

MINUTES OF PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
October 8, 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, M. Storino, 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 September 8th amended meeting minutes was made by Comm. Storino and second by Comm. Bousum. Acclamation vote was taken with all ayes.

5) **STAFF UPDATES:**

a) Recreation Division- Superintendent Gina Racanelli:

- Halloween Happenings 2019
 - Friday, October 18 at Iowa Community Center
 - 2 co-sponsors (VP Lions Club and VP Firefighters Association) totaling \$650 and trick-or-treat bags being donated as well from VP Firefighters Association
 - Event Entertainment: Smart Pants Presents The Big Halloween Balloon Show
 - Currently, 16 business/groups participating in the outdoors trick-or-treating portion of the event (18 in 2018)
- Brewfest 2019
 - Saturday, September 28 at Cortesi Veterans Memorial Park
 - 21 brewers
 - 5 food vendors
 - Fire & Smoke BBQ
 - Flavah
 - Harold's Chicken
 - Make Me a Sammich & More
 - Cupcakes for Courage
 - 10 sponsors (including 2 media sponsors) totaling \$3,750
 - 53 volunteers
 - 401 tickets (427 in 2018, better weather too)
- Staff attended the Active Shooter Training at the Villa Park Police Department.
- Costume Measurement Days have begun for dancers in the Discover Dance program.
- Priority registration for Villa Park Youth Basketball League will be held the week of October 14-19 online or in-person at the Iowa Community Center.
- Middle School Open Gyms started this week, Monday, October 7 and is open to all Middle School students with a picture ID. Middle School Open Gym is held at both Jackson and Jefferson Middle Schools on Mondays from 7-8:30 pm. Admission is \$3 cash per student.
- Both preschool classes attended the fall field trip to Sonny Acres Farm in West Chicago on Wednesday, October 2. The weather was dreary but a good time was had by all that attended.
- The Thursday morning parent/tot class, Exploring Toddlers, was maxed out this first fall session. It did not run the previous season.
- Staff facilitated a building wide fire drill on September 24, with the fire marshal per DCFS required license standards.
- Seniors and Adults

- Jenny Casale, long time (20 years) program supervisor for seniors and adults passed away in September 11, 2019 while on medical leave. She had been ill for 3.5 years. She worked during that time, coming back after every surgical procedure and planned to come back on October 1...but not to be.
- In Jenny's absence, staff have stepped in to cover her areas but most prominently, Janet Bry has handled most of the day-to-day responsibilities and Jenny's program brochure contributions. Janet has done a great job filling in and has indicated wanting to continue this work.
 - Area seniors have enjoyed several recent trips to area destinations.
 - Kuiper's Family Farm
 - Shedd Aquarium
 - Fermilab
 - Glenn Miller Orchestra show and lunch at the Arcada Theatre
 - Casino trips to the Potawatomi Casino in Milwaukee and Hollywood Casino in Joliet.
- The monthly Birthday Bunch & Lunch program continues to grow with attendance going up each month. The October 10 luncheon will have a Halloween theme.
- Staff is currently working on the 2nd draft of the Winter/Spring 2020 Program Brochure.

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

- Westmore Playground
 - Everything is completed and the playground is fully open for use
- Rugaard Gazebo Restoration
 - Working with Showalter Roofing on roof, fascia and gutters, to be done in early November
 - Working to have all renovations completed before Joyful Traditions
- Willowbrook Playground
 - Playground is installed, swings have also been installed
 - Site has been graded, drain pipe and stone base have been completed
 - Curbing is to be installed tomorrow
 - Mulch is to be installed Monday, we are hoping it can be in earlier on Thursday
 - We would like the playground open for this weekend but latest would be early to mid-next week
- Vehicles
 - Our newest Parks truck just arrived this morning, this truck is an F250, 4x4, plow and will replace a F150 2 wheel drive no plow
 - We have also had another vehicle see some needed replacements, 232 is a Chevy 2500 which got a new bed and bumper
- Jefferson Pool Season Improvements
 - This Season
 - Main Pool shell and lip had extensive concrete repairs
 - Both the main and baby pools were painted with a 2 part Epoxy paint
 - This held up very well leaving a sound pool shell going into 2020
 - Diving blocks were moved from the shallow end to the deep end
 - This improves safety of the swimmer
 - Main pool heater efficiency improvements
 - Gas Meter replaced as it was not working properly
 - Heater cleaned and tested
 - New valves added and locations changed
 - Sensor wire moved
 - Set points in heater adjusted
 - New high limit switches
 - Worked with contractor to ensure proper calibration and use
 - The heater ran very consistently all summer, swimmers noticed
 - Electrical panel breakers identified, tested and labeled
 - Super helpful to staff

