

**MINUTES
VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
JANUARY 15, 2007
7:00 P.M. – MEMORIAL HALL**

PRESENT: Paul Sigfusson, Chairman, Jeff Curran, John Deppe (arrived @ 7:12), Jeff Finlay, Lynn Issleib, David Lee, Tish Lubenow, Keith Medick, and Sandy Usher

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Carrie Haupert, Nick Troy, Ryan Miller, Pam Lannom (The Hinsdalean), Tom Lockhart and Hinsdale Resident (Hinsdale Tennis Association)

Chairman Sigfusson called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:09 p.m. in the Old Board Room.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 18, 2006

1. The Park and Recreation Commission reviewed the minutes of the December 15, 2006 meeting. Commissioner Curran stated there have been 4-6 responses from the Request for Proposals for the Bicycle Task Force. Commissioner Finlay stated that under Staff Reports, it should read Sports Summit and under Liaison Reports, it should read Commissioner Curran, not Commissioner Finlay. Chairman Sigfusson moved approval of the December 15, 2006 Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes as amended. Commissioner Lee seconded and the motion passed unanimously

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Ms. Haupert stated a letter was mailed to Mr. Johnson in regard to the football goal post at Brook Park. Commissioner Curran will measure the distance from the infield on the baseball diamond to the goal post. Ms. Haupert stated Hinsdale Little League will also look into the distance as to which the goal post is to the infield. Commissioner Curran stated that padding should be placed around the bottom of the goal post. Ms. Haupert stated Mr. Troy has researched padding for the posts.
2. Chairman Sigfusson introduced and welcomed Ryan Miller, Parks and Recreation Intern, to the Rec. Commission. Ryan comes from Illinois State University and will be working with the Parks and Recreation Department until April 7, 2007.
3. Ms. Haupert stated she received a thank you letter from Cub Scout Pack 52 for the use of the Community Pool parking lot for their wreath distribution site.

4. Chairman Sigfusson thanked Ms. Polly Rix, staff writer for The Hinsdalean, on a well written article on the Parks and Recreation Department January 4, 2007.

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE UPDATE

1. The date for the next meeting has not been determined yet for February.

PLATFORM TENNIS UPDATES

1. Chairman Sigfusson stated he and Commissioner Medick met with Bill O'Brien with regards to Paddle Tennis. Ms. Hauptert stated she would like to sit in on the next meeting. Commissioner Usher stated the stairs leading up the ramp of the Paddle Hut at KLM are slippery on mornings when there is dew. Ms. Hauptert stated she would follow up with George Franco, Director of Public Services. Ms. Hauptert stated maintenance staff has begun placing the special tape down on the boards.

LONG RANGE PLANNING

1. Chairman Sigfusson stated he and Commissioner Lubenow would meet with Ms. Hauptert in January to discuss the aquatic operations.
2. Ms. Hauptert stated she has a phone call into Discount Fence with regards to fencing at Veeck Park. Commissioner Curran asked if Ms. Hauptert chose chain link versus a wall. Ms. Hauptert stated yes.
3. Ms. Hauptert stated a date has not been set for the next Cooperative Community Efforts meeting. Chairman Sigfusson and Commissioner Isslieb will check their schedules for a February meeting.

OFFICE PARK DEVELOPMENT

1. Chairman Sigfusson stated there is no change to the Office Park development and the Plan Commission is set to meet Wednesday, January 17.

LIAISON REPORTS

1. ACA – Ms. Hauptert stated the next ACA Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 16.
2. Gateway SRA – No report
3. Bike Route Task Force – No report

