

**Village of Hinsdale
Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes of Meeting
February 16, 2009**

Chairman Medick called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission to Order at 7:33 pm. at Memorial Hall.

Members Present: Keith Medick, Chairman; Commissioners Jeff Curran, John Deppe, Jeff Finlay, Tish Lubenow and William Otto

Members Absent: Commissioners Diane Griffin and Sandra Usher

Also Present: Brian McElwain, 605 E Chicago Ave, Hinsdale; Beth McLean and Nick Helms, 1010 Walnut Street, Western Springs; Craig Chapello, 5721 S Giddings and Bob Saigh

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

Commissioner Curran moved approval of the January 13, 2009 Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Commissioner Lubenow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Curran moved approval of the January 13, 2009 minutes of the KLM Summit with corrections. Commissioner Lubenow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Brian McElwain and Beth McLean addressed the Commission about dog usage of KLM Park. They are looking for support in a clean up day at KLM for dog owners. Ms. McLean stated she is a regular dog walker and says that everyone loves the dog park and can't imagine not having it. Ms. McLean emphasized how the dogs are playing and how new people are always asking what the rules are. Mr. McElwain and Ms. McLean are willing to do anything they can to make it a better place. Mr. McElwain and Ms. McLean emphasized how it is a social experience for people with dogs and very positive. Ms. McLean stated that she wants a Friends of KLM park to put out the news and information regarding the regulations. She stated that there needs to be better signage and poop bag receptacles. Mr. McElwain and Ms. McLean stated they feel everyone will more responsible if they know the park is in jeopardy for dog walkers. They stated that a lot of the regulars are passionate about keeping

the area clean. It was also suggested that they could help create an etiquette brochure for dog walkers.

Commissioner Lubenow commented how important it is for dogs to run and that it is a social issue and essential. Mr. McElwain stated that the dog walkers should be held to a higher standard and asked if there could be expanded hours during the week. Chairman Medick mentioned that it was great that they came and thanked them for being more involved in keeping the park clean. Chairman Medick also mentioned that the Friends of the park is a good idea. Chairman Medick said good communication is the key and he stated that there have been a few issues, especially about the parking. Chairman Medick stated that Friends of the Park could be helpful in working together to be effective. Commissioner Curran stated that the park is the busiest in the spring and that dog walkers need to know that KLM is not an official dog park.

Mr. McElwain and Ms. McLean stated that they would like St. Patrick's Day to be the target day for clean-up. Ms. Hassett suggested working together to get the bags and receptacles and be environmentally conscience as well.

Expense and revenue report

Chairman Medick asked about 3420 figure donations being up. Ms. Hassett stated it was from the money from Harris and any donations for the parade. Chairman Medick congratulated Staff on getting expenses in line and increasing revenues. Ms. Hassett stated there will be expenses next month for KLM. Plastering and upholstery on the chairs will be done this week. Commissioner Finlay asked how the contractual services would be affected by the budget. Ms. Hassett stated they are generally an in and out. There are no expenses if the class is not held. Those services should stay in line with registrations, except for special events. Chairman Medick asked if programs with low or no registrations would be eliminated. Chairman Medick stated that if there is zero, we paid no money out for those programs. Chairman Medick also stated that these are variable costs. Commissioner Curran asked about the enrollment and activities scheduled and how they are coordinated. He asked if any programs get paid if there is no enrollment. Ms. Hassett explained that that there are very few and that some special classes that were being offered where a deposit was required will be rescheduled for a later season. Commissioner Deppe asked why it is called contractual services. Ms. Hassett stated that they are instructional and/or contractual. Commissioner Curran stated that these services are a general category with different services.

Activity Report

Ms. Hassett stated that the ice rink is still frozen even though there are soft spots from the warmer weather. The concession stand bid will go out this week. Ms.

Hassett also commented that the Sports Summit was a success. Chairman Medick asked for feed back with the current pool concessionaire if there is no other bidder so we can get better quality choices. Commissioner Otto asked about a concessionaire that helped at Veeck. Ms. Hassett will check to see who that is. Ms. Hassett stated that Men's softball is taken care of. Ms. Hassett stated that she has hired one pool manager and is hopeful that changes will be able to be made at the pool with the mature staff to deal with some the past issues.

