

**Village of Antioch
Park Commission Meeting
Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, Illinois
Wednesday, January 21, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER

Park Board Chairman Jim Weber called the January 21, 2015 regular meeting of the Park Board to order at 7:00 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, and Chairman Jim Weber. Others present were: Parks and Recreation Director Shawn Roby, Program Supervisor Mary Quilty, Recording Secretary Toni Galster. Absent: Jen Dosch

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Gina Wolf moved, seconded by Member Ron Horton to approve the December 17, 2014 meeting minutes as corrected. Upon voice vote: **Yes:** 5: Angela Brooks, Ron Horton, Gina Wolf, Will Martino, and Cedric Johnson. **No:** 1. **Absent:** THE MOTION CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS

Randy Burt of Antioch (Nuehaven Subdivision) approached the Park Board with concerns regarding the Retention Pond Maintenance in Sprenger Park. Randy was addressing the issues related to the invasive species that surround the pond and are destroying the walking path and the areas around the pond. He is asking the Village to maintain the pond as it is located in the middle of the park owned by the village. The North East Corner of the pond seems to need the most care. Will Martino spoke to the HOA and told them to come to the Park Board meeting and explain what it is the HOA wants done. Randy requested to be on the Village Board docket for the upcoming meeting where he will request a burn permit. Will believes that if the cleanup was done more often than the cleanup would only require slight work to maintain moving forward. Will also ask Shawn if stump killer would help control the crack willow growth? Will also inquired about Sprenger Park's pond being a safety issue. Shawn told Randy and the Park Board that the next Village Board meeting is on Monday, February 2, 2015 and everyone is invited.

REPORTS

Chairman Weber:

The Viking, AYLL, people spoke to Jim about field usage. Jim just wanted to know what to say to the organizations.

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

Budget Update Shawn told the Park Board that the Trustees decided not to go after the Special Events or the facility fees at this time but they will still consider them if the financial situation in the village does not improve. The Village Board knows that Shawn needs to start booking the bands and other services related to the summer events so a decision needed to be made to allow for proper organization. Shawn plans on adding addendums to the summer contracts for various events to allow the village to cancel the event with proper notice and time between the cancel date and the event. As of today if we were to back out of the fireworks, we will lose \$4,200.00. Movies in the park will continue whether they cut it or not as long as we locate individual movie sponsors.

At this time the only event that has been cancelled because of the budget concerns is the upcoming Easter Parade which was originally to be held on Saturday, April 4. There is a group that has suggested they would sponsor it, but nothing has been confirmed.

All the parks in the Village will run as they always have. It was asked if the Park Board members could help maintain the parks, Shawn wasn't sure if the insurance would cover them while using any of the Village equipment.

Renting Parks & Senior Building: Shawn has been working on the new rental fees for the Parks. Due to recent changes to the budget questions about possibly considering renting village facilities like the parks and senior building to the public can help to generate additional revenue. Senior center members have expressed interest to money collected for this use of the senior center be booked to the Dolly Speiring fund which is supporting the operation of the center currently. Board members felt that this would be a good thing to investigate and should be continue to locate cost associated with the operations and bring those forward in future meeting for further discussions.

Facility Usage Fee Discussion: Recently the village board considered the idea of charging facility usage fees to the organizations that utilized the facilities around the community. In 2010 or 11 the village board voted to remove the fees associated with usage by the youth organizations like AYLL and Vikings had contributed so much money to the development of the TOSC. In doing so the other organizations like the Waves, AYSO etc... had received the same treatment by not having to pay usage fees any longer.

The issue fee removal created is that when offshoot organizations begin to show up that supply similar activities to a subsection of the population they also do not have any fee scheduled to worry about covering in the use of that facility. Therefore organizations like AYLL, Vikings, etc... would be improving and up keeping fields that not only they are using but secondary organizations are able to utilize the facility without any fees nor any of the upkeep cost associated with their use.

At this time creating a structure of fees associated with the use of the facilities would be beneficial to ensure groups who might not be contributing annual maintenance fees on their own would be required to pay something to help with the annual cost of the facilities they use. Consideration should also be given to how we arrive at an acceptable level of funding that would phase out the fee schedule for the park to ensure groups who annually contribute to the

maintenance through volunteer work and material purchases aren't adversely affected by additional fees.

