

**Village of Antioch
Park Commission Meeting
Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, Illinois
Wednesday November 19, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER

Park Board Chairman Jim Weber called the November 19, 2014 regular meeting of the Park Board to order at 6:33 pm in the Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Antioch Park Commissioners led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the following Commissioners were present, Ron Horton, Gina Wolf, Will Martino, Cedric Johnson and Chairman Jim Weber. Others present were: Parks and Recreation Director Shawn Roby, Program Supervisor Mary Quilty, Program Recording Secretary Toni Galster. Absent: Jen Dosch, Angela Brooks arrived at 6:54 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Ron Horton moved, seconded by Member Cedric Johnson to approve the October 22, 2014 meeting minutes as corrected. Upon voice vote: **Yes:** 4: Ron Horton, Gina Wolf, Will Martino, and Cedric Johnson. **No:** 0. **Absent:** Angela Brooks and Jen Dosch THE MOTION CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

REPORTS

Chairman Weber:

Congratulated Mary on her successful Ski and Skate Resale that was held on Saturday, November 15th, Mary commented that next year she will get the signs out to the subdivisions a week earlier. Unfortunately she decided to have signs made the last minute. Residents that attended the sale commented that it was the signs that reminded them of the sale. Shawn commented that he is worried that we may not have the room for the Bike Resale that will be happening in the spring. Shawn thought maybe we should have it at the Williams Park Pavilion. But then we would have to transfer the bikes from the parks building to the pavilion the day of the sale. Jim suggested leaving it at the parks building, and placing some of the bikes outside the building after the sale starts if we need the room.

Jim congratulated Jen Dosch for completing her course on Open Meeting and had asked Ron if he had completed his course, Cedric told Shawn that he hadn't completed the course either. Shawn told Ron and Cedric if they were having problems logging into the site that they should come into the Parks office and he will assist them.

Director of Parks & Recreation / Special Events Coordinator: Shawn Roby

Jim questioned Shawn about the budget cuts, what departments are the Trustees looking to cut from. Shawn expressed to the Board several times that all the Park Board Commissioners should be attending the Village Board meetings and the Committee of the Whole meetings so

they will be better informed on what is going on and what to expect. This way when their neighbors are asking questions, they will know firsthand what is going on in the community. Decisions are needed to be made requiring the \$670,000.00 the Village needs. At this point the Trustees have asked the Village Administrator Keim to have each department director refine their budget. Organize their list from most important to least importance. This will make it easier for the Trustee when it comes down to cutting programs, events, and employees. Shawn spoke about how residents have come to Antioch looking for a better life for their families. Shawn feels that the Trustees are leaning towards cutting some parades and a portion of 4th of July events. Again told the Park Board that this isn't the first time the Village has been faced with this type of challenge.

In 2007 the Village employed 103 employees; because of all the cuts by 2008 – 2009 the Village now employees approximately 65. At the Committee of the Whole meeting, there was a mention that Camp Crayon could be cut. Shawn unfortunately had put a number on his graph twice making it look like the pre-school was losing money, but in reality it was making money. Shawn plans on bringing this mistake up at the next meeting, to show the Trustees that Camp Crayon is a necessary amenity for the Village and its makes the Village money. Shawn and Mary sat down with Joy the Finance Director to make sure the Park numbers matched the Finance numbers. Ron Horton questioned Shawn about the fire department and the men that are driving the trucks in the parade, whether or not they get paid. Jim Weber told the Board that yes they firemen do get paid, but it is only \$11.00 per hour. If an emergency happens during the parade, the firemen on these trucks will be the first to go; they must be prepared at all times. While these firemen are in the parade, there are firemen at the fire stations ready to go as well.

Shawn informed the park board that options like revenue enhancements related to fees for outside organizations. Other revenue ideas consist of increasing fees on events. A couple of trustees from the Village Board had asked if we could handle the vending at these events as another way to make revenue.

Ron had mentioned that it used to be all volunteers that helped with the parade, Shawn reminded everyone that those days are gone, but the Village does have EMA's which are volunteers. Largely the only group of volunteers within the community today that exists are those with the EMA (Emergency Management) under the supervision of Lee Shannon. Shawn and Ron mentioned the attempt a couple of years ago with possible finding those in Antioch who are retired and might be willing to work as a type of lawn cutting crew that comes in once a week to help defer cost for the Village. Ultimately this idea was shot down because of liability issues related to the volunteers using village equipment while not being employee by the Village.

