

MINUTES OF PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
December 10, 2019
ROOM 10 AT THE IOWA COMMUNITY CENTER
338 N. IOWA AVE, VILLA PARK ILLINOIS

COMMISSIONERS: J. Banaszak, J. Burns, J. Cordova, M. Storino, S. Bousum, B. Allan

PARKS & RECREATION LIASON: Director G. Gola

VILLAGE BOARD LIAISON: Trustee C. Tucker

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN: J. Burns

COMMISSION VICE-CHAIR: J. Banaszak

SECRETARY: M. Storino

RECORDER OF MINUTES: P. Ruiz

1) **CALL TO ORDER:** *Chairwoman J. Burns called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm*

ROLL CALL: *B. Allan, S. Bousum, J. Cordova, M. Storino and J. Burns*

2) **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** N/A

3) **AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:** N/A

4) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion for the approval of the November 12th meeting minutes was made by Comm. Allan and second by Comm. Storino. Acclamation vote was taken with all ayes.

5) **STAFF UPDATES:**

a) Recreation Division- Superintendent Gina Racanelli:

- Dance costumes for the 2019-2020 season have arrived and dancers are trying them on in classes.
- Fall Camp Monday-Wednesday, November 25-27.
 - Campers enjoyed crafts, games, cooking a Thanksgiving feast and a field trip to Laser Quest.
 - There were 41 registrations for Fall Camp (26 in 2018) 12 for Sunset Camp (10 in 2018) and 13 for Sunrise Camp (12 in 2018).
- Sundaes with Santa was held on Friday, December 6 at the Iowa Community Center
 - There were 34 participants (22 participants in 2018)
 - Participants enjoyed making a holiday craft, taking a picture with Santa Clause and making their own ice cream sundaes
 - Location was changed the week of the event to accommodate the event wait list
- Holiday Train Ride was held on Saturday, December 7 at the Villa Park Metra Train Station
 - There were 107 participants (109 participants in 2018)
 - participants sang along to holiday songs, made decorations to hang on the train, visited with Santa while enjoying hot chocolate and cookies
- Santa Paws was held on Monday, December 9 at the Cortesi Veterans Memorial Depot
 - 17 dogs, 1 cat (14 dogs in 2018)
 - More time slots were added to accommodate the event wait list
- Visit from Santa is scheduled for Saturday, December 21. This second year event has Santa visiting children at their home. Santa will be driven around using the Villa Park bus.
- The preschool Snowflake Lunch is scheduled for Friday, December 20 at 11:30 am. This is a holiday gathering for both preschoolers and their families.

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

- Lions Park
 - Worked with Ingstrup Paving, the Basketball courts have been paved!
 - Staff also reset the Basketball poles during the paving
 - The court color surface will be done next spring for the upcoming season
- Rugaard Gazebo Restoration
 - Worked with Showalter Roofing on roof, fascia and gutters, weather was terrible as well as a wire issue with ComEd, everything was handled and the Gazebo was completed before the Joyful Traditions event
- Joyful Traditions
 - Staff completed setup for the event which included...
 - Lights on the poles along the Prairie path
 - Staking up trees at each light pole on the Prairie path
 - Decorating the Gazebo area with lights and decorations

- Daily checks of the site prior to the event
 - Staff also worked the event on Saturday night to ensure everything was set and worked with no problems
- Willowbrook Park and Playground
 - Staff have installed the fabricated railings for the Bridge, this process involved building rail sections similar to the bridge, sending them out for powder coating, once they returned they had to be moved into place with heavy equipment, concrete footings were created where there was no concrete to attach, sections were bolted down, then they were lined up to the bridge and everything was welded together, once welded the areas were ground down to keep them smooth and painted over, staff did an amazing job!
- Parks Office
 - Renovated office area to give everyone their own space and freshen it up, address some filing and storage issues, really just turn the office area into a real office area
- ICC
 - Heaters replacements on upcoming, Dec. 16 board meeting for rooms 9 and 12
- Inspections
 - Staff recently completed the November Park, Playground and Vehicle inspections
 - Staff also completed this quarters Building inspections
 - Software has been working great, have had a few minor issues but tech staff have been very helpful and quick to respond when needed

c) Director's Report- Director. Greg Gola :

- Staff met with Williams Architects to discuss renovating ICC. The concept could have a bigger gym to provide primary space. It would include 2 HVAC systems since we currently only have 1 in the entire building. an approximate cost to renovate ICC would be \$12 MIL- \$12.5 MIL. A brand new 30,000 sq. ft. building is around \$14 MIL. *Comm. Allan asked if D45 is cooperative in providing gym space. Dir. Gola stated that currently we have to pay for gym rental space, additionally our usage availability was cut back and we get cancellations all the time. Discussion ensued.*
- IPRA is in January 2020, staff will be attending sessions and taking a look at equipment.
- Residents complimented on how Parks staff snowplowed the path at North Terrace.
- Depending on weather the Ice rink will be set up soon at Lions Park. *Trustee Tucker asked why not set it up at Lufkin Park to which Dir. Gola stated that the parking lot is not levelled.*

6) BUSINESS: N/A

7) PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

- Donna Noxon- *asked about 1) the feature at Jefferson, 2)if it's feasible to keep ICC opened and build a new center, 3)if the 30,000 sq. ft. facility is just a Recreation center or does it include a pool. 4) Citizen Advocacy Center has nominated SLP members to receive an award for advocating for Villa Park.* Staff stated that conceptual plans are in the making and that they are gathering ideas for Jefferson. Dir. Gola stated that it could be feasible to keep ICC open and that the 30,000 sq. ft. is only a Recreation center. Staff congratulated the SLP members on the nomination.

8) COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

- Comm. Allan: *Asked if Parks are designated only for Parks, are dogs allowed in parks.* Dir. Gola stated that dogs are allowed at parks but they must be leashed. *Comm. Allan mentioned that there are 2 available dog parks, one in Glen Ellyn and one in Oak Brook.*
- Comm. Storino: *Short positive meeting.*
- Comm. Cordova: *Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.*
- Comm. Bousum: *Joyful Traditions turned out great, everyone enjoyed the event.*

9) CHAIRWOMAN COMMENTS:

Chair. Burns: *was not able to attend Joyful traditions but was glad that weather was beautiful. Holiday concerts are going on at WBHS. Addison Park district has been challenging in accommodating in swim programming. Currently working with Elmhurst for swim programming, boys' team is*

currently swimming out of Bensenville. It is important to keep aquatics programming alive and well. Discussion ensued.

10) VILLAGE BOARD LIAISON COMMENTS:

Trustee Tucker: *Inspections, what do they include? It has been asked. Are buildings up to state codes? Who removed the portable toilet on the Prairie Path, it wasn't there for Joyful Traditions.* Supt. Roche stated that yes buildings are up to code and he can provide a copy of a report as an example. Supt. Racanelli stated that the portable toilet is paid out of the Recreation budget on a contract from May through October. Dir. Gola stated that Joyful Traditions is a Chamber event not a Parks and Recreation dept. event.

11) VILLAGE STAFF COMMENTS:

- Supt. Racanelli: *Happy Holidays.*
- Supt. Roche: *Happy Holidays.*
- Dir. Gola: *Happy Holidays.*

12) ADJOURNMENT: Chair. Burns called for meeting to adjourn at 7:53pm. Motion was made by Comm. Storino and seconded by Comm. Bousum. Acclamation vote was taken with all ayes.

NEXT MEETING: January 14, 2020.