

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
MINUTES
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Monday, October 18 at 7:15 PM
MEMORIAL HALL BOARD ROOM**

The Commissioners met at Burns Field Warming House at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regular Park and Recreation Commission meeting.

Chairman Curran called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission to Order at 7:15 p.m. at the Memorial Hall board room.

Members Present: Chairman Jeff Curran, Commissioners Banke, Dougherty, McCarthy, Opler & Otto

Members Absent: Commissioners Deppe, Griffin and Mulligan

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

Chairman Curran and the Commission discussed meeting dates for the rest of the year. Ms. Hassett mentioned that the pool fees will need to go the Village Board in November. The 2011/12 budget and a Sports Summit date will also need to be on the agenda. There may not be a December meeting.

Commissioner Dougherty moved approval of the September 20, 2010 Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Banke seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Hassett thanked Ms. Copp for the good job on the minutes since the audio system was not clear.

Monthly Reports

September 2010 Revenue/Expense Reports

Ms. Hassett presented the September revenue/expense report. Ms. Hassett summarized that she met with Village Manager Dave Cook and the budget looks good. Staff has been frugal. Ms. Hassett has requested the pool audit from the Village manager. Chairman Curran asked if there would be an opportunity for any recovery. Ms. Hassett is hoping that as much can be spent without giving up any of the things that are needed. Commissioner Dougherty asked what the general interest category included. Ms. Hassett stated that they are classes like chess, magic or instructional. Ms. Hassett explained that some classes have been miscoded on line items. There were no other questions or comments from the Commissioners.

Recreation Program Report

Ms. Hassett stated that the crews are working on the fields for striping each week. If the weather holds up, AYSO will be finished for the season on Oct. 30. Ms. Hassett is getting quotes for a paver patio at Brook that will not involve MWRD.

Ms. Hassett stated that there have been many parking issues at KLM and tickets have been issued. She is working with the police so users park where it is safe and not on the grass.

Commissioner McCarthy mentioned that people park on the grass parking area south of the paddle courts. Commissioner McCarthy mentioned that there are no signs that say you can't park on the grass. Ms. Hassett has asked the police for suggestions. Ms. Hassett stated that scheduling can become an issue, but sometimes the park is being used for cross country events and she does not know about them. Ms. Hassett will try to monitor the issues.

Ms. Hassett reported that the annual Fall Festival was held this past Saturday at Burlington Park. The event was well attended. There were 500 pumpkins and there were no spares. The weather was great and the crowd was more than last year. Commissioner Otto asked why the event was not held on Halloween weekend. Ms. Hassett stated that it is focused on fall and not specifically for Halloween. The trick or treating time was extended this year. Commissioner Otto stated that he thought the event should be Halloween weekend. Commissioner Dougherty mentioned that it is a fall event, not just a Halloween event. The businesses were glad that the trick or treating parade was brought back. Commissioner Otto commented on how the Halloween event was when it was the Boley Family. Ms. Hassett stated that the Chamber helped with that and now the Chamber is included in this event.

Ms. Hassett stated that Hinsdale Little League has been contacted regarding Veeck Park. Men's softball played has played on Tuesday and Thursday in the past, but may be changing to Monday and Wednesday. Ms. Hassett stated that Hinsdale Little League is running the Red Dog program. Ms. Hassett stressed to Little League that Duncan and Veeck cannot sit empty because they might be used. The fields need to be used for game times. Ms. Hassett stated that the travel teams will have to determine how they will maintain the diamonds. Commissioner Banke asked if Hinsdale Little League or Red Dogs would be under the same stipulation as Hinsdale Little League with the fees. The Red Dogs will be under the same fee base as Hinsdale Little League. Ms. Hassett will stress that the fields need to be used and she does not want them empty.

Commissioner Banke stated that Hinsdale Little League did not supply the schedule last year as requested. Ms. Hassett stated that Little League maintains the fields. Ms. Hassett asked the Commission if they wanted Hinsdale Little League to attend a meeting regarding field usage. The Commissioners stated that they would like them to attend the November meeting.

Ms. Hassett stated that Saturday is Make a Difference Day at The Community House. A new event still coming up will be a turkey short at Burns. The Polar Express and Santa's Breakfast are scheduled in December.

Park & Recreation Commission Follow Up Items

Hinsdale Platform Tennis Association Update

Ms. Hassett stated that non-residents have complained about the higher fees. Some may not renew because of the high fee. Ms. Hassett stated that the letter has been received from Burr Ridge with some concerns and conditions for new courts. Commissioner McCarthy stated that the paddle courts sit high above the ground and there is no run off. Village staff is working with HPTA with the drainage issue and what the cost would be. Commissioner Opler asked what the Village of Burr Ridge rights are in their requests. Ms. Hassett stated that the Village made them angry because they were not contacted the last time and this is an effort to be a good neighbor and not have litigation over new courts.

Chairman Curran stated that burms were put in and additional shrubs to be good neighbors with the current courts. There is also a cross country trail that comes through that area. Commissioner McCarthy asked why does the Village care about the Burr Ridge requests. Commissioner Dougherty stated that new courts would not be creating a run off problem for Burr Ridge. Ms. Hassett stated that in addition to the drainage, the other issues are more lights and noise.

