

Village of Antioch Park Commission Meeting
Wednesday, February 20, 2008
Village Hall 874 Main Street, Antioch, Illinois
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Village of Antioch Park Commission was convened by Jeff Benes and called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Call to order and roll call

Members Present:

Jeff Benes, Chairman
Tom Kessell
Wanda Utter
Gina Wolf
Julie Konvalinka
Jim Weber

Others Present:

Bob Caulfield, Trustee
Bob McCarty, Trustee
Larry Hanson, Trustee
Dennis Crosby, Trustee
Dustin Nilsen, Director of Planning and Zoning
Laurie Stahl, Director
Shawn Roby, Special Events Supervisor
Laura Mihovilovich, Secretary

Members Absent

Wayne Foresta

Pledge

Approve Minutes from January 16, 2008 regular meeting as presented.

Upon a motion made by Jim Weber and seconded by Tom Kessell, the January 16, 2008 minutes of the Village of Antioch Park Commission Board meeting were approved.

Communications

Stuart Malsch- Thanked the Park Commissions Board for inviting Lindenhurst to the meeting and considering other governing bodies for an Aquatic Center.

Reports

Chairman

Discussion of Partnership with Lindenhurst Park District for Aquatic Center-

Members from the Lindenhurst Park District attended the meeting: Dean Parkman- President of Lindenhurst Board of Park Commissions, Angie Bush-Superintendent of Recreation, Jim Stout-Park Board Commissioner. Antioch Park Board members asked about funding. Lindenhurst representatives stated that they would be unable to fund an Aquatic center without going to referendum. They would depend on a referendum whether they go in on a partnership or go it alone. If they go out for referendum, they are looking at April 2009 because of school referendums that they would not want to compete with. Antioch Park Board asked about Governing Bodies and how a shared facility could work. Lindenhurst recommended a joint governing body with equal representation from both towns. As of now Lindenhurst is part of a Special Recreation Services of Lake County with 4 other Park Districts. This program has been operating for 15 years and works well. They do not have a facility that they share, only programs. Programs are done in various locations. Antioch Park Board asked about Location of Facility. Lindenhurst suggested building the pool at a neutral location. Antioch Park Board asked if they had any locations in mind that are available. Lakes High School or

land near the Antioch Township building was suggested as such location to look at. As of now, Lindenhurst Park District has not heard back from High School Dist. 117 on a partnership, nor have they heard back from any of the other surrounding communities that they sent letters out to. The question of including a competitive pool for swim meets was brought up and Lindenhurst has no plans to include this in their plan at the present time unless the high school was interested in the partnership. They do not have a swim team program in Lindenhurst and the pool depth would have to be deeper than their present plans to accommodate this. Antioch park board members feel that this is something that is very necessary to accommodate the large swim team program in Antioch. Lindenhurst also said they were not in favor of an indoor pool because of the building costs and operating costs. They generally do not make a profit. They also have Hastings YMCA and the Lake Forest Facility close by with indoor pools available for their community. Suggestions were made to look into other park districts that have a joint venture with another town or a high school. Gurnee, Lake Forest and Lemont were suggestions. Antioch Village Trustees that also attended the meeting joined the discussion. Bob McCarty said that he knows the Park Board has worked hard on the Aquatic Center for a number of years at the Bitner Property. Bob Caulfield said that the board is not convinced that is the location and he believes that the community just wants a pool and if going in with Lindenhurst is the way to get one, it should be seriously looked at. Dennis Crosby suggested that Lindenhurst come to a Village Board Committee meeting to discuss this further.

Walking Path- Dustin Nilsen proposed two walking/bike paths. The first would connect Depot St. to the Lake County Forest Preserve. This path would run past Hillcrest Elementary into down town Antioch. The second path would come from Emmons Grade School, up Rt. 59 and past Pedersen Park. This would be great for the residents of Heron Harbor and District 34 Schools. This project is expected to be 3+ years. There are grants that can be applied for such as a CMAQ grant.

Dustin also let the park board know that he is also looking into raising developer contributions of land and fees owed to the Parks Dept.

Engineering Report

No Report

Parks Director

Special Events Supervisor- Laurie introduced Shawn Roby to the park board.

Daddy Daughter Dance- This year went very well. The DJ did a great job. Next year the ticket prices will go up to \$20 for a couple.

Park Improvement Plan- Laurie added umbrellas into the budget as discussed at the last meeting.

Easter Parade/Hunt- The Easter celebration will be held on Saturday, March 15th this year and will take place under the pavilion due to weather conditions on the Little League Field.

50th Birthday Celebration of Pool- Laurie would like to host a birthday party for the pool this year by having a family Luau on June 6th.

Spring/Summer brochure – Laurie passed around the cover of the new brochure and said it is at the printer and available 3rd week of March.

Financial Reports for Periods Ending-January 2008

Financial Reports were reviewed and accepted.

Other Business

Tom would like his email address added to the Park Board Members list so it is available to all member. Kessell629@comcast.net. Tom would also like to mention that he is disappointed in the Village Board members for not coming back to us with any information on realtors or other property ventures if they don't wish to use the Bitner property.

Jim doesn't feel that Clublands should be on our park improvement plan until after the Village receives the money owed to them. Laurie will look into this. Jim would also like to mention that he would like to see the Aquatic Center on the Bitner property because Antioch residents should have a pool in their own community.

Gina would like to know if the pool would continue to move along if we have the Village Board behind us and if we could ask that they do so.

Wanda agreed with Jim that the Bitner property should still be the site for the aquatic center.

Jeff asked the members how they would like to respond to the Village Board in regards to the pool. All members were in favor of a vote to proceed with the Bitner property. *A motion was made by Julie Konvalinka and seconded by Wanda Utter to make a recommendation against partnering with Lindenhurst Park District, preferring to utilize the plans for the Aquatic/Recreation Center at the Bitner property. In addition, a request that the village board identify a funding stream to make the aquatic center become a reality. We believe that the Bitner site will serve the needs of our residents most appropriately.* All members were in favor of this motion, one absent.

Julie had an idea for another special event, a wakeboard competition that could be done in the summer on the lake.

Trustee Crosby added that he is worried on how Antioch would fund a pool. He would like to see the proposals that were done on the pool to look over them again.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Village of Antioch Park Commission, **Julie Konvalinka made a motion to adjourn, and was seconded by Wanda Utter.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 19, 2008 at Village Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Jeff Benes, Chairman

Laura Mihovilovich, Secretary