Budget Update: Shawn explained to the Park Board that since the EMS referendum didn't pass, that there will be cuts. The cuts that the Village Board needs to cut would not take place until May or June. We are currently in the FY15 which is for the year of May 2014- April 2015. The cuts would be for FY16 which is May 2015-April 2016 at this point. Shawn urged the park board to attend the meetings and express their concerns about specific cuts if they feel comfortable doing so. The next meeting will be on Monday, December 1, 2014.

Update on Park Web Pages: Shawn emailed the Park Board members the copies of the pages of each park for each Park Board member to review and add or take out whatever is necessary in their assigned park. The pages should help to increase use of the facilities that

might simply be under advertised. Shawn and Toni will be providing the Village Hall with the pages so they can begin to build the pages for each park.

SDC Pool Pass and Organization: Shawn has decided to stay with the \$25.00 pool pass for the Summer Day Campers. Shawn explained that we only had a few people leave camp early last year and keep their pool pass. Changing the policy without complete knowledge of how many families with kids in the SDC are also buying passes or not buying passes would could defeat the purpose of this policy which is to improve pool pass sales.

This year we will only be charging the families the registration fee and pool pass fee when they register for Summer Day Camp. The deposit that was required last year caused problems when the office staff was doing their invoicing. When a family does make any changes before the session starts, there will be no charge, but if they are in session they will be charged a \$10.00 change fee for taking days off their schedule. Shawn told the Park Board that he was planning on increasing the Summer Day Camp fee 2%. All camp forms will be available in digital form online. Camps will also be divided into smaller sub-groups from the beginning to improve the speed at which kids can be dropped off and picked up.

Sponsorship: Toni has been working on getting sponsors for the ice rink. At this point 5 businesses have signed on. Their banners will be installed on the inside of the ice rink in the upcoming weeks. Banners can be purchased for \$300.00 for the first year. There are also various other opportunities for people to donate if they are interested.

Upcoming Events: The Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting ceremony will be on Friday, November 28th. The parade starts at 6:30 pm and the tree lighting will follow. New this year is the Ornament decorating contest. Along with Shawn, the Boy Scout Pack 191 and the Girls Scouts have cut out 125 wooden ornaments and painted them white. Residents can purchase these ornaments for \$5.00 each and decorate them. Before the ornaments are put on the tree, Shawn along with other village employees will judge the ornaments. The family with the best ornament will be the honored guest at the Tree Lighting ceremony and will flip the switch to turn on the Christmas tree.

Winter Wine Walk tickets will go on sale Thursday, December 4th at 6:00 pm. Daddy Daughter Date Night tickets go on sale Thursday, December 11th. The North Pole Express Trains sold out quickly. Trains will run starting on Wednesday, December 3rd, and end on Tuesday, December 23rd. After the New Year we will gear up for the upcoming 2015-2016 Camp Crayon registration and all 2015 events.

Program Supervisor Report

Camp Crayon Update: Mary told the Park Board that there wasn't much going on at this point. Camp Crayon numbers haven't changed. Zumba was slow this past week probably because of the weather. Mary told the Board that unless we can find a cheaper way to show the movies in the park, that they will probably be cut from the budget.

Financial Reports

Financial Reports for the period ending October 31, 2014 were reviewed. The Village will be working on ways to cut the budget.

Next Meeting: Set for Wednesday, December 17, 2014 time has been changed back to 7:00 pm

Other Business

Will Martino inquired about the cuts. Will the Public Works have more time on their hands to do other projects, like installing the swing set at Sprenger Park or any other projects that need attending to? Will also told the Board that his HOA has completed planting 20 tree in the parks in Neumann Homes subdivision. Before the HOA donates \$12,000.00 to the Village Will would like to have the swing set installed first. Shawn told the Park Board that Public Works will probably be taking out the Baggo set and installing them somewhere else in the park. Dennis and Shawn will be going over to Sprenger Park to see the options on where the swing set should go. Shawn indicated to Will that most likely the swing set will be installed in the spring. The HOA also reset the fence in Mary's Park when they moved it. There were 50 posts that were moved. The HOA sponsored 50% of the installation fees. Will ask Shawn why there is a 30' pile in the parking lot. Shawn will look into it for him.

Shawn explained to the Board about the Public Works and their work schedule. There are only 10 weeks in the summer. Projects are given priorities especially in an emergency situation. For instance a water main break is going to take precedents over the playground installation and various other activities.

Jim asked Shawn if Decembers Park Board meeting was necessary, Shawn told the Board that because of the budget cuts he highly suggests we meet in December. Shawn will keep the agenda light.

There being no further discussion, Member Ron Horton moved, seconded by Member Gina Wolf to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Chairman Jim Weber

Toni Galster, Secretary