

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
HELD ON TUESDAY September 1, 2020, AT THE VILLAGE HALL, 835 MIDWAY DRIVE,
WILLOWBROOK, DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

DUE TO THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC, THE VILLAGE WILL BE UTILIZING A ZOOM
CONFERENCE CALL FOR THIS MEETING.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Robert Pionke called the meeting to order at the hour of 7:01 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Those present at roll call were Chairman Robert Pionke, Commissioner, Ronald Kanaverskis and Interim Superintendent of Parks and Recreation John Fenske.

Present Via Conference Call, Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic were Commissioners Lorraine Grimsby Catherine Kaczmarek, Laurie Landsman and Doug Stetina.

Also, present Via Conference Call was Village Administrator Brian Pabst. ABSENT: Carol Lazarski

A QUORUM WAS DECLARED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Minutes – August 2020 Regular Meeting – Parks & Recreation Commission

The Commission reviewed the March 3, 2020 minutes.

Commissioner Grimsby noted errors on the following pages: Pg. 2 under Maintenance Updates and on Pg. 3 under discussion about events at Gower West. These were noted and corrected.

MOTION: A Motion was made by Commissioner Landsman and seconded by Commissioner Stetina to approve the August 1, 2020 minutes as amended.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Chairman Pionke, Commissioners, Kaczmarek, Kanaverskis, Landsman and Stetina. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: Grimsby ABSENT: Lazarski

4. REPORT

Maintenance Items. Interim Supt. Fenske gave a report on the following:

Borse Park, the Plexi-glass for the message board finally arrived, it is on Public Works list of to-do items. He also reported that SWAP was out on Aug. 25 & 26 to clean up garbage in the park.

At Creekside, the entrance path off Brentwood/Hiddenbrook was regraded. Public Works also fixed the stairs on that side of the park. At Farmingdale Public Works fixed the culvert on the north side of the park.

At Ridgemoor the chains on the swings are scheduled to be replaced. At Willow Pond work was done around the Veteran's Memorial which included grading of the crushed rock, repairing the border between the mulch and rock, and adding new mulch and flowers. He also reported that he reached out to Richmond Fisheries about restocking the ponds but has not gotten a response yet. Commissioner Landsman inquired when the latest date is that we could order fish for this year. Interim Supt. Fenske stated that he usually

orders now in September for October delivery. Chairman Pionke stated that he knows people who have fished at Willow Pond and they have no complaints about the fish stock. He also asked if the fish would be ordered in the Spring or Fall. Commissioner Kanaverskis asked if we would order with Burr Ridge. It was the consensus of the Board to wait until 2021 to order fish and combine with Burr Ridge for delivery.

5. DISCUSSION

a. Park equipment Inventory

Chairman Pionke said this was brought up at the August meeting to have staff put together a spreadsheet of equipment at each park. He also mentioned that this is mentioned in the Master Plan. Interim Supt. Fenske went on to explain the information included and how it was obtained, and that he is still adding to it. Chairman Pionke that this is not a complete list, that it is a work in progress, and that it should be included on future agendas. He added that this should help in the future when it comes to requesting funds for park renovations. Commissioner Kanaverskis asked if there is a schedule that shows when repairs should be made throughout the year. Interim Supt. Fenske said there is, and he is in the process of updating it. He then stated that he usually does two different inspections at the parks, usually at the end of March or beginning of April. The first is the playground inspection and the second is the park inspection. Commissioner Kanaverskis asked that these sheets be provided to the Commission in the Spring.

b. 2020 Halloween Event

Chairman Pionke stated that he expects Gower to cancel their Halloween event and would like to see us do something. He suggested a "Trunk or Treat" or doing something with either Burr Ridge or Dairen because he does not think there will be any kind of trick-or-treating this year. He then asked for the Commissions thoughts. Commissioner Kanaverskis said we would have to follow the guidelines when it comes to handing out stuff, and we would still have groups of people that may not comply. He then asked if any other park districts have been contacted to see what they are doing. Commissioner Landsman mentioned that maybe we could do some sort of "drive through" event where each child gets a taffy apple. Commissioner Kaczmarek suggested a family pumpkin painting contest. Chairman Pionke said that a decision would have to be made at the October meeting, so we have enough time to promote the event. Commissioner Landsman asked how this would be done. Several ideas were given on how to do this. Chairman Pionke said he will reach out to both the Darien & Burr Ridge Park Districts to see if they want to partner on something.

*Commissioner Lazarski joined the meeting via Zoom at 7:30pm.

c. 2020 Holiday Events

Interim Supt. Fenske went over his thoughts on the house decorating contest, including the flyer and how the village could be broken down into zones for judging. He said that residents would have to register. Chairman Pionke asked the commission for their thoughts. Commissioner Landsman inquired about prizes. Interim Supt. Fenske said he was going to send a letter out to the local restaurants asking for gift cards. Chairman Pionke asked for volunteers to help plan the event, Commissioner Lazarski volunteered to help.

Chairman Pionke shared his ideas for a possible "drive-through" event, that would utilize the car port at the Police department. His thoughts were that every car would get a bag with coupons from local businesses,

and each child would get a holiday coloring book. There was a discussion on the event, such as time, date, and other ideas as to what could be placed in the bag were mentioned.

d. 2021 Spring Fling 5K

Chairman Pionke stated unless we come up with a creative way to hold the race, either virtually or some other way, he feels that we should cancel it. He asked the commission for their input. Commissioner Kaczmarek suggested reaching out to local gyms to see if they would want to go in on some sort of event. Commissioner Grimsby asked if December would be too late to start organizing the race. Chairman Pionke then made a motion to cancel the 2021 Spring Fling, it was seconded by Commissioner Grimsby. By roll call vote, the motion passed 6-0, with Commissioner Landsman not voting due to loss of internet connection.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Lazarski presented a quote for adding a plaque with the date in front of "Commissioner's Rock" at Willow Pond, and that it would say "Dedicated June 9, 2018". This would be for a separate plaque attached to a limestone brick and set into the ground. She added that this would be a good way to promote the Memorial Program. Village Administrator Pabst said that this would have to be approved by the Mayor, as it is an unbudgeted item. He then asked staff for a picture to show him. He stated that he is under strict orders to not spend money on unbudgeted items. Commissioner Landsman asked what the life expectancy of the plaques is.

Chairman Pionke mentioned the Splash Pad stay open longer this year.

Commissioner Kaczmarek announced her resignation from the Commission effective Sept. 1st. She thanked everyone for their support, and that she enjoyed serving on the board for the last 4 years, and she is still willing to help if she can. The Commission thanked her for her time on the board, and everyone said that she will be missed.

7. VISITORS' BUSINESS

None presented.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

Interim Supt. Fenske said he has received 3 emails from residents who live around Creekside Park, asking when it will be renovated.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Kaczmarek, seconded by Commissioner Stetina to adjourn the meeting at the hour of 8:16 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Chairman Pionke, Commissioners Grimsby, Kaczmarek, Kanaverskis, Landsman, Lazarski, and Stetina. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

PRESENTED, READ, and APPROVED,

_____, 2020

Chairman

Minutes transcribed by Interim Superintendent Fenske