

**PARKS COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 2, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dan Otto called the meeting of the Parks Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were Chairman Dan Otto, Members Steve Beyer, Joanna Colletti, Jim McNutt and Mike Richardson. Also in attendance were Acting Superintendent Jon Huizinga, Streets and Parks Representative John Reese and Secretary Alison Dal Compo. Members Bill Conway and Sherri Sepeczi were absent.

RESIDENT'S COMMENTS--none

Chairman Otto welcomed Village President Bob Nunamaker and Trustee Cindy Cramer.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 4, 2009 MINUTES

Member McNutt made a motion to approve the November 4, 2009 minutes with additions as noted. Member Beyer seconded. All were in favor.

PARKS

An "extraordinary expense" memo was sent out to the Parks Commission members. Member McNutt asked about the abbreviation "W.T.P." chemicals with regard to the expense incurred of \$1,300. Acting Superintendent Huizinga said that it stood for wastewater treatment plant.

Public Works Report—Acting Superintendent Huizinga reviewed work that recently took place.

Parks Master Plan Review: Acting Superintendent Huizinga said that there wasn't much to report at this time, since Member Sepeczi was absent and she is now working on this project. She will go through the narratives and update them. Mr. Reese will be taking over the delegation of other employees to work on individual park plans. Also, Mr. Reese will be attending future meetings of the Parks Commission in place of Acting Superintendent Huizinga.

Community Group Meeting Schedule/Hunters Farm Playground Quest History—(Trustee Cramer) Trustee Cramer reviewed this document, which was distributed to the commission members. She commented on the fact that the Parks Commission members are planning on attending meetings for other community groups, and said that it was a great

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idea. She further recommended that should be coordination with the PEDC (Planning and Economic Development Commission) members to see which groups they are already working with. Village Clerk Brouder would be able to provide such a list.

The following commission members plan to attend the following meetings:

Rec Council—Member Beyer

Lions—Member McNutt

School Board—Member Sepeczi

Jaycees—Member Colletti

Masons—Member Richardson

Cary Grove Chamber--Member Conway (this was tentative since Member Conway was absent from tonight's meeting)

Cary Grove Rotary—Chairman Otto

Chairman Otto asked if the groups usually have an agenda which the members would have to ask in advance to be put on. Member McNutt said that he had already talked to the Lions Club, and found that he did need to be scheduled in advance in order to speak. He will attend the January 18th meeting. Chairman Otto reminded everyone to make sure to invite representatives from the various community groups to attend Parks Commission meetings as well. Member McNutt noted that the goal would be to develop a rapport with these groups.

Trustee Cramer explained that the first two pages of the Hunters Farm Park document she distributed were the history, and the third page was a list of past fundraisers which were not particularly successful. The cookbook idea seemed like a good one but turned out to be extremely labor intensive. She said that most fundraisers had generated between \$500 and \$1,000. Further, she explained that it is very difficult to do a number of small fundraisers. The document also included flyers that had been used in the past for various fundraisers. Chairman Otto asked if the pictures of a gazebo had been intended for Hunters Farm. He was told yes. Member McNutt mentioned that the Village of Fox River Grove used to sell ornaments for fundraising. Trustee Cramer stated that other towns had created quilts with pictures of major town events and the like.

OTHER BUSINESS

Spring Park Tour—Member McNutt said that he had heard Fox River Grove has sixteen parks and five playgrounds on 130 acres, and said that he would like to become familiar with all of the locations. Chairman Otto reiterated the idea of resurrecting the spring parks tour, and commission members were in favor of this.

Animal Swings--Acting Superintendent Huizinga stated that one of the animal swings, which was donated to the Lionesses, sold at auction for \$20. Since there has been interest expressed in the other two swings, perhaps they could be sold at the Car Show.

Acting Superintendent suggested that more park projects, budget and repairs should be

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discussed at the next meeting. Additionally, plans should be started for the Hunter's Farm gazebo. Member McNutt asked how the budget for the parks works. It was explained that it begins with Public Works, and then goes to the Trustees. The Parks budget is a portion of the total Village budget.

Acting Superintendent Huizinga commented that there had been a number of parks related projects that had been accomplished this past year. Chairman Otto said that among those accomplishments were the lights as well as the snow barrier on the sled hill at Picnic Grove Park. Acting Superintendent Huizinga noted that Foxmoor Park started out as just mounds of dirt! Additionally, the boat access has been another great addition at Picnic Grove Park. Chairman Otto stated that special events might be financed through the McHenry County Community Fund. He stated that Picnic Grove Park and Lions Park are jewels!

Village President Nunamaker commented that the spring parks tour was a great idea. He also said that the Leave No Child Inside Initiative (LNCI) which Trustee Cramer headed up should be expanded. President Nunamaker led several of the previous LNCI events. Trustee Cramer added that more LNCI events are in the planning stage. Member McNutt offered his assistance to Trustee Cramer for the LNCI events.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for January 6, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Member Colletti and seconded by Member McNutt to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m. All were in favor.

Dan Otto, Chairman

Alison Dal Compo

Date Approved