public works staff are on snow removal and cannot do anything with the ice rink.

Commissioner Conboy asked if volunteers could help with resurfacing the ice. Commission Baker asked about the borders at Burlington. Ms. Hassett explained that they are reusable year after year since they are plastic. The liners are \$1500 each and they need to be purchased each year. The old liner would have been used at Burns and can be used next year. Commissioner George asked when the boards will be removed at Burlington. Ms. Hassett stated that they would be down soon.

## **Old Business**

### **Park Clean-Up Day**

Ms. Hassett explained that it will be April 18<sup>th</sup>. Staff will be looking for the Commission to help with that event. We will start with debris and bed maintenance and will work with the paper to market the event. The challenge will be that sports teams may be playing on that day.

Chairman Banke suggested contacting the Counseling department at the high school for students looking for service hours.

## **New Business**

### **Community Pool Report**

Ms. Hassett stated that pool passes will go on sale March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The number of Super Passes will again be limited to 100. 50 will be available on-line and the other 50 will be in the office for those who need a new one. Clarendon Hills Park District is not giving any more than last year.

Ms. Hassett commented on the comprehensive report. Staffing and personnel have been provided based on feedback from the pool users. In 2013 the staffing module was increased but the weather was cold. An appropriate amount will be put in place to be within budget.

Ms. Hassett highlighted the staffing modules compared to other communities. Since it is a 50 meter pool, more personnel are needed. It is based on bather load. Ms. Hassett explained the 5 areas of revenue and the bulk is admission fees. The only category that didn't decline was the 10 visit pass, which can affect the daily visit pass and memberships. Non-resident visit passes increased dramatically. There was a 13% decrease in membership passes. Super passes are a loss of over \$8,000 alone. Attendance has declined due to competition and weather. Families would prefer to go to Clarendon Hills pool because of the amenities. Commissioner Conboy asked all the pools are managed by the park districts or if they are outsourced. Ms. Hassett stated that only Oak Brook is outsourced and it has been successful.

Ms. Hassett highlighted some of the aspects of the report regarding attendance and revenue. People remember the cold weather when they go to purchase passes. Swim and dive lessons revenue went well. Commissioner Owens asked about lessons at the high school. Ms. Hassett stated that slot is not available anymore. Commissioner Conboy asked if all passes are available at the early bird rate. Ms. Hassett explained about the super pass and there is no way to capture that lost revenue.

Ms. Hassett explained that there will be a full community survey done to find out what can be done etc. Commissioner Owens believes that biggest drawback is that services cannot be combined. Chairman Banke stated one thing could be paddle tennis to combine the two and give a discount. Commissioner Owens also commented on a day out program for moms or a senior program. Ms. Bereckis commented on a fluid running class as a new class that might be offered this summer. Ms. Hassett stated that rental revenue could be captured for private rentals in the evenings to possibly pay for operating costs or future amenities.

Ms. Hassett stated that there will not be a climbing wall this year. Chairman Banke asked about feedback from the Trustees. Ms. Hassett stated that there is not a desire to invest in the pool. The goal is for revenue to cover operating costs.

Expenses – 58% are personnel services; 13% are other which includes utilities increased. The utilities increased last summer; 9% are contractual services was under budget due to staff offsetting personnel costs.

Commissioner Baker asked how personnel are handled when there is low attendance. Ms. Hassett stated that managers will send staff home if attendance is low or below 68 degrees. When the next rotation begins, staff levels are reassessed. The dive well needs 3 lifeguards if it is open. We could limit the time it is opened. The managers need to adjust the staff models accordingly.

The only capital improvement for this year will be lane lines. Guests would like to see additional hours in August, but that is tough once school starts. Water quality is affected due to the sand from the wading pool.

In 2010 the audit stated that the pool was in good shape but some of the maintenance needs repair. Tiles have been removed and painted instead. The foundation of the pump room has been shored up. Valve replacement will need to be done this year. Voltage coming into the pool will need to be done. There is currently no protective fall surface below the high dive. Height restrictions could be an issue so a surface would help with those not quite big enough to be there.

Ms. Hassett discussed the maintenance that will be required to be installed. The only thing in the capital budget are the lane lines. Staff will reach out to the swim teams to see if they want to contribute towards the cost. Commissioner Mulligan suggested having a fund raiser.

Hinsdale Swim Club contributed new starting blocks this year and they are the only ones that use them. Commissioner Owens asked if the high school contributes to the use. Ms. Hassett stated that they will have to pay for the rental time this year if they want to use the pool.

Commissioner Conboy asked about relocating the pool and if the land should be used for something else or create a facility that is more up-to-date. Commissioner Keane commented that it could become an eyesore and he would like to see an athletic club that included a pool. Commissioner Keane stated that you need to look at the competition. Commissioner Baker stated that what separates us from other towns is the 50 meter lanes and we are the only outdoor pool within 50 miles that has them. There was discussion among the Commissioners about the future of the facility. Ms. Hassett stated that District 86 is renovating their pool and they have a big plan that will include going to referendum.

Chairman Banke stated that it is a financial burden on the village and there isn't an overwhelming thought by the Trustees that it is a service to the village. It is important to keep it as an asset, even if they choose not to use it. Commissioner Owens asked if games could be played in the green area of the pool.

Ms. Hassett commented on the new rates proposed for the 10 visit pass, \$100 for non-residents and \$70 for residents. She also asked the Commission on the neighborly rate of \$75 over the Hinsdale membership rate. It would be given to communities that don't have a pool. It could make us more competitive. Chairman Banke asked about the process with Clarendon Hills regarding the super passes and if there is an agreement with them. Ms. Hassett does not want to push any further because we could lose having any sold at all. Clarendon Hills doesn't get any revenue from the sale of super passes. They have no interest in sharing their facility with Hinsdale.

The Commission unanimously agreed to raise the 10 visit pass for non-residents to \$100 and to try the neighborly rate for a one year trial. The goal is to offer it to communities that don't have a pool.

### **Correspondence**

None

The next meeting will be the end of February.

### **Adjournment**

Since there was no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Owens moved to adjourn. Commissioner Keane seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission was declared adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Linda Copp, Secretary