Chairman asked about the on-line registration system. Chairman Medick stated that it should be advertised on Channel Six. Ms. Hassett emphasized that we will be advertising in the summer brochure that receipts will be emailed whenever possible and also any changes or class cancellations. Chairman Medick also asked if Ms. Hassett had investigated a FOB system at Burns paddle huts. Ms. Hassett stated that ADT will be coming out to meet with her about a price for Burns and the pitchin kitchen. Commissioner Otto asked about the Bunny Bush and what the target audience is because the date is at the end of spring break. Chairman Medick asked about the parade letters. Ms. Hassett stated the letter will go out this week and that she met with Craft Fair personnel regarding Burlington Park. It was decided that Burlington Park will work okay due to the shade.

Commissioner Finlay asked about KLM items being fixed and wanted to know if the leaks in the roof had been fixed. Commissioner Finlay asked about the empty slots in January. Ms. Hassett stated that January and February are the slowest months at the Lodge.

Follow Up Items

Sports Summit

Ryan Miller is working on inputting all allocations into the computer so the schedule will be available to whoever needs it. The new software upgrade has made it possible to be able to do this.

Duncan Field Agreement Status

Ms. Hassett stated that she has been meeting with Cook County regarding Duncan Field. Ms. Hassett commented that initially the County stated that the proposal didn't meet their guidelines, but after seeing the proposal the County has changed their mind. The County encouraged Ms. Hassett to establish a friends of the park foundation. Ms. Hassett stated that she has taken many pictures to show the County. The County has allowed Staff to do some general maintenance and the Village would like the County to approve some general permit maintenance. The next step is a Public hearing. Chairman Medick stated that it is really a very small area and it is not being utilized at all. Chairman Medick also stated that we don't know how long Cook County will take to make their decision and there may be

restrictions like how will it be improved. Use of Duncan Field is not an alternative to not lighting Peirce and is not viable in the immediate term. Ms. Hassett stated we currently have a one year permit. Commissioner Otto wanted to know what the 40 year lease would include. Chairman Medick stated that the Village was to get money for improvements from the developer of the project which has backed. That money would have been used to pay for the improvements. Commissioner Curran asked about the path that goes to the North end. The issue is to tie into the bike path.

Text Amendment update

Chairman Medick commented that the Text Amendment passed 4 -1 and the next step is going back and resubmitting to the Plan Commission a new exterior site review. The tentative meeting date is March 11. Ms. Hassett will notify the Commissioners if this item will be on the agenda. Chairman Medick stated that there may need to be a waiver for the location if the lights if they do not meet Little League International Standards.

Capital Projects and Repair/Replacement Schedule

Ms. Hassett mentioned to look at the sheets she passed out regarding the cost and replacements of park structures. She will continue to work on the report.

Chairman Medick mentioned that this will help to know what is capital and what is maintenance. This will also help the new Trustees and Village President to guide for the future. Commissioner Finlay asked if there is a way to put an indicator of what revenue is generated by each facility. Commissioner Otto commented that most will not generate any revenue. Commissioner Curran stated that it is more about the value to the community and residents. There may not be a dollar figure but there could be a value measured. Commissioner Deppe said that putting everything into dollars and cents is not feasible. Ms. Hassett will add a field for current uses of donations by organizations.

Ms. Hassett explained about the capital information. She is still looking at documentation for projects that have been completed. The floor at KLM is going to try to be refinished instead of replaced. Commissioner Curran asked if the ballroom is the same one that was used by Irish Dance. Ms. Copp commented that it is. Ms. Hassett will be putting together the bid for the locker room floor and if the funds are released it will be this year; if not it will be done in the next fiscal year. Commissioner Finlay asked if basketball court at Burns is being redone. Ms. Hassett commented that she wants prices to fix the court because it is a risk. It needs to be repaired or roped off. She would like a cement surface to make it feasible for roller hockey and an ice rink for winter.

Commissioner Curran wants Ms. Hassett to contact CHPD about the risks to the tennis court cement.

