

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

Tuesday, January 14, 2014  
Memorial Hall – Memorial Building

Chairman Kluchenek called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:03 p.m. at the Memorial Hall board room.

**Members Present:** Chairman Kluchenek, Commissioners Banke, Baker, George, Keane and Owens

**Members Absent:** Commissioner Mulligan

**Staff Present:** Gina Hassett, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Heather Bereckis, Recreation Supervisor

Commissioner Banke moved approval of the November 12, 2013 Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Owens seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Kluchenek commented on the ACA minutes from November 4, 2013 that were included for information. Ms. Hassett stated that at the meeting on January 13 the daily rates and 10 visit pass were approved. Ms. Hassett explained the possibility of using the old HCA building as a dormitory for a women's soccer club. The building is in good condition for business use, but there would be some issues for dormitory use. The players need housing beginning in mid-March through August. There would be approximately \$100,000 required to bring the building to Code.

Ms. Hassett stated that at this point, there is some interest in pursuing it, but it won't be ready for March. The soccer team is hoping that this could become a seasonal agreement.

**Gateway Special Recreation Association**

Ms. Hassett commented on the concerns of former Trustees. The day camp transportation costs have been lowered over the last three years. The day camp transportation is no longer subsidized. The financial scholarships are also monitored carefully.

Chairman Kluchenek asked about the decrease between 2013 and 2014 programs. Ms. Hassett reported that the programs have just started and they should increase in the next few months.

**Revenue Expense Report**

Ms. Hassett explained the report. December and January are the slowest months and most of the expenditures are closed. Ms. Hassett stated that capital expenditures for the next year begin in July.

## **Recreation Program Report**

Ms. Hassett explained that our programs were cancelled when we had the extreme cold because staff generally will follow the school schedules. Ms. Hassett stated that this was the final year for the title Polar Express and it will need to be called something else in the future.

Ms. Hassett stated that there is a problem in the winter to get school access so many programs won't start until March. Hinsdale Tennis Association Agreement is coming due and Mr. Lockhart would like staff to take the registrations. It would be an 80/20 split just like all of our other programs. Ms. Hassett stated that Mr. Lockhart does still want a lease agreement for the private lessons that are given.

Chairman Kluchenek stated that all programs should be run by the village if financial data cannot be provided. Commissioner Owens asked Ms. Hassett if the private lesson information was included in the financials. She stated that he is passionate about tennis and his fees are very reasonable.

Ms. Hassett stated that there are calls to the office about people using the tennis courts for lessons that are not through Hinsdale Tennis Association. There is no way to monitor those.

## **Ice Skating Rink**

Ms. Hassett commented on the ice skating. It has been a struggle because of either snow or extreme cold. Ms. Hassett has reached out to the police department about unlocking the warming house when there is no staff there.

Chairman Banke asked about the lighting at Burns. He stated that perhaps staff could look at the lighting to modify it to illuminate the ice rink. That would be a noticeable improvement and would help with the evening skating. Ms. Hassett stated that Melin has ice more because of being a smaller rink. The residents at Brook Park received approval to install an ice rink, but it was never installed.

## **KLM Update**

Ms. Hassett stated the revenue was up from the prior year. A new assistant manager was hired and is a recent retiree that knows the community. Proposals are being sent for a wedding arbor and additional plantings.

## **Community Pool Report**

Ms. Hassett stated that the pool pump repairs were approved at ACA. The concession agreement has expired and requests for proposal will be going out for quotes. C & W Concessions has been the vendor in the past. Chairman Kluchenek asked what the revenue was from the concession stand. Ms. Hassett stated that \$7995 was the revenue last year and it is a flat rate amount with an annual percentage increase.

## **Platform Tennis**

Ms. Hassett stated that the revenue for platform tennis memberships has increased somewhat. Ruth Lake just approved to install two platform tennis courts, but four courts

are needed for league play. The first payment from Mary Doten for lessons is due and the second payment is due in May.

Commissioner Owens commented on the Sub-Committee meeting for the pool. The amenities and goals for the pool were discussed at the meeting. A rock climbing wall located in the diving well was suggested and removal of the sand area by the baby pool. Ms. Hassett stated that there have not been any new amenities at the pool since it was installed. Commissioner Owens commented on the new amenities that Clarendon Hills have installed.

Chairman Kluchenek commented that he was surprised there were not more pools with climbing walls and was concerned about the risks of a climbing wall. Ms. Hassett stated that it would be managed like a water slide and the child would have to know how to swim to use it. Commissioner Owens stated that one of the small diving wells would have to be closed when the wall was used. Ms. Bereckis stated that there would have to be a 12' radius from the wall. The goal would be to keep one of the other amenities open. Ms. Bereckis commented on other communities that have the climbing wall.

Ms. Hassett stated that the lifeguards would have to test to be sure that the child can swim good enough to use the climbing wall. If they can't swim 25', then they would not be allowed on the wall. Commissioner Owens stated her biggest concern would be how many could use it at one time. Ms. Bereckis stated that only one child could use it at one time.

Ms. Hassett stated that the cost is over \$10,000 which means it would be a capital expense. Ms. Hassett suggested visiting the other communities that have a climbing wall and put it in the budget for 2015. Ms. Hassett also suggested removing the mushroom and sand area in the baby pool and that would cost around \$100,000.

Chairman Kluchenek asked if anything that can be done for this year. Ms. Hassett stated that there really isn't anything that could be done in time for this year. Commissioner Owens stated that the Sub-Committee was really interested in updating the baby pool. Ms. Bereckis stated that replacing the mushroom and sand area to a splash pad and one other feature would cost about \$50,000.

Ms. Hassett stated that the OSLAD grant could cover some of the features. Staff could find something to partner with pool amenities to qualify. Ms. Hassett commented that the Trustees want good fiscal stewardship, but may be receptive to some improvements if staff can show the community requests it.

Commissioner Baker asked about the cost for getting rid of the sand and customizing the pieces to have something new and fresh. Commissioner Baker asked is there a minimal amount to the grants. Ms. Hassett will look at the last two years to see what kind of amounts have been awarded. Staff will still need to look at funding from the village if the grant is not awarded.

Chairman Kluchenek commented about spending time with surveys etc. if there is not a chance that the Trustees will approve anything. Ms. Hassett will ask the village manager if it can be discussed at the February ACA meeting. Ms. Hassett commented that in two

years there will be a significant expenditure for painting the pool and that would be the good time for improvements to be made.

Ms. Hassett commented that the projects in the last five years that have been completed were projects funded through private funding or grants. Ms. Hassett gave the history of the Duncan Field property. Baseball fields and a soccer field were some of the fields to be built with a lease agreement with the Forest Preserve District. The Friends of the Forest decided to keep it as open green space.

Commissioner Owens asked how difficult it is to send out a survey. Ms. Hassett stated that it is easy to send a survey, but there first needs to be an appetite from the Village Trustees.

**Adjournment**

Since there was no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner George moved to adjourn. Commissioner Keane seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting was declared adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Linda Copp, Secretary