MONTHLY REPORTS

1. November 2006 Revenue/Expense Report - The Commission reviewed the November 2006 Revenue and Expense Report for the Park and Recreation Department. Commissioner Medick stated he would like a report showing the YTD financials at each meeting. Commissioner Lee requested the capital plans for this current fiscal year. Chairman Sigfusson requested Ms. Hauptert email the current budget YTD. Commissioner Finlay stated the parks maintenance department is ahead of budget. Ms. Hauptert stated there has been a need for increased spending on unexpected repair projects.
2. Recreation Program Report –
 - a. Ms. Hauptert stated the Hinsdale Humane Society has inquired about a dog program at the Community Pool after the closing date in September. There have been similar programs at various park districts in the area. Mr. Troy stated Cook County stopped those park districts from hosting any such event at their pools last year. The Recreation Commission asked Mr. Troy to research if DuPage County has any similar law. Commissioner Lubenow asked Mr. Troy to check with Naperville Park District.
 - b. Ms. Hauptert reported Lenco Flooring recently gave a quote on a new floor for the ballroom at Katherine Legge Memorial Lodge. The representative from Lenco Flooring stated the floor is too thin to sand and refinish. Ms. Hauptert stated that Mr. Troy is looking into other options and a new floor will have to go through the bid process.
 - c. Ms. Hauptert stated that she and Mr. Troy met with representatives from Downers Grove and Lisle regarding the 4th of July Parade. Ms. Hauptert had Ms. Copp send out mailings to all IHSA school bands. Chairman Sigfusson stated Ms. Hauptert should look into contacting an agent that will book other bands. Commissioner Issleib stated that for realtors in Hinsdale this would be a great sponsor opportunity. Chairman Sigfusson stated that no date has been set for the next parade meeting.

STAFF REPORTS

1. Thorguard Lightning Prediction System - Mr. Troy reported Naperville and Carol Stream park districts responded to his questionnaire as requested by the Recreation Commission. Commissioner Medick responded Hinsdale Little League is disappointed that the system has been tabled for so long. Commissioner Finlay asked if capital money could be used for the system. Chairman Sigfusson stated there is a special safety needs fund that may be available for Thorguard. Chairman Sigfusson stated Fremd High School in Palatine loves the system. Commissioner Finlay stated golf courses generally have only one unit. Chairman Sigfusson is concerned about putting the system in residential areas of town. Chairman Sigfusson stated Thorguard now offers a

newer system. Commissioner Lee stated the newer system runs on a different frequency. Commissioner Medick stated Thorguard is a lightning prediction system, not a detection system. Commissioner Curran stated another option would be to place one unit at each Pierce and Veeck Parks to start. Commissioner Curran would like to see a contingency plan in place stating cable television as an example at the parks. Commissioner Finlay is concerned at the cost of maintaining the system. Commissioner Deppe agreed with Commissioner Finlay. Mr. Troy stated there is currently only one representative from Thorguard that is qualified in installing the system and completely maintaining it. Mr. Troy stated other than inclement weather damaging the system, dust and spiders have affected the sensors on the system in other park districts. Commissioner Curran stated his concern with having only one representative capable of the installation and maintenance. Commissioner Medick requested Ms. Hauptert to invite the representative from Thorguard to the next Recreation Commission meeting. Commissioner Finlay asked if the Fire Department has done research on the system. Ms. Hauptert stated she has spoken with the fire department. Ms. Hauptert stated there is money in the '08-'09 fiscal year for the Thorguard system.

2. Sports Summit Review - Ms. Hauptert stated the Sports Summit would be held on Wednesday, January 31, at the Katherine Legge Memorial Lodge. Chairman Sigfusson and Commissioners Finlay, Deppe, Lee and Curran will be in attendance. Ms. Hauptert stated it is an open meeting.
3. Department Goals and Objectives – Ms. Hauptert distributed these at the meeting and will include them on the February 12 Recreation Commission agenda.
4. Astronomy Event – Commissioner Finlay requested that staff find a sponsor for the event. Commissioner Medick stated his concern for the dog walkers on Monday morning. Ms. Hauptert stated during Village special events, the Village has the option of not allowing dogs on the grounds. Additionally, there will be a staff person stationed at the entrance to the park to make them aware of this. Commissioner Finlay suggested researching other park districts and their dog park rules.

PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

1. January 11, 2207 Special Budget Workshop – Ms. Hauptert stated she emailed the minutes to each of the commissioners. Commissioner Medick questioned charging all participants of AYSO soccer. Commissioner Lubenow stated there are 2,400 participants in AYSO. Commissioner Medick stated he would suggest meeting with AYSO soccer in regards to charging a per player fee. Commissioner Finlay suggested giving a reduced rate to residents.