Ms. Hassett has received information from homeowners by Melin Park regarding ice rink costs. Their cost was approximately \$1100 to make that rink. They used their own water to fill it. The liner was \$165 and lumber was \$550. The biggest issue is what happens to the liner when the weather thaws. If the liner stays in good shape, the cost could be less next year. Commissioner Otto suggested writing to the paper to get the word out about preserving the ice rink liners.

New Business

Ms. Hassett commented that the Platform Tennis contract is set to expire. The contract gives HPTA use of the courts and is expiring in October. Commissioner Deppe moved to accept a new contract and Commissioner Curran seconded the motion. The new Contract will be for 3 years.

Ms. Hassett met with HPTA and she presented the estimated costs for more courts at KLM to the Commission. Chairman Medick gave the background and of the proposal for more courts. They would need to be funded through the raising of the fees and reintroduction of the lifetime memberships. He felt that could pay for the installation of the courts. However, the village would have to take out a loan to initially pay for the courts.

Commissioner Finlay stated that it seems that KLM courts are the premiere courts with most of the usage. Chairman Medick stated that Burns is used by the recreational players because KLM is used for leagues. Commissioner Finlay suggested possibly moving the courts from Burns to KLM and that there needs to be long range planning of this issue.

Commissioner Deppe suggested that we approve the contract and it is a concern of the Commission and what their growth potential is. Then Commission can evaluate if more courts are necessary and make a plan. Chairman Medick wants a member of the HPTA to come to the next meeting and layout some of their thoughts and growth potential. Commissioner Finlay commented that King Braewart House would be concerned if there are more courts because there would be more lights.

Correspondence

Parks Foundation

Chairman Medick commented on the budgetary issues and one of the concepts is a Friends of the Parks Foundation. This is a well used idea in a lot of communities. Chairman Medick stated that he had met a potential Trustee regarding Burr Ridge residents support for the Foundation with the intention of meeting capital needs.

Ms. Hassett has emailed her contact in Burr Ridge and she has not heard back from him.

Commissioner Finlay shared his experience with the Library for being involved with the Foundation and that the Foundation can't be run by the Commission or staff. He stated that starting a foundation is not an easy task and it is worthwhile but the expectations need to be tempered. Commissioner Finlay thinks this could be successful sooner because of the athletic organizations and emphasizing the budget constraints. The Foundation can dictate where the funds can go. Chairman Medick stated that it has to be a separate endeavor and can't be done by Commissioners. He wants Ms. Hassett to continue to do research on a plan for this community. Ms. Hassett stated that Trustee Follett thought there would many groups looking for the same funding. There would be many different groups involved. Ms. Hassett will explore more information.

Liaison Reports

Correspondence

None except for the information shared by Melin

Gateway

Ms. Hassett stated that Gateway is selling Carson's Community Days book.

Ms. Hassett stated that ACA meeting is Monday, March 2nd The budget will be up for discussion. Chairman Medick stated that someone from the Commission should attend the meeting regarding the basketball court at Burns.

Ms. Lubenow asked about status of the bike racks. Ms. Hassett stated still in process with the RTA. The expectation was that the parks would be selected last summer and some racks would be allocated for the pool and some for parks.

Chairman Medick stated that the Village has applied for the grant for Burns warming house study. Chairman Medick and Trustee Follett wrote a letter in support of a \$8000 grant. It is a matching grant for a study to bring the building to where it should be.

Commissioner Curran asked about donations to police dept. of AED's and that eight cars are now equipped. Ms. Hassett is still investigating legislation for the AED law. Commissioner Curran asked Ms. Hassett to add the information to next month's agenda of the two that are coming to P &R. The Commissioners suggested inviting the Village horticulturist, Dan Hopkins to next month's meeting to see what to plan for in the budget. Commissioner Otto commented on The Doings article about vacancy in the Parks and Recreation Department and other personnel

throughout the Village. Ms. Hassett explained that the position of Manager of Recreation Services was eliminated.

Adjournment

Since there was no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Otto moved to adjourn. Commissioner Finlay seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting was declared adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Copp
Secretary