

**Village of Antioch
Park Commission Meeting
Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, Illinois
Wednesday, January 19, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Village of Antioch Park Commission was called to order at 7:05pm. by Jim Weber.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Antioch Park Commissioners led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call indicated the following Commissioners were present: "Gina Wolf, Wanda Utter, Cindy Bucci, Cedric Johnson, Jerry Johnson and Angela Brooks and Chairman Jim Weber. Others present were: Parks and Recreation Director Michael Kudla, Recording Secretary Toni Galster, Village Board Liaison George Sakas, Special Events Coordinator Shawn Roby and Program Supervisor Libby Baker.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Wolf moved, seconded by Member, C. Johnson to approve the November 17, 2010 meeting minutes as corrected. Upon voice vote: All Ayes. 0 Nays. MOTION CARRIED. ***After grammatical errors were corrected, a motion was made by Wolf and seconded by C. Johnson for the November 17, 2010 minutes of the Village of Antioch Park Commission Board meeting to be approved.***

COMMUNICATIONS **

Mr. Malsch, spoke about the Bittner Property Mr. Malsch noticed a pile of dirt that may have been placed there by the contractor leasing the property from the Village. the use of the property and This was the first time anyone on the Board had heard about someone putting dirt on the property. Mike Kudla said he would look into it and get back to Mr. Malsch.

REPORTS

Chairman Weber

Angela Brooks and Jerry Johnson were welcomed to the Board. Chairman Weber suggested the new members be assigned to oversee a park. Chairman Weber has appointed C. Johnson to over see Trevor Creek, Utter will have Williams Park, Bucci will oversee Pederson, Wolf will over see Centennial Park, Weber will take care of the Saw Mill. J. Johnson will be taking care of Jensen Park and North Park will be over seen of by Brooks. Tim Osmond Park is owned by the Township.

Chairman Weber inquired how expenses are reported for each program. Director Kudla explained that expenses are not accounted individually for each program. Staff is working with the finance department to restructure the accounting procedures to allow this to happen. The Board discussed the limitations of the registration software currently being used. Mr. Kudla stated that the current software does not communicate with the Village system. New software is not in the budget at this time and will cost approximately \$30,000.

Chairman Weber noted that on the scholarship application Holbek is spelled wrong. Mr. Weber questioned the payment plan procedures on the scholarship program. Director Kudla explained how he planned to administer the program.

Parks and Recreation Director Kudla

Discussion of Scholarship program:

Currently the Village has no provision to offer families experiencing financial hardship the opportunity to participate in programs at a reduced fee or be placed on a payment plan. Staff is proposing a new scholarship program. The cost of offering reduced rate programs would be absorbed by the Recreation Department. Limits would be placed on how many reduced rate spaces are available for each program. The Recreation Department will make decisions on each application based on need. The Director will meet with each applicant to discuss their level of need and agree on what portion of the fee a family can afford to pay. Each family awarded a payment plan will sign an agreement. The parents should be able to pay the fee over the length of the program. The families have to prove their need. Mr. Kudla can work with the School District to see what families are being assisted. It is proposed that each applicant pay a minimum of %10 of the program fee. It was also proposed that the level of scholarship assistance be dependant on need. Cindy Bucci suggested that we should have a limit of how many scholarships are awarded for each program. Following discussion the Commission voted on the proposal as presented.

Upon voice vote: All Ayes. 0 Nays. MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion of fees for athletic field usage:

We have three sports organizations that use parks to operate sports program. They are Viking Football, Antioch Youth Local League, (AYLL) and American Youth Soccer Organization, (Antioch Chapter AYSO). Refuse removal, portable toilet facilities and artificial lighting have historically been a shared expense between the sports organizations and the Village. These organizations feel they should not be charged for these expenses because they provide labor to prepare the park for games and raised significant amount of monies for the development of the Tim Osmond Sports Complex. There is an agreement in place that each organization pays half the cost for out-of-pocket expenses. Going forward there will be no expense for refuse removal because Waste Management has agreed to service Village dumpsters at no charge. There is no action required by the Park Commission on this. It is a monetary issue related to historical agreements for the Park use. Mr. Kudla will invite each group to write a letter to the Village Board requesting that the fees be waived or the agreements be changed. The Director will forward the comments of the Park Commission to the Village Board on this issue.

Discussion of Registration Policy:

Historically our registration procedure for the largest programs (Summer Day Camp, Swim Lessons, and Camp Crayon) is held on a Saturday morning. Parents, fearful that a preferred class will fill, start waiting in line hours before the doors open.

Antioch is the only Parks Department that still conducts the first come first serve registration procedure. Staff proposed that registration be taken on line through a deadline date and if a program fills, a lottery be held to select which applicants be placed in a program. A survey was taken asking the parents of Camp Crayon if they prefer waiting in line and first come first served or registering on line and have a lottery if a class fills. The results were split almost evenly between the two options. Following a lengthy discussion the Commission voted on the two options.

Upon voice vote: 5 stand In Line. 2 have a lottery. MOTION CARRIED to keep the "First Come First Serve" procedure in place.

Special Event Supervisor:

“Mark Your Calendar” publicity mailing:

Staff presented the Commission with a new advertizing piece called Mark Your Calendar. The piece will be mailed to all township residents twice a year. The cost will be \$3,000. per year to the Village.

Winter Wine Walk, Daddy Daughter Date Night, Mother & Son Bowling

The wine walk is so popular that we will be expanding it to 20 locations starting with the Summer Wine Walk. Ticket sales will be limited to six per person because several people were buying up to fifteen tickets. Staff requested help form the Board for the walk this Saturday. Registration is at 280 participants

Daddy Daughter Date Night, we have 300 tickets left. Emmons school has their Daddy Daughter night on Feb. 19th we believe this is why our date night is low on attendance. Mother Son Bowling Party is on March 20th. Our photographer will be doing the pictures for both events.

Financial Reports

Financial Reports for the period ending December 30, 2010 were reviewed.

Other Business

Libby introduced herself to Board and spoke of her background. She explained to the Board her plans and changes that she is working on.

Cedric Johnson wanted everyone to beware of the neighborhood watch programs. There have been two meetings held to date Jim Weber wanted to know more about our basketball program. Director Kudla explained that next fall we will be working on expanding the program for the entire winter for 2nd and 3rd graders. We will also be trying to start a field hockey program, for girls.

Adjournment

There being no further business, member Angela Brooks moved, seconded by Cindy Bucci to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Jim Weber Chairman

Toni Galster, Secretary