

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2009, AT THE WILLOWBROOK VILLAGE HALL, 7760 QUINCY STREET, WILLOWBROOK, DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Doug Stetina called the meeting to order at the hour of 7:32 p.m.

2. WELCOME TO NEW COMMISSIONER

Superintendent Righton introduced new Parks Commissioner Ramona Weigus.

3. ROLL CALL

Those present at roll call were Commissioners Laurie Landsman, Carol Lazarski, Ronald Kanaverskis, Ramona Weigus and Vice Chairman Stetina. ABSENT: Chairman Richard Cobb. Also present was Superintendent of Parks and Recreation Walter Righton.

A QUORUM WAS DECLARED

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 7, 2009

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Landsman, seconded by Commissioner Lazarski, to approve the minutes of July 7, 2009.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

5. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

6. VISITOR'S BUSINESS (comments limited to items on the agenda)

There were no visitors.

7. REPORTS

A. Park News in Brief

Superintendent Righton provided the following highlights:

- The County Bike Rack program is finally coming to fruition. Pads are poured for four units at Community Park, two units at Prairie Trail and one unit at the Village Hall.
- There were just over 100 children and adults at the last movie night. Mr. Righton thanked Commissioner Landsman for selling concessions.
- An agreement was reached with the Darien Park District that will enable Willowbrook residents to receive the Darien resident rates for selected activities in the upcoming fall program.
- The Willow Pond shelter was scraped down and re-stained.

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- The glider at Farmingdale Terrace Park with the cracked clamps was removed and replacement parts have been ordered.
- Perennials were recently installed at the entrance of Prairie Trail Park at 59<sup>th</sup> and Clarendon Hills Road. Thanks go to Pat Garey, as well as Commissioner Carol Lazarski.
- Two bronze plaques from the Celebration/Memorial Tree Program were pried off and stolen. These memorials will be replaced with engraved bricks.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Vehicle Fair was held at the Town Center on July 9 and it was estimated that 150 children plus parents and grandparents attended the event.
- The parking plan in connection with the BR-W Softball's annual tournament held at Community Park worked very well and provided for adequate traffic flow for an estimated 300 vehicles at the high point of event on Saturday. No complaints were received.

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Waterford Park Playground Results

Superintendent Righton summarized the results of the Waterford Park Survey. The Staff mailed 327 surveys to the residents of the Waterford Subdivision and 121 surveys were returned.

Superintendent Righton summarized the results of the survey and his assessment of the courts:

- Responses indicated that there were over 500 uses of the courts for tennis alone in the last 12 months.
- Approximately 91 uses were reported for other activities on the courts in the last 12 months.
- The condition of the courts is not quite to the point they are dangerous; however, there is rather substantial flaking on the surface court on the west court making for an unplayable surface.
- By a margin of almost three to one (60% to 22%) residents indicated a preference not to see the courts completely replaced with a grassy area.
- By a margin of 44% to 38% residents felt that when the paved area is repaired, tennis should be at least one of the uses.
- By a margin of 53% to 29% Waterford residents who responded felt the courts should not be re-developed for a different type of use.
- Of those who responded they favored a different use, only 23% of them favored having one or two basketball courts installed at Waterford Park citing the proximity to the basketball court in Creekside Park.

Mr. Righton presented the available options to the Village appear as follows:

1. Repair the existing two tennis courts.
2. Remove all the fencing and nets; repair the surface simply as a paved multi-purpose area.
3. Remove all the fencing and nets; repair the surface and develop a paved area for completed different use(s).
4. Hybrid-repair one tennis court; remove fencing and nets from the other. Repave the other court for either another use or just a paved, multi-paved area.

5. Completely remove everything. Develop as a grassy area.

The cost for any of these options is very close in price. One additional option that was not previously discussed since it is a short range option and that would be to do some crack filling and seal coating for between \$10,000 and \$15,000. We will have an assessment done by the Village Engineer in time for the October 6 Parks & Recreation Commission meeting. The only other option would be to lock up the tennis courts until the repairs can be made. Superintendent Righton noted that right now the west court is unplayable and the east court is playable but with cracks. He advised the Commission that they would not need to make a decision this evening but felt they should be discussing this matter to the start of the next fiscal year budget process. The budget process will begin in November and the costs for this project would need to be reviewed by the Finance/Administration Committee.

Superintendent Righton informed the Commission that the Staff had been instructed to prioritize projects in this year's budget to determine items that can either be deferred or deleted. He would have more information for them in the next few months.

Superintendent Righton recommended that the Village Engineer provide an accurate estimate with regard to the cost of temporarily repairing the tennis courts. The Park Commission concurred this is a very viable option given all the other needed capital improvements in the parks.

B. Discussion – Waterford Park Courts and Visitors' Comments

There were no visitors.

C. Children's Holiday Party 2009

Superintendent Righton advised that Commissioners Landsman and Stetina purchased all the gifts for the Children's Holiday Party. Vice Chairman Stetina provided a brief overview of the party for the benefit of new Parks Commissioner Weigus.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Vice Chairman Stetina provided an update on the Village's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary that will occur in 2010. The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee has tentatively decided on four separate events throughout the year. In addition, they were discussing putting together a commemorative book with a historical DVD.

10. ADJOURNMENT

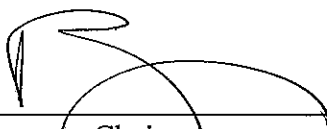
MOTION: Made by Commissioner Landsman, seconded by Commissioner Kanaverskis, to adjourn the regular meeting at the hour of 8:21 p.m.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

PRESENTED, READ and APPROVED,

Oct 6, 2009

  
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Chairman

Minutes transcribed by Mary Partyka.