Shawn has researched some other communities are charging their organizations and he found that Waukegan Park District charges \$150.00 for the first 2 hours and \$50.00 for each additional hour. Shawn has begun to get the fees associated with the use of the Pool for instance it costs \$11.00 per hour to operate on a 24 hour base. Obviously the pool is not open 24 hours so we would spread the cost of the pool over the operational hours which is based on a 14 hour possible use time schedule (8 AM to 10 PM). If you take the cost of gas and electric over a 14 hour period of time daily you have an hourly operational cost of approximately \$20 per hour. Therefore you could charge a group like the waves \$20 per hour of use of the pool which could otherwise be used for additional programming if not being used by the outside organization. This kind of breakdown can be done on each facility to come up with baseline for hourly costing as starting point for a facility fee schedule.

Will Asked Shawn if he had asked the organization to see their last year's budget. Shawn is worried about that if we tacked on a few now, we will lose the work that they are already performing in the park as a tradeoff for no fees currently. Viking Football has requested we put a fee together, because they are losing all their volunteers and in need of help to complete tasks volunteers have been doing for the last 5-7 years. AYLL has gotten sponsors to come and cut their fields in exchange for sponsorship banners as a way to improve the quality of the product that they want to have available to their teams. On the other end we have groups who put money into facilities that really only benefit their group but not general public at large which should not be considered beneficial to the community.

Park board agreed to continue to build out this fee structure and continue discussions moving forward in future meetings.

Fundraising Ideas: Shawn reminded the board of an idea by commissioner Jen Dosch had about running an annual fundraiser using the golf course in a dinner application. Her initial figures came back at around \$24.00 per plate. Shawn indicated his concern for the price quote related to this event figuring that people will have apprehension paying that kind of money per plate for just dinner. Shawn still likes the idea of having a masquerade ball, but we need to find a different location.

Shawn recently received a phone call from the son of a gentleman who helped with the construction of the saw mill inquiring about any way he could possible donate to some sort of commemorative plaque for his father. Shawn had indicated to him that the park board had at one time considered idea of building a walkway and memorial plaque to all of those who donated to the creation of that park. That walkway would be made up of commemorative bricks for all to purchase for family and friends which would ultimately pay for both the walkway and the personalized plaque with the history and the original donor list.

Upcoming Events: Daddy Daughter Date Night is almost sold out. We still need volunteers. The Mother Son Magic Show and Luncheon and the Mother Daughter Bingo Luncheon tickets are on sale, both events are well on their way of being sold out. The 4th of July will be on a Saturday this year, Shawn ask the board if he should have a concert on Thursday before the

4th of July or only on the 4th? The Board all agreed it's probably better if he doesn't have one since the Cruisin Antioch is on Wednesday July 1st, Farmers Market is on Thursday, July 2nd.

Sponsorship: Upcoming Events **Program Supervisor Report**

Camp Crayon Update: Mary told the Board that the Open House that was on January 15th had a nice turn out. The 3 year program had alot of new parents that never had children in this program. Priority registration for the 2015-2016 Camp Crayon program will be on Saturday, January 31st.

Zumba numbers were down in the month of December, due to the holidays. Mary will be meeting with a woman who is interested in teaching yoga. Our current instructor is having health issues, so Mary feels we need a backup person to help out.

The brochure is close to being completed. Mary hopes to have the final copy to the printer the first part of February. Brochures should be ready the first part of March.

Financial Reports

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

Next Meeting: Set for Wednesday, February 18, 2015 @ 7:00 pm

Other Business

Angela suggested having a 4th of July parade float contest between all the HOA's in the community.

Ron Horton had a few questions, when the Rescue Squad dissolved, what happened to all the equipment? Jim explained that they basically gave the equipment away for close to nothing. Ron also inquired about the Dolly Spiering Fund, if the money was split between several groups, and if one of those groups quits, such as the Rescue Squad, what happened to their share of the money. Ron also expressed that he wants to see the Easter parade continue. Ron wants to fund Teen Flashlight Egg Hunt, last year it was such a big hit he hates to see it not happen again. Ron got a chance to help with the Wine Walk this past weekend. While checking out the locations Ron had a chance to talk to some of the wine walkers. A suggestion was given to Ron, Don't be afraid to ask for donations at these events. Ron suggested that all the Park Board Members should be promoting all our events, and asking for donations.

Shawn told the Board that a donation link on our website has been considered. May-be we should have a \$20.00 challenge. Jude has made a calendar for the Park Office, May-be we should consider having calendars made as a fundraising project. Angela suggested that may-be at our events we could sell stickers that people can put on their calendars, we could have a contest at the end of the year. People with the most events attended would win something. Body Craft has offered to sponsor the Classic and Custom Car show that we have in August.

Jim as asked the Board members to bring new ideas for fundraising to the next board meeting.

There being no further discussion, Member Ron Horton moved, seconded by Member Will Martino to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Chairman Jim Weber

Toni Galster, Secretary