

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes of Meeting on
March 17, 2008**

Chairman Medick called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission to Order at 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall.

Members Present: Keith Medick, Chairman, Commissioners, Sandy Usher, Jeff Finlay, Jeff Curran, Bridget Quast, Van Hutcherson, Diane Griffin, Tish Lubenow & Katie Witham

Members Absent: Commissioner Deppe

Staff Present: Carrie Hauptert, Director of Parks & Recreation & Nick Troy, Manager of Recreation Services

Others Present: None

Approval of Minutes

The Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed the minutes of the February 18, 2008 meeting. Commissioner Usher moved approval of the February 18, 2008 Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Griffin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence

Ms. Hauptert stated the Collector's Club has requested KLM parking lot to park their vehicles on May 5, 2008. Commissioner Hutcherson moved approval of the Collector's Club request. Commissioner Curran seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Hauptert stated Hinsdale Hospital requested to use Burlington Park for their annual Ice Cream Social on September 7, 2008. Commissioner Curran moved approval of the Hinsdale Hospital's request. Commissioner Usher seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Hinsdale Little League (HLL)

Hinsdale Little League President, Steve McKenna, reported on the history of HLL and would like to look into lighting possibilities at the baseball field called Peirce West. Mr. McKenna stated there is 850 kids aged 5 – 14 yrs. That makes up 80 teams that play 12 games each on seven fields. Ninety-five percent are Hinsdale

residents. Thirty-six teams can only play on Peirce NW, SW and West due to field dimensions and age of players. Twenty-six teams play all of their games on Peirce SE and NE, which are not lighted fields. Approximately 900 games will be played from April 15 – June 29. Peirce SW and NW, which are lighted, can handle 22 games per week. Peirce West can only handle 13 games per week. Peirce West costs the Village of Hinsdale and Hinsdale Little League as much as Peirce NW and SW for maintenance, supplies, bases, etc., but are dormant after 7:00PM on spring days. Due to field constraints, HLL's season may be shortened by no make-ups for rainouts, no continuation of tied games and single-elimination playoff formats. The primary reasons for lights on Peirce West are one additional weekday game and two additional night games means more than 100 additional games. Additional late games will allow HLL to avoid early game conflicts. More kids will get to play night games, which are nearly all kids' favorite games. Having more night games keeps more kids occupied in a safe, constructive manner. The cost estimates received from the Village of Hinsdale and lighting contractor are between \$75,000-\$85,000. Mr. McKenna stated Hinsdale Little League is willing to pay the entire cost. The HLL Board has approved a budget of up to \$90,000 to account for fieldwork, fencing, or other issues that may arise. Hinsdale Little League has received a funding commitment for 100% of \$90,000 from Hinsdale Bank. Hinsdale Little League would be ready to fund and install as soon as possible. Mr. McKenna would like approval from the Village of Hinsdale to install lights at Peirce West in 2009 or 2008, if possible. Hinsdale Little League would also like to install lights at Peirce SE and NE, but would prioritize Peirce West first. Chairman Medick stated the Village of Hinsdale is fortunate to have all of our athletic organizations in town donate their time and efforts to make each program a success. Commissioner Finlay stated this project might need to go to the ZPS Committee prior to approval. Chairman Medick requested staff to receive a second quote for this project. Ms. Hauptert commented that staff would research this project and report back at the next meeting on April 21.

Liaison Reports

Commissioner Lubenow stated the ACA Committee discussed ways to cut the Parks and Recreation budget at their last meeting. Ms. Hauptert reported this would be a challenging budget year for all departments for capital items. There will be cuts made at the swimming pool. Chairman Medick stated he had a meeting with Dave Cook and Ms. Hauptert to discuss pool capital items. Chairman Medick stated this department has received negative feedback on the appearance of the pool locker rooms on a yearly basis due to wear and tear. Commissioner Usher commented staff have increased revenue and have done a great job. Commissioner Lubenow stated with the economy in its poor shape, the building department has not seen its revenues they budgeted for. Chairman Medick reminded the Commission the Village of Hinsdale only receives 7% of the property taxes. Most of the tax money goes to the school district.

Ms. Hauptert mentioned the Gateway summer brochure would be out shortly.

Monthly Reports

Commissioner Curran asked if there was an update on storm water with MWRD at Brook Park. Ms. Hauptert stated there is no update.

Ms. Hauptert reported the summer brochure would be mailed to homes the week of March 17.

Ms. Hauptert stated Dena Reetz is the new KLM Sales and Event Planner. Her first day is March 17.

Ms. Hauptert stated there is no more ice at Burns Field. Staff hours at the warming house totaled 246.25 hours.

Ms. Hauptert stated Mr. Troy sent out Requests for Proposals for portable restrooms. Maggio Rent a Potty proposed services \$3,600 less than the company that was used last year. Mr. Troy is doing the same type of RFP for t-shirts.

Ms. Hauptert reported the Bunny Bash was a success with an estimated 500 attendees. There were 80 guests for the morning brunch. A detailed evaluation will be available at our April meeting.

Staff Reports

Ms. Hauptert stated the 4th of July task force has decided to disperse the judges into the crowd, rather than sit them on the stage to judge. This slows down the parade.

Ms. Hauptert reported she is looking into event insurance for the End of the Summer Bash.

Ms. Hauptert stated the “Super Early Bird” pool membership fees have brought in \$15,246 thus far. The deadline for the Super Early Bird fee is April 1.

Ms. Hauptert stated the EPS Committee is requesting a policy for the ice skating rink at Burns Field. This policy would have guidelines as to when staff would spray for ice and under which conditions. Staff will research this and bring the results to the commission for review.

Ms. Hauptert stated the sponsorship group had a recent conference call with IEG. Group members asked questions and received answers from the IEG representative. Ms. Hauptert is working on hiring a parks and recreation professional, free of charge, to assist in a strategic plan for the department. This is a common practice

among parks and recreation departments and park districts. This plan takes a look at what the department offers and compares it to what other groups in town offer, i.e. TCH and HCA to decrease service duplication and set a vision for the future with regard to operations. Ms. Hauptert is looking for a three-year plan. Chairman Medick asked what the status of the path around the new Brook Park Concession Stand. Ms. Hauptert stated the asphalt work was passed at the recent Board Meeting. Chairman Medick requested the Village Engineer, Shaun Pelletier, attend the next Commission Meeting to discuss Brook Park and Veeck Park.

Chairman Medick discussed a few of the capital items that are still in the budget, pool vacuum, locker room lighting, field aerator, basketball court at Burns, and resurfacing of the platform tennis courts. Ms. Hauptert stated the department would need to research non-traditional ways to increase revenue, i.e. sponsorships and grants. Chairman Medick commented the department has been fortunate to have great playgrounds that haven't needed updated yet and we are in year seven of ten for the ten-year plan.

Chairman Medick requested the May meeting be moved to KLM for the Commission to look at the facility for future improvements.

Park and Recreation follow up items

Chairman Medick asked if there was an update with the Cook County property known as Duncan Field. Ms. Hauptert stated there is no update.

New Business

There was no new business to report.

Adjournment

Since there was no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Finlay moved to adjourn. Commissioner Hutcherson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was declared adjourned at 9:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Troy
Manager of Recreation Services