- Interior painting of the pool managers (guard) office and various touch ups throughout
- New electrical outlets were installed in the guard break room
- Exterior soffit was painted and repaired where it had rotted through
- A protective enclosure was installed over the emergency shut off button for the water slide at the top of the slide tower
- Replaced the main water valve at the water slide
- Re-conditioned the water slide to ensure the gel coat stays in great condition
- Both baby pool filters had the internal filter media removed and changed, there was also a leak in one of the filters that was addressed and repaired, once all was complete a pressure test was done prior to pool operation
- Main pool filter pit had grids removed, inspected, cleaned, ensured that all hardware was in place and no leaks existed, reinstalled grids and added new hold down bracketing on grids that does not allow grids to move during operation
- New Dolphin Pool Vacuum
- New doors were installed, both exterior bathrooms, double doors to the mechanical room and single door from mechanical room to pool deck, this was a big deal
- Exterior bathrooms were renovated and reopened this season, work included new cleaning, painting, new copper piping for water, new fixtures and toilets, new lights and new dispensers, this was huge for the pool staff
- Contracted out some Leak detection services, the slide line, return lines and structure was inspected. They found that there is a small line that is in the sump that was likely from the old bottom drain. This line was leaking and plugged to stop the leak. They also found some structure leaks and patched them with epoxy, the leaks were not severe so this epoxy repair should stop the leaking
- In addition to this, each season we perform many routine tasks that maintain the aesthetic of the pool, some of which include, weeding, fertilizing, spraying, mulching of all landscape beds and trimming of all bushes and trees, this season we also planted some new plants in front of the bath house
- In the Coming Season
 - Electrical Improvements
 - Lighting Improvements
 - More Doors Replaced
 - Looking into possibly adding a New Feature!

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

- Budget Process has begun, Parks, Recreation and Fleet submitted their budgets to Finance. There will be an initial meeting, hopefully some of the items requested will remain.
- We plan to submit an OSLAD grant application early next August for more lighting, bathrooms and perhaps a shelter at Willowbrook Park.
- The village will be hosting a strategic plan meeting on Saturday, October 5th in which all dept. heads and staff will discuss projects.
- Williams Architects working on a proposal in regards to ICC building and renovating the gym. We would like an idea of how much it would cost to renovate.
- Kiwanis is holding a Night of Golf Fundraiser on October 11th. This is a fun event, sign up for the dinner and golf or either.

6) BUSINESS:

- a)** Ongoing Park Project Recommendations: Discussion ensued in regards to different parks needing some TLC. Harvard tot lot Park would be a good option, a new playground there would be an asset as the park is very popular with residents. Rotary Park is highly rented by residents but due to the current retention project it is not being used. Lufkin Park could use a pier on the pond, perhaps a fountain.

7) PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

- Donna Noxon- *has noticed that with the torrential rains the water issues by her house have not been that bad as they use to be. Also mentioned that a coyote has been scaring neighbors around Lufkin Park as it just lingers the area.*
- Angie Rojek- *As rep. of the business group, Cortesi Park is a nice area but events there cause many problems. There is a parking issue and the street closures for the events cause more of a problem. Comm. Bousum asked if the foot traffic was compensatory and if Fuel and More were part of the business group. Angie stated that no, foot traffic is actually worse and that Fuel is part of the group but More is not. Angie also mentioned that she is part of a softball league and is concerned that at Lions Park the metal posts are exposed and that the lip of the field is dangerously high. Supt. Roche stated that Parks is addressing the issues with the fields at Lions Park.*

8) COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

- Comm. Bousum: *enjoyed Brewfest, loved the food trucks and really enjoyed the fire pit.*
- Comm. Storino: *Glad we have a commission, hope for 1 more so the commission can be complete.*
- Comm. Allan: *didn't appreciate Chair. Burns' emails, will discuss after meeting.*

9) CHAIRWOMAN COMMENTS:

Chair. Burns: *was disappointed with the weather for Brewfest, still a fun event. Sorry to hear about Jenny Casale's passing. Stopped at the pool and saw the blocks, looking forward to encourage kids to dive in. Please keep the anchors in, the swim team may splurge and get 2 sets.*

10) VILLAGE BOARD LIAISON COMMENTS:

Trustee Tucker: *received suggestions on Lufkin Park from residents; pool and a splash park. 2 residents were grateful for the picnic tables at Lufkin pond.*

11) VILLAGE STAFF COMMENTS:

- Supt. Roche: *Nothing to add.*
- Supt. Racanelli: *Zumbathon Fundraiser, group/fitness staff raised \$1400 for Lupus Foundation on Saturday the 5th.*
- Dir. Gola: *Nothing to add.*

12) ADJOURNMENT: Chair. Burns called for meeting to adjourn at 8:00 pm. Motion was made by Comm. Storino and seconded by Comm. Bousum. Acclamation vote was taken with all ayes.

NEXT MEETING: November 12, 2019.