

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2010, AT THE VILLAGE OF WILLOWBROOK, WILLOWBROOK, DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Richard Cobb called the meeting to order at the hour of 7:31 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Those present at roll call were Commissioners Laurie Landsman, Carol Lazarski, Ronald Kanaverskis, Doug Stetina and Chairman Cobb. ABSENT: Commissioner Ramona Weigus. Also present was Superintendent of Parks and Recreation Walter Righton.

A QUORUM WAS DECLARED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 2, 2010

Superintendent Righton informed the Parks Commission that due to a miscommunication several additions were omitted from the minutes and he requested permission to insert them in the minutes they approve this evening.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Landsman, seconded by Commissioner Lazarski, to approve the minutes of March 2, 2010 as amended.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

Superintendent Righton informed the Commission that the approved date for the Childrens' Holiday Party is December 12.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Superintendent Righton referred to thank you notes from Lauren Harvey with the Maercker District 60 PTO and the Hinsdale South Fishing Team for the Bass Fishing Seminar.

5. VISITOR'S BUSINESS (comments limited to three minutes per person on only items that are on the agenda)

None.

6. REPORTS

A. Parks News in Brief

Superintendent Righton provided a highlight of the Parks News:

- The City of Countryside notified the Board of Directors of the Gateway Special Recreation Association of its intent to withdraw from the Association effective June 30, 2011. After that time, it will have a financial impact on the remaining member communities.

- The City of Countryside also gave notice of its intent to withdraw from the Seniors' Cooperative effective April 30, 2010. Mr. Righton advised that this action will likely result in an increase of user fees that will impact Willowbrook Senior participants.
- Municipal Services has begun its list of preparing the parks for the season. A complaint was received regarding the drinking fountain not being turned on at Village parks. Due to the threat of overnight freezing temperatures through April, we are not able to safely turn on the drinking fountains and open the Community Park building until later in April.
- Surveys were mailed to the parents of the 53 participants in the Indoor Soccer program and early returns indicated a high level of satisfaction with the program.

B. 50th Anniversary Family Fun Day—June 26

Superintendent Righton presented a draft of the write up for the 50th Anniversary Family Fun Day on June 26. The Committee will be meeting the following day and he will get answers to the questions noted on the draft. The information for this event will be included in the Fun Guide. Mr. Righton showed the Commission a copy of the mock-up for the cover of the Fun Guide.

Superintendent Righton reported that the Kite Fly held two weeks ago had eighteen participants. The Easter Egg Hunt was held the previous Saturday and despite the rain, it turned out to be one of the Village's largest Egg Hunts.

7. OLD BUSINESS

None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Long Range Planning

The Commission reached a consensus on what they want in the letter regarding long range planning to the Board, which focused on increasing revenue and park maintenance. Mr. Righton felt this type of recommendation is more appropriate coming directly from the Commission. Chairman Cobb suggested he attend the Board meeting on April 26. It will be on the agenda for discussion.

B. Celebration/Memorial Tree Program

Commissioner Landsman commented that she saw an article back in November 2009 in the Suburban Life where Hinsdale has a similar program and they choose to put a small tag on the tree branches with information on the honorees, type of tree donated and date planted. She had never seen any but she thought it was something to look into as opposed to the plaques which look like a cemetery.

Superintendent Righton responded he had talked with Gina Hassett, the Director of Parks at Hinsdale, and she said that program pre-dated her arrival. She said the primary reason they did that was to eliminate conflicts with mowing. Mr. Righton pointed out that right now we only have the two plaques and they are in mulch. Even though they had been vandalized, however, we did find those plaques. Mr. Righton indicated we went with memorial bricks and that they

did meet with the approval of the two donors. The only comment made by Ms. Hassett was that she was not particularly in favor of the tags; she felt the traditional marker was the way she preferred but it is an existing program.

Commissioner Landsman asked if there was a cost difference. Mr. Righton noted that there would be a cost difference; the bricks are half the cost of the plaques. Ms. Hassett noted that the tags could be ripped off of the trees; now you are replacing them on a regular basis.

The Parks Commission requested that Mr. Righton obtain more information with regard to the tree tags used by Hinsdale.

Commissioner Lazarski suggested planting a tree near where the 50th Anniversary Committee will bury their time capsule.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Landsman, seconded by Commissioner Kanaverskis, to adjourn the meeting at the hour of 8:13 p.m.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

PRESENTED, READ and APPROVED,

_____, 2010

Chairman

Minutes transcribed by Mary Partyka.