

**MINUTES OF PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**April 9, 2019**

**ROOM 10 AT THE IOWA COMMUNITY CENTER**

**338 N. IOWA AVE, VILLA PARK ILLINOIS**

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**COMMISSIONERS:** J. Banaszak, J. Burns, J. Cordova, M. Storino, R. Pesola, T. King, S. Bousum

**PARKS & RECREATION LIASON:** Director G. Gola      **VILLAGE BOARD LIAISON:** Trustee C. Tucker

**COMMISSION CHAIRMAN:** J. Burns

**COMMISSION VICE-CHAIR:** R. Pesola

**SECRETARY:** J. Banaszak

**RECORDER OF MINUTES:** P. Ruiz

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**1) CALL TO ORDER:** *Chairman J. Burns called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm*

**ROLL CALL:** *J. Burns, J. Banaszak, R. Pesola, S. Bousum, T. King, J. Cordova, M. Storino*

**2) PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

*-Donna Noxon: Is willing to accept the Lufkin pool results but felt that the \$27,000 spent on the feasibility study was now a waste of money.*

*-Dan Canale: Upset that the Advisory commission didn't do more to advise the board on Lufkin pool. Would like to see Jefferson pool close next, since it is a money pit. Would like to know the results of the survey.*

**3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*Motion for the approval of March 12<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes was made by Comm. Bousum and second by Comm. Banaszak. Acclamation vote was taken with all ayes.*

**4) AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

*Chair. Burns recommended that agenda Item 6.G be tabled until next meeting when commissioner terms have been confirmed. Motion was made by Comm. Pesola and second by Comm. Bousum. Acclamation vote was taken with all ayes*

**5) STAFF UPDATES:**

**a) Recreation Division- Superintendent Gina Racanelli:**

- Staff attended the Willowbrook High School Wellness fair on Monday, April 8 to promote our group fitness classes and recruit pool staff.
- Five soccer referees attended referee training on Tuesday, April 2 from 6:30-8p.
- Soccer games started Saturday, April 6 on a beautiful day.
- Staff has secured donations for the monthly Birthday Bunch and Lunch event dessert through May.
- Staff has hired a program assistant for senior trips and events and possibly a back-up bus driver.
- Staff is preparing for the April 11, Birthday Bunch and Lunch event where approximately 55 are expected to attend.
- Prep for Summer Camp is underway, packets/forms are being updated.
- Prep for Summerfest is ongoing by securing volunteers, finalizing kids attractions, entertainment and securing sponsors. Staff is also prepping for Brewfest 2019 by updating the website and Facebook pages with new information. Tickets go on sale for the September event during the week of April 22.
- The Discover Dance Performance Teams are getting ready to perform at the Chicago Wolves hockey game on Saturday, April 13.
- Prep for Funtime Junction summer schedules is well underway. Packets and forms are being reviewed and updated for the summer of 2019.
- Staff created Facebook events for the upcoming August Summer Concerts.
- Prep for Breakfast with the Bunny is underway, staff is working on placing supply orders, working on decorations, stuffing eggs, planning the games/activities and working on getting donations for breakfast items from local restaurants. The event is scheduled for Saturday, April 13 at the Iowa Community Center.
- 124 participants (2018 had 122) attended the Aladdin themed Princess Ball event. A special guest appearance was made by Princess Jasmine. Participants enjoyed unlimited photos in the

pop up photo booth with props, a new menu of pizza bread, tortellini, mini meatballs and chicken tenders from Michael Anthony's as well as danced the night away with Coach Josh and DJ Superman.