2. Chairman Sigfusson asked the commission to make recommendations regarding Tom Lockhart's Hinsdale Tennis Association (HTA) program. Chairman Sigfusson stated the commission agreed to the Parks and Recreation department working towards a 70/30% revenue split on all contractual programs by summer of 2008. Chairman Sigfusson stated there would be exceptions for some programs. Chairman Sigfusson stated the research Mr. Troy completed on various tennis programs has revenue splits between 15-40%. Chairman Sigfusson stated he would like to see the Parks and Recreation department work towards an 80/20% revenue split with HTA. Chairman Sigfusson suggests HTA pay the Village of Hinsdale 10% of HTA's net revenue in 2007. Chairman Sigfusson stated the Parks and Recreation Department takes registration on most programs, which provides a support structure. Chairman Sigfusson stated there are business and insurance obligations associated with offering a program through the Village. Chairman Sigfusson stated HTA must provide indemnity insurance to the Village of Hinsdale. Chairman Sigfusson stated background checks are becoming a standard in any business. Chairman Sigfusson stated HTA would be a "grand fathered" program working towards an 80/20% revenue split. Ms. Hauptert stated registration through the Village is an industry standard. Ms. Hauptert stated rosters would be distributed to Mr. Lockhart upon request. Mr. Lockhart stated HTA is a registered agent and non-profit organization that has been around for 50 years. Mr. Lockhart stated he has independently run HTA for six years and the program has seen numbers increase from 225 participants to currently 550 participants. Mr. Lockhart stated HTA is a high performance program and not a recreational program. Mr. Lockhart stated HTA has produced state champions in tennis in recent years. Mr. Lockhart stated flexibility, price, and the registration process is the key to HTA. Mr. Lockhart stated in order to keep the program successful, all phone calls need to go through him. Commissioner Issleib and Lubenow agreed with HTA's flexibility and ability to prorate classes. Commissioner Lee asked about the pricing structure. Mr. Lockhart stated he sets the fees. Ms. Hauptert suggested that staff would be willing to assist Mr. Lockhart with restructuring his fees. Commissioner Finlay suggested the initial registration process go through HTA and then provide the Village of Hinsdale with the completed rosters. Commissioner Medick asked Ms. Hauptert what the advantage of taking registrations is. Ms. Hauptert stated the Village takes in registration and money for very other program the Parks and Recreation Department offers. Chairman Sigfusson stated it is unusual for subcontractors to take in registration and money. Commissioner Medick is concerned of the complexity of the registration process of 600 participants and the program would lack flexibility. Mr. Lockhart stated 90% of the participants contact him by phone. Ms. Hauptert stated all the phone calls would still go to Mr. Lockhart and the flexibility of the program would still exist. Mr. Lockhart stated he receives phone calls regarding private paddle tennis lessons because the participants don't want to deal with the Village of Hinsdale. Commissioner Finlay asked if Mr. Lockhart has liability insurance. Mr. Lockhart stated he has insurance naming the Village of Hinsdale as additionally insured up to \$9,000,000. Commissioner Finlay commends Mr. Lockhart on a great program.

Commissioner Finlay has no problem with Mr. Lockhart collecting the registrations if he turns them over to the Village upon completion of the program. Commissioner Lubenow agreed with Commissioner Finlay. Commissioner Medick stated there should be a balance between revenue and a great program. Chairman Sigfusson stated he would like to table the HTA discussion and concur at a later date. Chairman Sigfusson summarized that HTA will pay 10% of its net revenue for 2007 to the Village of Hinsdale. Chairman Sigfusson thanked Ms. Hauptert and Mr. Troy for the requested research on tennis programs.

3. Commissioner Finlay inquired about the installation of a fence by the train tracks at Highland Park on the Park Evaluation Report. Ms. Hauptert stated she would ask George Franco about the fence.
4. Commissioner Curran requested the dates for the year's meeting scheduled be emailed out. Chairman Sigfusson requested the date for the February Recreation Committee meeting be moved up to Monday, February 12. Commissioner Sigfusson stated his last Recreation Commission as Chairman meeting will be Monday, April 16.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Commissioner Issleib asked what the financial impact would be on the Brook Park Project with the new 70/30% contractual revenue split. Ms. Hauptert stated she cannot anticipate an impact, however, the Parks and Recreation Department is working towards good business practices. Commissioner Medick requested a spreadsheet on Brook Park Phase II.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Sigfusson moved to adjourn. Commissioner Medick seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Troy
Manager of Recreation Services