

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

Tuesday, April 11, 2017  
Memorial Building Board Room  
7:00 PM

Chairman Waverley called the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Memorial Building Board Room.

**Members Present:** Chairman Waverley, Commissioners Baker, Boruff, Conboy, Keane and Owens

**Members Absent:** John George

**Staff Present:** Heather Bereckis, Interim Manager of Parks and Recreation  
Brad Bloom, Assistant Village Manager/ Director of Public Safety  
Linda Copp, Administrative Assistant

**Others Present:** Nellie Conboy

**Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Owens moved approval of the March 7, 2017 Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Conboy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Gateway Special Recreation Association Report**

Ms. Bereckis gave the report. There are two teams going to state for basketball and four participants are from Hinsdale. A new RGA agreement is being worked on and she does not anticipate any changes. The Agreement is generally for 5 years. Gateway has started their summer enrollments. Commissioner Conboy asked if there are plans to have them in the parade. Ms. Bereckis will ask them to see if they are interested.

**Recreation Staff Report**

Ms. Bereckis presented the staff report. Platform tennis season is over and the resident memberships were down in numbers but there is an increase in non-residents. If lifetime is not included, we are down 9 residents. Staff is working with HPTA for the new contract and getting new resident members. Reilly Green will be giving a price for court work and other maintenance. Ms. Bereckis stated that the heaters are the responsibility of the village. Commissioner Conboy asked about a referral program from the members. Chairman Waverley stated that on April 27 there will be an open play day to recruit memberships. Chairman Waverley explained how these will be new players that have never played before. Commissioner Conboy suggested giving them a membership form but Chairman Waverley stated that Mary Doten will follow up and will have all contact information. Staff will ask Ms. Doten in the fall to supply the names when memberships are sent out.

Chairman Waverley stated that one of the TV stations was scheduled to come and do a story about paddle but had to be rescheduled because of bad weather. This will be good publicity for the courts. Commissioner Boruff asked if we are doing everything necessary to draw members and help grow the game. Chairman Waverley stated that it is a winter sport and that anyone in the league must have a membership. HPTA is trying to get the league players to promote the sport.

Chairman Waverley stated that she thinks that pickle ball information is well done in the brochure and that she saw an advertisement from Dick's Sporting goods promoting all the equipment. The Community House does supply all the equipment for the game.

Ms. Bereckis stated that KLM revenue is down but that January and February were higher than the last four years. The majority of expenses are down except for marketing. There are bookings through October 2018 to date. Lodge Manager Hilary and Assistant Lodge Manager Melinda are working to get events for the summer months. Ms. Bereckis explained the photo that shows the plantings that will be on the patio. The plantings will be put in when the weather is warmer.

Chairman Waverley asked if the board is concerned about the decrease in revenue. Mr. Bloom stated that it is concerning to the board. Ms. Bereckis stated that staff does want to figure out ways to make it more attractive to clients. Most people don't like that there is no elevator and that it is two floors and most people don't like to split their guests. Chairman Waverley asked if the April/May events were weddings. Ms. Bereckis stated that they are weddings and the corporate groups continue to return. It all comes down to the marketing dollars not being spent a year ago. Ms. Bereckis stated that September and October are the popular months primarily due to more weddings in the fall.

Ms. Bereckis commented on the brochure and how great Recreation Coordinator Sammy Hanzel has been with the layout. Ms. Bereckis commented on the new programs that are being offered this year. She expects the registration for pool programs will increase once the pool opens. This Saturday is the Egg Hunt at Robbins Park. The Community House offers breakfast before the event and there are photos with the bunny and a petting zoo. On Friday, April 21, there will be the park clean-up day at Robbins Park. Trader Joes is sponsoring the event and some boy scout groups have registered to help with clean up.

Ms. Bereckis stated that the fields have been finalized but there have been a lot of rain outs. Baseball has been playing since that field dries quicker. It could impact revenue because so many credits have to be given for the rain outs. Commissioner Boruff asked how the groups pay. AYSO players pay per head, but others pay per use. Half is due up front and the amount owed is reduced when there are rain outs. Most will be done by the end of June and in August fall sports begin.

Ms. Bereckis commented that there is a slight decrease in resident pool passes and most 10 visit passes will sell once the pool opens. There is an increase in the neighborly rate memberships.

### **Recreation Financial Report**

Ms. Bereckis commented on the financial report for February. Field and picnic revenues have increased over last year. Operating expenses are down, the Superintendent of parks has left and John Finnell will be taking over that roll so a portion of his salary will come from the Parks budget. Programs and activities overall have decreased. General Interest is up 18% mostly due to magic and lego programs. Athletic has decreased and is a trend because of over saturation in the area. We are working with the Community House so we don't compete with each other and we want to increase the marketing of programs. We do an 80/20 split with the contractor but co-register for the classes.