**b) Parks, Buildings & Grounds Division- Superintendent Brian Roche:**

- Park and Playground Inspections and Repairs
  - Continue to work on Building Inspections, Wednesdays
  - Will start another round of Inspections in the next week or so (Park, Playground, Skate Park, Basketball and Vehicles)
  - Working to repair/replace, all equipment was ordered and has come in, waiting for the weather
    - The 2 new panels and a new boarder for the small playground section at Westland Playground have been installed
    - New "Tri Totter" feature was installed and open for use at the Fish Park
- Facebook Posts
  - North Terrace Video went up, our PIO Emily did a great Job!
  - Once North Terrace is complete we will work again with Emily to do a video of the park
  - We will continue to get updates up as often as we can
- New Signage created and submitted to PW for...
  - Playgrounds
  - Baseball fields
  - Recycling
  - Working on sign for North Terrace Park
  - New #'s installed at ballfields
- North Terrace Updates
  - Shelter has arrived, we have poured the concrete footings, waiting for it to cure and we will install the shelter
  - Completed turf grading and restoration around playground, now working to complete turf repairs throughout the park
  - Installed a drainpipe under the playground with an outlet into the pond
  - Working on landscape plans for the playground and building with Kevin Goss of the Sugar Creek Golf Course
  - Working to regrade the path add pathways to the playground
  - Installed Benches and Trash Cans around the playground
  - The fountain is installed in the pond
  - Installed some new lights over the doors on the building
  - We continue to get great responses from residents about the renovated park
- Jefferson Pool
  - Diving Blocks
  - Painting of pool

- New outside bathrooms
- Museum
  - In preparation for the opening to the public on April 4, staff repaired and repainted a sign hanging out front of the building and cleaned and buffed the floors
- CRB
  - Removed the lift
  - Repaired some basement leaks
- Arranged for Parks staff to work with Police and Public Works staff as well as Servicemaster Inc. and Engstrom Plumbing to address, repair, reorganize and clean up following a plumbing leak in the Police/Public Works basement
- Painting, outside of VH and PD, painted Metra stairs and rails
- Completed parks, building and grounds cleanups from the winter season, this included some tree and shrub trimming, trash cleanup, leaf cleanup and mulching, landscape bed cleanup
- We are mulching landscape beds, starting with home ave, rec buildings, parks, all other landscape areas
- Sports
  - Currently aerating village owned parks and sports fields
  - Baseball fields, inspecting and replacing plates, mounds and base pegs, fields have been dragged once and will continue to get prep for the upcoming season starting next week, lines are being prepped for painting, batting cages installed
  - Nice Rink has been removed for the season
- Staff updates
  - On March 26, we held an all staff training at PD on First Aid, CPR and AED and Blood borne Pathogens, our trainer was Todd Gutzmer of the Fire Department

**c) Director's Report- Superintendent Gina Racanelli (Dir. Gola not in attendance):**

- VPRD is asking for a recommendation from PRAC to be included with the memo for replacing the playground with a new one at Willowbrook and for that current playground to be re-used at Westmore Park. Three proposals were submitted: Burke \$73,632 with 2 ziplines, Compound \$73,005 with only 1 zipline and Team Reil \$69,999 with 2 ziplines. Team Reil was the lowest bid.
  - Comm. Banaszak inquired if monumental plaques and trees removed would be replaced. Dir. Gola stated that yes they would be, but that is PW's project.
  - Comm. Cordova liked the idea of essentially 2 Parks getting 2 "new" playgrounds.
  - Chair. Burns asked for a motion to vote on recommendation. Comm. King stated vote could not take place due to item not on the agenda. Instead it be noted on the Memo to the board that the PRAC unanimously provided positive feedback and support for the replacement of the playgrounds.

**6) BUSINESS:**

- a)** PROS Consulting: *Go hand in hand with 6.b.*
- b)** Community Survey: *Survey results should be out mid-week per Jason @ETC. Approximately 8,379 households are in Villa Park and about 300 or more surveys were received, exact number hasn't been received. Dir. Gola will email and ask for total of surveys and will share information with Commission. Presentation should be made perhaps in May.*
- c)** Proposed Repair of Lions Park basketball courts: *Supt. Roche presented 2 options for the basketball courts. 1) Full replacement, life time 5-10 years span, cost of \$50,000-\$60,000. 2) Resurface only, 2-5 years span, \$25,000-\$35,000. The courts are in dire need of repair. Comm. Banaszak recommend to wait until feasibility study is out to see what residents prefer. Comm. Bousum suggested staff do half the work, remove the current pavement and have the company install the new court. Supt. Roche will try get pricing/quotes for the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. The PRAC made a recommendation for a replacement improvement project of Lions basketball courts.*

Motion was made by Comm. King and second by Comm. Banaszak. Acclamation vote was taken with all ayes.