Commissioner McCarthy stated that the Village has the right to do whatever is legal and that it isn't smart to keep investigating the issue. Burr Ridge residents have not done anything to help with KLM Park. Commissioner Banke asked if there is risk of litigation. Ms. Hassett stated that is a good possibility and that is why we are trying to be a good neighbor. Chairman Curran stated that spending money on legal concerns is not a good idea, but being a good neighbor is and jointly financing the project. He wants to know what our expense would be and Commissioner Banke asked if we could ask Burr Ridge to sign something saying that they won't sue us if the courts are built. Ms. Hassett stated that the dollar estimates for two additional courts are being worked on. Chairman Curran asked if there are any updates regarding KB. Ms. Hassett stated that Burr Ridge is speaking on their behalf, but they prefer to have no more courts.

Potential IGA with Clarendon Hills Park District for Pool Services

Ms. Hassett stated that the pool survey has closed and the data will be given next month. Clarendon Hills Park District has some concerns about sharing some services. It has been delayed for the 2012 season because there is not the time for discussion this year.

Veeck Storm Water Project Update

Ms. Hassett commented that she was planning on coming with estimates for the dirt removal or renovation but the numbers came back beyond a reasonable price. She believes that there was discussion at the EPS meeting regarding this issue. She does not know what the solution was for the dirt. Ms. Hassett will try to get that update out before the next meeting. The estimates were in the \$60,000 range on the low end to \$500,000. Ms. Hassett stated that the soil issue should have been addressed two years ago. Ms. Hassett stated that if the playing surface was raised, there could be flooding in the Highland area. Chairman Curran stated that it could be a good sled hill.

Skate Park Update

Ms. Hassett reported to ACA the discussion from the September meeting. She stated that the park has almost met its life. Ms. Hassett has also talked to public works and she may reach out to the Facebook group if some of the equipment can be moved and reconfigured. There will be minimum maintenance over the next year. The Trustees have stated that no more dollars should be spent. Ms. Hassett is checking on turn style prices.

Commissioner Banke stated that the youth that attended last month were appreciative of being able to attend. They approached Commissioner Banke and wanted to know what the dollar figure would be to participate and how can they be involved. Commissioner Banke stated that they will try to raise funds. Ms. Hassett stated that perhaps over the winter staff can concentrate on what could be fixed and asked if Ms. Hassett can let them know how much money they should try to raise.

Ms. Hassett stated that the next step will be to contact the users to meet about their dream list and what the price tag might be. Ms. Hassett stated that it will probably be two years before any

funds could be raised. Commissioner Banke stated that perhaps a survey can be worked out together with the users and staff. The price component can be anywhere from \$100,000 to \$300,000. Ms. Hassett stated that more regional parks are still a better option instead of installing new equipment at Veeck. The more feasible option is similar to what is there or smaller regional parks. Veeck's location will continue to be a challenge for the skate park.

Commissioner Opler said that staff should focus on what money can be raised and can we make it happen if they can raise the funds. Commissioner McCarthy asked Scott Banke if companies ever subsidize the skate parks. Commissioner Banke mentioned that there is one company and one of the youth has approached the company regarding a grant. The biggest one is funded by Tony Hawk. Hinsdale demographics don't really fit because of the type of community that this is. Ms. Hassett commented that the kids have pointed out that the park is outdated and the pieces are beyond their depth and built without consulting the users. Commissioner Banke stated that the users need to be consulted in order to do it properly.

Chairman Curran stated that his expectations are to get estimates by February to get in to next year's budget. Ms. Hassett stated that to be in next year's budget, it would need to be in before December. Commissioner Otto stated that the village won't be able to contribute money so we can ask the users if they can contribute labor towards the project. Ms. Hassett stated that Public Services have stated that many pieces can't be fixed.

Commissioner Opler asked if the Village can accept their funds if the users can raise them. Ms. Hassett stated that if the users can raise money and it is approved by Commissioners and it doesn't involve changing anything in the Village Code, the Village can accept the money.

Commissioner Banke asked if a permit would be needed. Ms. Hassett will have to check to see what the logistics would be. Chairman Curran asked if the group wanted to have a fund raiser at the skate park, what would need to happen. Ms. Hassett stated that she would find out the issues and work with them. Chairman Curran stated they could possibly have a contest or demonstration at the facility and have dialogue regarding fund raising.

New Business

Pool Audit

Ms. Hassett gave Village Manager, Dave Cook an estimate for an engineer study of the structure, mechanical aspect of bath house and pump house. Some prices have been secured and Ms. Hassett hopes to have the audit done in the next 30 days. She hopes to have a line by line cost estimate of the lifetime of the items and the costs.

PARC Grant

Ms. Hassett stated the state is offering a new grant that is for more brick and mortar projects. The deadline is Nov. 26. Part of the grant is that you don't need to know when it will be done but have to be funded on the state level. She will look at KLM projects and some at Brook Park. If the audit is done quickly, the pool could be included. The current board has expressed to maximize the dollars of the grant with items that are in the capital plan. Ms. Hassett is focusing on projects that really need to be done at KLM.