Ms. Bereckis stated that we are letting the Community House do the summer camps that we had offered at Burns previously and they can use the pool. We will keep 30% of the revenue for the camps. Cultural Arts has decreased and that is primarily ballroom dance. That is being advertised with the Lodge and patrons can have the first class for free. Early Childhood is down primarily due to a company no longer offering programs, so we work with Clarendon Hills and Burr Ridge to co-op programs. Fitness has increased and some of that are the adult classes that have been offered.

Platform tennis revenue increased even though memberships are down. We are renewing KLM caterer licenses currently. Pool end of year results were shared. Last year was a pretty good year since it was warmer. Chairman Waverley asked when the pool will be painted. Ms. Bereckis stated it was done last year. This year the women's locker room will be painted. Ms. Bereckis shared on how nice the aerial drone photos turned out. There were new guard chairs also last year.

The Pickle ball courts will be painted around June. Public Services will coordinate that project.

Commissioner Conboy asked about the revenue at KLM and when the operating plan is done. Ms. Bereckis stated it is a full year plan that began in September. Commissioner Conboy stated that perhaps we should concentrate on something other than weddings if it is not suitable for those. He feels that the Commission needs to brainstorm about the use of KLM. Ms. Bereckis suggested having our summer meeting at the Lodge. Commissioner Keane suggested that it is set up better for corporate events. Chairman Waverley commented about the time lapse where there wasn't any marketing and if that needs to be revisited.

Mr. Bloom suggested having this on the next agenda and to have the lodge manager Hilary come to the meeting in May to give feedback from potential clients. Commissioner Boruff asked about the yearly comparisons; Ms. Bereckis clarified that the figures are year to date. She stated that the figures are two months behind on the reports.

## **Old Business**

### **Update on Pool Concessions Contract**

Ms. Bereckis commented on the discussion with Dave Cremer from C & W Concessions. He has increased his amount to \$7500. Mr. Creamer is excited about the suggestions that the Commission gave, especially selling out the window. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the contract for C & W Concessions for one year, with the option to renew a second year. Chairman Waverley asked how the other company responded. Ms. Bereckis stated that they thanked staff for the opportunity and didn't seem to be concerned that they were not chosen.

### **Update on Pool Green Space options**

Ms. Bereckis talked with staff and the green space is the way it is because of the impact it would have underground.

Lawn games like bags could be done, safe lawn darts and games that are portable. It can't be anything permanent because of HSC meets.

Commissioner Keane suggested again about the climbing wall that would draw kids to the dive wall. Ms. Bereckis stated that something would have to be removed from the dive well and you could not use the high dive at the same time. Ms. Bereckis stated that one diving board would need to come out and then the time would have to be coordinated. It is a capital expense so it would have to be in the 2018 budget. Commissioner Owens suggested removing the sand and adding a splash pad instead. Ms. Bereckis stated that a splash pad in the baby pool would be around \$75,000 and the climbing wall would be around \$20,000. If just bubblers were done, it could be a little less but inner active bubblers would cost about \$5,000 a piece.

Ms. Bereckis stated that the climbing wall could draw up to 15 years old and the child would have swimming requirements. Mr. Bloom stated that some of the amenities could possibly come from a park district that was updating equipment. The Commission discussed how we need to change and

do some new things. The pool has not changed since it opened. Commissioner Owens suggested getting some misters.

**New Business**

None

**Correspondence**

None

**Other Business**

**Village Funding**

Ms. Bereckis commented on the letter from the Village Manager regarding the budget. She highlighted page 7 to show how the village is funded and how the diagram shows that 7% of every dollar comes to the village to cover every department. Parks and Rec receives around \$1.5 million. She stressed that we are not a park district and how HPTA had to be aware that we are a parks and rec department and not a park district and we don't levy a park and recreation tax.

Mr. Bloom commented that there are other revenue sources besides property taxes, but property taxes account for 34.1% of the budget.

**Summer Meeting Schedule**

The Commission discussed the summer meeting scheduled. Ms. Bereckis stated that traditionally there have not been meetings in June or August and she would like to meet in May, July and September. The Village Board will be meeting the second Tuesday of the month in the summer, so adjustments to the schedule may have to be made.

**Adjournment**

The Commission thanked Susan Owens for her six years of service on the Commission. The next meeting will be May 9. There is a new applicant and President Cauley will appoint her at the end of May.

Since there was no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Keane moved to adjourn. Commissioner Boruff seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was declared adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Linda Copp, Administrative Assistant