- d) Proposed 2019 Pool Pass and daily admission fees: *The Board of Trustees set the pool pass rates, however VPRD staff recommends pool prices stay the same as previous year. The PRAC recommended that the 2019 pool pass rates stay the same as last year. Motion was made by Comm. Cordova and second by Comm. Pesola. Discussion ensued. The PRAC amended their initial recommendation to keep and extend the 2019 pool pass early bird rate until June 21, 2019. Motion was made by Comm. Bousum and second by Comm. King. Acclamation vote was taken with all ayes.*
- e) Lufkin Pool: *Village Board trustees voted to demolish pool on April 8<sup>th</sup>. There were concerns that the pool was being demolished the next day. Supt. Roche clarified that only stored picnic tables were being removed for the location.*
- f) Master Plan Updates: *Commissioners to work on Project update sheets and inform Dir. Gola and Chair. Burns.*
- g) Elections of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary- **ITEM WAS TABLED UNTIL NEXT MEETING.**
- h) Goals for May 2019- April 2020: *Chair. Burns stated that the Village website needs to be updated because the goals still read 2018 and Gary Scheifer's info is still showing. Goals are as follow: Establish Communication Plan and Community Involvement Initiative, Complete Annual Update to Villa Park Parks and Recreation Master Plan and Complete Recreation Facility Feasibility Study. Generate an event for meetings for the public to see on facebook. Updates of the Master Plan need to be posted, need to get a link on the village website.*

#### **7) PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Donna Noxon- *Had questions in regards to Lifeguard training, Supt. Racanelli to address during her comments. Inquired about the feasibility study, will it be posted online? Dir. Gola stated that yes it will. Also inquired about the voting terms, what are the commission terms?*
- Dan Canale: *Spoke about Lions Park ball fields and their state. Currently fields are worse than the school districts, during play, sand blows in everyone eyes. Strongly believes that the Village Board needs to changes and communicate with the PRAC. PRAC should be representing residents. Communication is key. Inquired about CPR classes offered to residents?*

#### **8) COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

-Comm. King: *Felt there is lack of communication to the PRAC, the vote yesterday on the demolition of Lufkin Pool was a surprise. Felt it was a very poor act from the Village President. Before demolition takes place the asbestos in the bathhouse needs to be abated and residents should be notified. Strongly feels that the gym at the Iowa Community center be addressed and that we should invest on the stage since it is used for programs.*

-Comm. Bousum: *As a commissioner is not afraid to address matters or make any recommendations to the future Village Board but does agree transparency is an issue.*

-Comm. Pesola: *Also is not afraid, agreed that they need to work on transparency. The PRAC did listen to residents but as with everything there are two sides to every story.*

-Comm. Banaszak: *Agrees transparency is an issue. The decision to move the voting date was never mentioned to the PRAC, which he felt the Village Manager and the board should have mentioned.*

-Comm. Cordova: *In regards to the survey, an assumption that just because we do it doesn't mean everyone will do the survey.*

- 9) **CHAIRWOMAN COMMENTS:** *Believed that the Lufkin pool bathhouse could be used as an emergency station perhaps be repurposed somehow. Swim team registration is now going on. Mentioned that the Skatepark looks great and that skaters stated that the skatepark has perfect concrete walls.*

- 10) **VILLAGE BOARD LIAISON COMMENTS:** *Messages from commissions regarding better transparency will strongly be brought back to the rest of the board. She understands that cannot use an advisory board if they do not have information to work with. She stated that the vote on the demo of Lufkin was brought up by 2 trustees, therefore it had to be brought up for a vote that the April 8th board meeting. Trustee Tucker was not aware of the agenda before it was officially posted. Inquired about the car that drove into the park area. Superintendent Roche stated there was no significant damage sustained.*

**11) VILLAGE STAFF COMMENTS:**

-Supt. Roche: *Nothing to add.*

-Supt. Racanelli: *Frustrated by what was posted on social media, particularly those that called for the boycott of recreation programs. She hopes that truly will not be the case.*

-Dir. Gola: *Addressing the Lions Park fields comment, Staff uses the same ball field mix on all ball fields. Really excited about the commissions agreement to move forward with the basketball courts renovations. Clarified a public comment regarding the builders of the skate park, stating it was Evergreen Skateparks out of Portland, OR.*

**12) ADJOURNMENT:** *Chair. Burns called for meeting to adjourn at 9:29 pm. Motion was made by Comm. Banaszak and acclamation vote was taken with all ayes*

**NEXT MEETING: May 14, 2019.**