

**PARK COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING
December 12, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chairman Bill Conway called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Present were Members Michael Bajorek, Bill Conway, Dan Otto, and Michael Richardson. Also in attendance were Streets and Parks Superintendent Jon Huizinga, Trustee Cindy Cramer as Village Board Liaison, and Village Clerk Donna Brouder. Jane Bartolai, secretary for the Planning & Economic Development Commission attended for the Master Park Plan. Members Kevin Cunningham, Matt Pagels and Sheri Sepeczi were absent

RESIDENTS COMMENTS

Residents from Hunters Farm ~ Marilyn Fadel, Amy Malooley, Steven Bove, Jonathon Warren, Soren & Brite Pihlman and Anna Maria Iacullo were present to discuss the port-o-lets at Hunters Farm Park.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 10, 2007 MEETING MINUTES

Member Otto made a motion to approve the October 10th meeting minutes. Member Richardson seconded. All were in favor.

PARKS

Trustee Cramer read a statement regarding port-o-lets and their placement in the parks. The Village Board appointed a sub-committee for the parks. They visited Hunters Farm Park and looked at the park layout, equipment, placement of port-o-lets and maintaining the value of the beauty of the parks. They discussed accessibility for handicapped and safety of locations for children. They worked diligently on this issue.

Mrs. Fadel, 207 Saddle Lane, stated the Hunters Farm port-o-let can now be seen from every window in her home. She would like to follow the recommendation from the sub-committee. That would be having one handicapped port-o-let with the door facing Route 22. Also, installing L-shaped chain line fencing to connect with the existing chain link fence. This also would give the spectators for games a better view. Mrs. Fadel also stated that the port-o-lets are only used a few hours each week and she sees them all the time.

Mr. Bove, 206 Bridle Path Lane, stated that it used to be in his view before, but now he doesn't see it at all. He understands what the Fadel's see daily.

Jonathon Warren, 205 Saddle Lane, gave an overview of how this began. He bought his home across from a lovely park, a baseball diamond was added, then a fence, bleachers, base box and

finally portable toilets. He understands it is a park and will be used. He feels turning the port-o-lets 90 degrees with the door facing Route 22 is a good compromise.

Soren Pihlman, 213 Saddle Lane, stated this compromise is good and fair and done the democratic way. The Village needs to “buy in” and do the compromise.

Member Conway stated that removing one port-o-let would make a difference right away.

Member Bajorek feels there needs to be two available in case one is out of order.

Anna Maria Iancullo, 209 Saddle Lane, suggested that we try the compromise. The cost is minimal. Don't move the wooden fence at this time. Try it and see how it is.

Steve Bove, 206 Bridle Path Lane, asked where the trees are being proposed and what kind are they going to be. He recommends using evergreens because they are green year round and do not lose any leaves.

Mr. Pihlman, 213 Saddle Lane, stated that this compromise is a workable solution. He asked the Parks Commission to recommend it to the Village Board.

Member Conway stated that there have been five port-o-lets that were vandalized by fire. If they were located that close to the fence and there was a fire, it would burn the fence as well.

Mr. Warren, 205 Saddle Lane stated that the compromise proposal does still have problems. The residents are not thrilled with the solution, but are willing to try it out. We would like the Village to give it a try, too. Everyone needs to give a little.

Member Bajorek stated that everyone will look at it Saturday and return to the Village Hall to discuss options. Besides the residents, there will be four representatives from the Rec Council. The Rec Council Baseball Director is checking with the insurance company to be sure the Rec Council can still be insured with the port-o-let being that close to the fence. The main concern is the safety of the children.

There was a question about fly balls hitting in the proposed area and also could fly balls reach the playground. Member Bajorek said the children that play there are in first and second grades and can not throw or hit that far.

Member Otto stated that originally the Parks Commission recommended the tree line for the location of the port-o-lets. He still thinks this is the best location, but it is too costly. The sub-committee looked for an option that worked best for everyone. Moving it so the door opens to the east still makes it handicapped accessible without the addition of extra pavement. He agreed that this is a good compromise and we should try it.

