

**PARKS COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 5, 2012**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dan Otto called the meeting of the Parks Commission to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were Chairman Dan Otto, Members Bill Conway, Cheryl Joseph, Jim McNutt, Mike Olencheck, Mike Richardson and Sherri Sepeczi. Also in attendance were Superintendent of Public Works Jon Huizinga, Village Administrator Karl Warwick and Secretary Alison Dal Compo.

RESIDENT'S COMMENTS--none

Chairman Otto welcomed Village President Nunamaker, District #3 Superintendent Dr. Tim Mahaffey, and Dan Baker, Cross Country Coach.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 7, 2012 MINUTES

Member McNutt made a motion to approve the November 7, 2012 minutes as presented. Member Richardson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Member McNutt to amend the agenda and move the Middle School Cross Country Change request to the first action item. Member Sepeczi seconded. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Middle School Cross Country Change Request—The members were given a map of the proposed course. Superintendent Mahaffey explained that the kids run two loops around an acceptable course, but Coach Baker came up with an idea to make it one larger loop through some nice terrain. Coach Baker added that both the boys and the girls' teams went downstate this year. The boys' team has both 5th and 8th graders. He doesn't like the kids running behind the Mobil station. The proposed loop would use the Jeffrey Clark Trail. The expense to bring the trail up to standard would be minimal. This loop would also open to residents who walk their dogs, runners, etc. Possibly it could be called the Seven Angels Cross Country Course.

Coach Baker further suggested that the course have markers at various points to let runners know where they are distance wise through the course. Other coaches have said that the current course is one of the best to run that they have used, but the consensus is still that one loop would be better than two.

Member Sepeczi asked if the kids would be safe running through the woods. Coach Baker said that if some of the buckthorn and brush were cut back it would improve visibility.

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Chairman Otto asked Superintendent Huizinga if the proposed course is already in. Superintendent Huizinga said that the course may need to be mowed near the townhomes to clearly identify the path, but other than that it is in. Coach Baker noted that a grass path is preferred for cross country. Superintendent Huizinga said that as long as the course does not need to be surfaced, the homeowners association will likely be ok with the idea.

Coach Baker explained that during the season, there are between three and six meets. Practices are held almost daily. Superintendent Huizinga asked how long the season is. He was told it is six weeks long. He further asked how wide the course would be. It should be 10 feet wide for the first 75 meters, but the rest of the course only needs to be about six feet wide. There is a 200 meter span between the starting line and the woods. Chairman Otto asked where exactly the starting line would be. He was told the line would be at the north side of the loop next to the soccer fields.

Chairman Otto asked if there should be a public hearing in regard to the course. Superintendent Huizinga said it would be a good idea. He further asked if there were insurance certificates. Superintendent Huizinga said that they should already be in place.

Coach Baker explained that he and his wife try to keep track of the kids while they are on the course. They will also try to have volunteers to help make sure the kids don't go the wrong way or try to cut. Village President Nunamaker observed that the starting and ending point will be the soccer fields. Coach Baker said that at times the team also uses Barbary Hill for strength training.

Member Sepeczi asked if the track team comes over for practices also; she was told no. Chairman Otto asked what the closest distance is that the path comes to the back of the townhomes. Coach Baker said that it would probably be 10-20 feet. Superintendent Huizinga said that in the center of the south side it will be closer to 10 feet. He said that he will take a look at the drainage basin area.

Member Sepeczi made a motion to support the Fox River Grove Middle School Cross Country Course. Member McNutt seconded. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Chairman Otto thanked Superintendent Mahaffey and Coach Baker for their time and effort.

PARKS

Public Works Report--Superintendent Huizinga reviewed the highlights. Chairman Otto asked if the Village took down some trees in the Hunters Farm wetland area, he was told yes—for safety reasons.

Member McNutt said that it is good idea that Superintendent Huizinga and Assistant Superintendent Reese took CPR/defibrillator training. Administrator Warwick said that the Village staff also takes it. Chairman Otto said that at the Schaumburg Park District, they had to use the defibrillators two different times on the same man.

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Review of Rec Council Agreement—Administrator Warwick reminded the members that at the last meeting there had been a question about the Rec Council allowing outside teams to use the Village's fields. He stated that the agreement says they may require administrative costs, but they must inform the Village of the schedule. Chairman Otto asked if they had let the Village know the schedule, he was told no. Administrator Warwick said that particularly with reference to the Gladys/Millard/South River parking situation due to games, the Village should be made aware of the schedule.

Village President Nunamaker said that when the Village ran the teams there were only a few. Now that the Rec Council runs it the number of teams has doubled. The Mark Lewis teams have also provided for more options. Chairman Otto asked if the agreement addresses insurance certificates from outside groups. Administrator Warwick said that the wording says "may". Village President Nunamaker asked if it would make it hard for the kids to have teams if the Mark Lewis teams decided to pick up and leave. Member Sepeczi said not necessarily, but the Mark Lewis teams are taking some of the better players from the Rec Council. Chairman Otto said that having private teams can sometimes help a child with talent to move up. He said that the issue at hand is that this is a private entity using public supported parks. He further said that maybe a fee schedule for resident and non-resident fees would be a good idea.

Administrator Warwick said that insurance should be required, and the Village/Rec Council should be named as insured.

Member Sepeczi noted that Steve Bolf is going to take over for Pat Riley as Rec Council President.

Capital Projects—The members asked questions as to some of the proposed budget numbers. Village President Nunamaker explained that if the other entities who agreed to donate money to the Stanger Project pay in, there could be \$6,000 additional in the budget for other projects. Chairman Otto said that A.D.A. compliant pathways were the top priority.

Member Sepeczi asked if there was any way to make the path shorter but not have it cost as much. Superintendent Huizinga said there would probably not be much savings. He further said that there may be assistance given by a resident who will loan a bobcat to help with Lion's Park.

Village President Nunamaker noted that even with doing the A.D.A. pathways, there might still be enough money for a small skate park. Administrator Warwick said that in future years, the other numbers can be formalized and prioritized.

Member Sepeczi asked if a small skate park could be added on to in the future, she was told yes. She further asked if Kids Care Park was the most likely spot for the park, she was told yes.

It was noted that Picnic Grove Park has a flat, open concreted area. Administrator Warwick is looking into the technicalities of using that particular area.

Chairman Otto mentioned that residents may not like having the skate park too close to homes, as there may be noise/language that they may find unacceptable.

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There was discussion regarding possibly selling some of the lights that were taken from the train depot to make some extra income for projects.

Member Conway said that he would like to see money put towards the beautification of Picnic Grove Park. Chairman Otto added that he would like to see a systematic parking area there complete with wheel stops.

Village President Nunamaker suggested that a committee should be formed regarding the skate park project. Chairman Otto, Member Sepeczi and Administrator Warwick agreed to make it up. Chairman Otto will work on locating the best place for the park to be.

A MOTION was made by Member Sepeczi to spend funds on A.D.A pathways as a first priority and a skate park as a second priority. Member McNutt seconded. Motion Carried Unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Parks Clean Up Day—April 20th—Chairman Otto suggested focusing the efforts on this date on cleaning and clearing the new Middle School Cross Country path.

Parks Fundraiser—Member Sepeczi said that the date for the fundraiser is now Saturday, March 9, 2013 instead of March 16. She asked if the members still felt it best to hold it at Brunch Café; the members said yes.

Tree Lighting Ceremony—Member Sepeczi reported that the event went well. Village President Nunamaker participated in the face painting.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 2, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Member McNutt and seconded by Member Richardson to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. All were in favor.

Dan Otto, Chairman

Alison Dal Compo, Secretary

Date Approved