Ms. Hassett stated the grant work will be prepared in house. Chairman Curran asked if the HCA building could be included. Ms. Hassett stated that the interior is HCA responsibility and the outside is a cooperative effort with the village. Commissioner Dougherty stated that she

believes that the structure is the village's responsibility. Ms. Hassett will submit HCA separate from the Lodge.

Ms. Hassett stated she may try to include some items from the paddle courts if she can include it. She stated that the Burns Field courts also need to be included. Chairman Curran asked if she has everything she needs to make the request. Ms. Hassett stated that the request will be similar to the Lyons Township grant. There will a number of small reasonable projects. She stated that a third party submission is not required and she will use the OSLAD grant as a model. She will stress the budgetary constraints of being a Parks and Recreation department as part of a small village rather than a Park District.

Melin Ice Rink request

Ms. Hassett stated that the two families at Melin Park have again requested to make the ice rink at Melin. They have asked the village to fill it with water, but no other funds are requested. Chairman Curran asked why it has to go to ACA. Ms. Hassett stated that the request must go to the board for approval because it is being funded with Village water and Village staff will be used. Commissioner Otto made a motion to approve the request and Commissioner Banke seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence

None

Liaison Reports

ACA

Ms. Hassett stated that there were no updates except for the discussion of the skate park. Ms. Hassett stated that the pool memberships and hours for 2011 will be discussed in November.

Burns Field

Ms. Hassett talked about the Burns Field report. There is an estimate of the lighting for replacement of the lighting that is currently there. Chairman Curran stated that the light replacement is in the ten year plan. Commissioner Dougherty asked if the price of \$75,000 was for two lights.

Ms. Hassett stated that the cost would be for the poles with the lights. Chairman Curran asked what the current height would be. Commissioner Banke asked if the power would be sufficient to power the lights. Commissioner McCarthy stated that there were items mentioned in the report that would be a village expense. Ms. Hassett will find out if the power is currently in the park and what the cost covers.

Commissioner Otto asked about mounting an additional light on the pole for the soccer field. Ms. Hassett stated that there would be feedback from the community if additional lights were wanted. The project would have to go before the Plan Commission before any additional lighting or fund raising would be done.

Commissioner Otto also asked if another light could be put up on the same poles and if there would be enough power. Ms. Hassett will ask for more specifics from the company that did the report. Chairman Curran stated that new poles would have to be installed and we could not put new lights on the same poles.

Chairman Curran asked if part of this could be used on the submission for the grant. Ms. Hassett stated that the Board wants the money to be in the budget before a grant can be submitted.

Gateway SRA

Ms. Hassett stated that the Trustees and President Cauley said the numbers should be reviewed and wants to know what the village is getting for this service. Trustee Geoga and President Cauley have asked for details for the usage of the Hinsdale residents in Gateway. Ms. Hassett explained that a special recreation tax is levied and she is working with the Gateway board to come up with the new budget. The village could save money by pulling out but then the residents that use the service would need to be reimbursed from the Village and then the special recreation tax could no longer be levied. This \$35,000 would have to come out of the general fund. The special recreation tax could no longer be levied. Ms. Hassett believes it is a good program and is concerned that if communities keep withdrawing, Gateway could not survive. The Village of Hinsdale is committed until June, 2012 if notice is given in April of 2011.

Commissioner Opler stated that we need a recommendation if there is value in staying in it but the facts are that it will cost the village dollars since we can't levy the tax. It is less expense to the participants if there is no special tax levy. Chairman Curran wants some feedback from the residents that participate and other towns that use the services. Ms. Hassett will bring information for the December or January meeting.

Commissioner Otto asked if there is a way to get more participants involved in the program. Ms. Hassett stated that she has approached the school district regarding the Hansen Center. The communication with the school district is poor and she wishes there were more participants. Commissioner Otto said it is frustrating because residents want to mainstream their child when they need assistance. For some parents, this is the only time that parents get time away from their child. Commissioner Otto stated that there should be a way to increase the enrollment so people can see the value to the community.

Ms. Hassett stated that one of the concerns to participate is the non-resident fee and there are many avenues that could be explored. Ms. Hassett stated there has been new staff and the new staff is good with recreation leisure. They go into a special ed classroom and provide leisure ed. Ms. Hassett stated that Gateway is looking at the programs that they can do with the schools. Ms. Hassett stated that Gateway is based out of the Hansen Center in Burr Ridge. Commissioner Dougherty asked if there is a particular time of year when they have registration and if press releases could be used to advertise that. Ms. Hassett stated that she will focus on targeting individuals for the program. She has received no return phone calls from the school district. Ms. Hassett asked the Commission if they knew of a contact person for the school. Ms. Hassett stated that the Community House has the program Charlie's Gift which is direct competition to Gateway.

Adjournment

Since there was no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Banke moved to adjourn. Commissioner Dougherty seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting was declared adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Copp