Park Master Plan – Each member received a draft of the Master Plan. Jane Bartolai did an excellent job putting this together. All members should review the plan and get their comments to Jon Huizinga by the end of January. He will put them together, send them out to all members and the plan and comments will be discussed at the February meeting.

Park It On the Fox Fundraiser Report – Trustee Cramer stated it was time to start planning the 2008 car show. The date of June 14, 2008 was selected. We need to reserve the Stone Hill parking area with John Opatrny. Put the date on internet car sites. Update our sponsor letter and mail it out. Set up with Rec Council paypal site for pre-registration. Update the flyer and shorten the time from 12 – 3 and have awards announced by 2 p.m. Also state in flyer no cars

less than 15 years old. Reserve DQ ice cream man, Miss FRG, DJ, etc. Talk with the Chamber to see if they have any ideas on organization, raffles, sponsors, goodie bags, etc.

Trustee Cramer would like the Parks Commission to take over the planning. She is willing to help with it. We need more volunteers!

Member Otto stated that a Foundation Board for the Village needs to be formed to work at the fundraising for the parks. Needs to have officers and volunteers to do the fundraising.

Possibly Special Events would consider taking over the car show. Kevin Cunningham may also have some other ideas. It was suggested advertising for a subcommittee and volunteers on the Village and school websites. Also advertise on the Village sign every month the date of the car show event.

Trustee Cramer also mentioned a February indoor ice-skating event. It is sponsored by the Parks Commission and all proceeds go to the Foundation. Member Conway suggested sending a blast e-mail through the school's parent lists to advertise the skating date.

Member Otto asked everyone's opinion about having a golf outing fundraiser. Need 144 golfers and can make a good profit, but it is lots of work. There are a lot of golf outings.

Trustee Cramer mentioned that Trustee Tuman had suggested a 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament. She said she could approach him about doing one.

Ballfield Scheduling – Member Bajorek reported that two Barrington teams want to use Algonquin Road School Field 2. They have committed to ten Sunday games, but do not need to know until February. The Rec Council won't know if they can use them until they have the Rec Council teams schedule. Rec Council will contact them as soon as they know. It is important that the Village is copied on the insurance certificates.

OTHER BUSINESS

08/09 Budget – Acting Public Works Superintendent Jon Huizinga asked that everyone look at the Wish List from last year and make any changes. We will need to complete a list for the budget at the next meeting.

We never purchased swings for Picnic Grove Park. A resident offered to pay the \$1,700 shortage, but we still have not received the money. There is money in the 07/08 budget for replacing the swings in Lions Park. We could use that money for Picnic Grove Park and then add Lions Park swings to the 08/09 budget year. **Member Otto recommended that the Village use the money budgeted for swings in Lions Park to be used to purchase and install the swings for Picnic Grove Park and add the Lions Park swings to the 08/09 budget. Member Conway seconded.** All were in favor.

Lions Park Eagle Project - Kai Rikardsen did a great job planting seedlings and plantings in Lions Park. He went back the next day to water them and the geese had pulled many of them out. He replanted them and they seem to be taking.

Wish List Updates – For the next meeting list the accomplishments completed this year and add suggestions of what still needs to be done in the parks. It was suggested to budget money next year for Picnic Grove shoreline stabilization. We are losing ground. It was also mentioned to look for any shoreline stabilization grants.

Superintendent Huizinga mentioned that there has been a complaint about the sled hill lights by a resident of Spring Beach. The box has been broken into by vandals and they messed up the timers. Member Conway said he thought there is a new commercial grade intermatic timer. He'll check on it.

Trustee Cramer would like to have the port-o-let placement in the other parks on the next agenda.

Member Conway asked if we needed two port-o-lets at Foxmoor Park or could we just have one handicapped. If we do need two, can we move one to the other side to split them up.

The next Parks Commission meeting will be February 13th, 2008.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Conway made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Member Otto seconded. All were in favor.

Bill Conway, Acting Chairman

Date

Donna M. Brouder, Secretary