

**Village of Antioch  
Park Commission Meeting  
Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, Illinois  
Wednesday December 17 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Park Board Chairman Jim Weber called the December 17, 2014 regular meeting of the Park Board to order at 7:01 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, Angela Brooks, Ron Horton, Gina Wolf, Will Martino, Cedric Johnson, Jen Dosch and Chairman Jim Weber. Others present were: Parks and Recreation Director Shawn Roby, Program Supervisor Mary Quilty, Recording Secretary Toni Galster.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Ron Horton moved, seconded by Member Cedric Johnson to approve the November 19, 2014 meeting minutes as corrected. Upon voice vote: **Yes:** 6: Angela Brooks, Ron Horton, Gina Wolf, Will Martino, and Cedric Johnson, and Jen Dosch. **No:** 0. **Absent:** THE MOTION CARRIED.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**REPORTS**

**Chairman Weber:**

Jim Weber thanked everyone for being at the last meeting of the year, and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

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

Shawn told the Board about Mr. Matson and his dedication bench that he purchased for his late wife. The bench has been installed in the Saw Mill and a plaque has been made and will be installed on the bench next week. Shawn met Mr. Matson on Arbor Day at the Saw Mill. Since that day Shawn and Mr. Matson have met several times to discuss the purchase of the bench and where it would be installed. Mr. Matson thanked Shawn for all his hard work to assure the bench was purchased and installed.

Shawn told the Park Board that Tim Osmond Sports Complex soccer fields were seeded by the high school as was Sprenger Park. Public works has also indicated that they would be installing the swings at Sprenger Parks shortly. Shawn explained that since the ground is not frozen and there is no snow to plow, Public Works has the time to install it now.

**Budget Update:** Shawn thanked the Board members that attended the COW meetings and Village Board meetings. At this point Shawn told the board, the Village is currently in the 2014 Fiscal year so the budget cuts will not affect anything in the May 1, 2014 – April 20, 2015 Fiscal year. There are 2 plans that have been discussed.

Plan A – what will happen going forward? Plan A from the parks and recreation front would cost us the Easter Parade and the Teen Easter Flashlight Egg Hunt.

Plan B-the parks would experience more cuts related to things like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, concert series and so forth. Shawn explained that \$500k – 800K will need to be cut from the budget in order to fund the EMS.

Plan B has an idea of cutting 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks, but the Village has a contract with the pyrotechnic company, so the Village would still have a cost associated with the fireworks. There is talk about moving the date of the fireworks. Gina Wolf suggested the fireworks be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>, like other communities do. Shawn suggested getting some of the local organizations to help sponsor the 4<sup>th</sup> of July events in order to keep them. Shawn plans on meeting with organization leaders after the first of the New Year.

Other cuts include cutting the concerts in half so ship instead of 8 may-be only 4. Cutting the Movies in the Park unless we can find sponsor for them. Cutting the Boat Regatta, Family Kite Flying Day, Rock Rumble. After the Village Board discussed the budget cuts, they decided to table the budget cuts for now. Shawn told the Board unless we can get sponsors to help offset the cost of these events they will be cut.

Toni has been doing a good job with locating sponsorship and building packages for those interested to participate. For instance, the ice rink liner is completely paid for through sponsorship. As for the parades, each parade costs the Village anywhere between \$1800 - \$3500 in labor cost. Will inquired why can't we get a lower price parade? Will told Shawn that he had heard that Round Lake loans out their Mobile Eye Groups. Jen Dosch suggested having a fundraiser dinner at the Antioch Golf Club to raise money for the events. Gina agreed that it would need to be different than other organizations that have fundraisers in town. Shawn is looking into other ways to save the Village money, such as having volunteers to help cut the grass in the parks. Ron Horton has offered in the past to cut grass but the Board refused the help, but that was over a year ago. Shawn will revisit the Village Board with this same idea. Shawn will also consider approaching the Non-For-Profit organizations about paying a fee to the Village for each event that they are selling at. Shawn feels that the Village Board will need to make more changes going forward. Ron told the other Park Board members that he would donate his board fee that he receives back to the Village for the special events, Ron has challenged the Park Board members to do the same, and if they do it could help pay for at least one parade a year.

The Senior Center will now be funded through the Dolly Spiering Memorial Fund, saving the Village an average of \$50,000 a year.

Shawn strongly suggested that all the Park Board members, please attend the upcoming meetings concerning the budget. The Village still plans on putting the EMS referendum back on the ballot in the spring.

### **SDC Manual Discussion:**

Shawn briefly spoke about the SDC Manual and asked each Park Board member to review the manual and get back to him with any changes.

**Sponsorship: Upcoming Events:** Winter Break Camp has been cancelled due to low attendance. Plus we could not secure a bus for the bus trips. Lindenhurst sold one bus and the other was hit by a deer. Mary told the Board that she needed a minimum of 10 kids each day in order to have the camp go. The Polar Express is going very well. Shawn is considering adding more days next year if it is possible. The Winter Wine Walk is schedule for Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup> and the Daddy Daughter Date Night is scheduled for Saturday, February 7, 2015.

### **Program Supervisor Report**

**Camp Crayon Update:** Mary told the Board that we have lost another teacher. Kelly Polark was offered a full time teaching position at Big Hollow School. But Mary has hired someone to replace her just this week. Her name is Gina Annunzio and she will begin when classes resume in January. It was brought to the Village Boards attention by someone that Camp Crayon may have too many teachers, so Mary did some researching on other local pre-school in the area and found that most of the schools follow the 7 to 1 children vs teacher ratio. We have 20 children in each class and we have 3 teachers per class. Camp Crayon is following what the other schools are doing.

Mary was very proud to say that the Camp Crayon parents came through in a very big way this year for Open Arms. 190 pounds of food was collected and 54 gloves, 23 hats/glove sets were donated along with 3 \$20 gift certificates to Jewel.

### **Financial Reports**

Financial Reports for the period ending November 30, 2014 were reviewed. The Village will be working on ways to cut the budget.

**Next Meeting:** Set for Wednesday, January 21, 2015 @ 7:00 pm

### **Other Business**

Angela spoke about the Bar Recue show that the Village was involved in. And raved about the Christmas Parade.

Gina brought up the fact that may be too late to do any fundraising for the Easter Parade, since it takes at least a few months to plan an event.

Will's HOA had their meeting and brought up the crack willows problem. They will be organizing a group to come to the Village Board meeting to express their feelings and give recommendations on how to get rid of them.

Jen told the other Board members that if they would like to have a fundraiser to raise funds for the special events, she will need a minimum of 4 months to plan it. She asked each member to bring ideas to the next board meeting.

Jim thanked each member that contributed ornaments for the Village Christmas Tree.

There being no further discussion, Member Ron Horton moved, seconded by Member Gina Wolf to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 8:02 p.m.

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Chairman Jim Weber

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Toni Galster, Secretary