

**Village of Antioch
Park Commission Meeting
Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, Illinois
Wednesday, March 18, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER

Park Board Chairman Jim Weber called the March 18, 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, 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 Will Martino moved, seconded by Member Gina Wolf to approve the January 21, 2015 meeting minutes as corrected. Upon voice vote: **Yes:** 6: Angela Brooks, Ron Horton, Gina Wolf, Will Martino, Cedric Johnson, and Jen Dosch **No:** 0. THE MOTION CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS

Will requested that other business starts before the reports. Will was approached by Jon Kotloski of Antioch, regarding Flag Football. Jon asked Will if the Antioch Parks and Recreation Department would be interested in running the NFL Flag Football League in the fall.

Jon approached Viking Football first about starting a fall flag football league for kids in 3rd, and 4th grade, but there was no interest in providing flag football past the current 2nd grade level. Jon explained to the board that he has over 40 kids interested in the flag football league. Parents are pulling their children from tackle Viking Football league once the flag football is done. Jon feels there is a need for this type of league. Jon told the Park Board that he knows firsthand that kids are going up to the Rec Plex and Gurnee to join their Flag Football league. He went on to say, parents are very worried about the safety of their kids in tackle. Jon expressed that the demand is there, and if the Parks and Recreation Department isn't interested in starting this new league, someone will. Shawn indicated to the board that he would approach the Vikings group to ensure that all of the possible conceivable outcomes have been laid on the table. Shawn indicated that whether something like this is undertaken by the parks department or not if there are enough kids we really couldn't stop them from doing this on their own.

Shawn asked the board about inviting the members of Vikings to the next board meeting to discuss with the park board this item. As the village has a good relationship with the Vikings overall we would like to work toward retaining that relationship. At least if Viking executive members attended the next board meeting the board could ask questions to ensure that everyone is comfortable with what might transpire next.

Chairman Weber expressed concerns that if parents had another option and started to pull their kids from the Viking Football program that the program might start to suffer. Unfortunately, if the parents formed their own group similar to how the Vikings and others have done they would be able to do it anyway. This exact situation occurred with AYLL and the creation of the competitive organization in town known as the Bordertown Bandits.

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

Budget Update. With the April 7th election around the corner, the budget is still on hold. If the referendum passes then all the concerts will take place, we won't cut anymore from the budget. If the referendum doesn't pass, we are looking at cutting half the concerts as well as a myriad of other cuts to help makeup the shortfall. Shawn told the Board there is a Village Board meeting on Monday, April 6th the day before the election. The Trustees have several different plans to pick from. The board has already passed a plan A which cut approximately \$191,000 out of the FY 15 budget which will be wrapping up at the end of April. The board also passed a modified plan B which included all of the plan A cuts but added various other cuts to help close the gap starting on May 1 (fiscal year FY 16). The original plan B included cuts to the parks and recreation events and fee increases to the 3rd party groups which use our facilities, which were eventually cut out off the final draft of that resolution. There have been discussions at the board level for the installation of a plan C if the referendum were to fail.

Shawn also told the Board with the Governor's budget recommended cuts of 50% of 1.4 million dollars income tax collections that is normally disbursed to the community each year. If that income tax sweep actually happened it would cost the village \$700,000 in revenue received annually from the state income tax collection.

Ron Horton asked if we should sell the Bittner Property. Shawn told the Board that the money would have to be returned to the Parks Department, since the money to buy came from the Parks department. As for using that money to fund activities other than the purchase of property for parks or development of parks would be prohibited.

Facility Usage Fee Discussion

Shawn talked with the board about details related to the implementation of facility usage fee related to the 3rd party (non-for-profits) that utilize the facilities and staff to complete things related to their fundraising activities. Shawn has detailed items related to the use of TOSC (Tim Osmond Sports Complex) and various other facilities that are being used by baseball, football, soccer, and lacrosse. He indicated that he was still working on the fees schedule but that the board should look over the schedule as of today and make sure it is what they ultimately looking for.

Shawn reminded the board that at this time the village board has no plan to institute fees on the organization but without this fee schedule new requests from outside organizations would provide recovery of cost related to the use of fields by organizations that are not putting thousands of dollars annually into the maintenance of village property. The village realizes that the groups who currently utilize the facilities fund the maintenance programs that exist with limited help from the village in most cases. Shawn asked the board to look over the materials and to comment on their arrangement in future meetings as we begin to hone in on a schedule that makes sense to all involved.

Facility Rental Fees/Agreement

Shawn told the Park Board to review the enclosed page on the Facility Rental Fees that he put together. The Park and Recreation Department has been approached by the public about renting the senior center and parks gym. From the information that was gathered Shawn believes that asking \$25.00 an hour is not unrealistic. Shawn asked the Board to review his finding and email him in the next week their suggestions.

Upcoming Events

4th of July is only a few months away. Shawn needs to get information from the Park Board regarding their thoughts on how to make the 4th of July Parade and Festivities better. Shawn asked the Board their opinion on the Lakes Community Band, if he should have them start the day off instead of ending the day with them. Maybe hire a upbeat band before the fireworks starts.

Angela Brooks would like to see all the subdivisions get involved in making floats for the parade. Shawn agreed that we need a new way of judging the floats and how they are placed in the parade. Shawn has approached the area high school bands to see if they would be interested in performing in the parade, but unfortunately they are not in school and would not be able to participate.

Cedric asked if the people leaving the staging area of the High School could only go west on 173 instead of east. Traffic gets so backed up at this entrance. Angela asked if the radio station could be a part of the day. Shawn reminded them that a radio station would charge us to show up, that is not in our budget.

Jim asked the Board to go over all the ideas that are included in the Park Board packet and email Shawn any other ideas that they may have. Shawn asked the Board if they should go back to the .25 cent for the pool on the 4th or perhaps charge half price, or even just a dollar.

Sponsorship: Upcoming Events Program Supervisor Report

Camp Crayon Update: Registration is still going on for the Camp Crayon. The 4 year old MWF am class is full. The 3 year old Tue/Thurs am class is full and the rest of the classes are now filling up.

Zumba numbers up in January and February. The movies have been chosen for the Summer Movies in the Park. Mary also told the Board that the Parks Department will now be taking registrations for the Summer Day Camp on Thursday, April 9th at 9:00 am in the office, instead of the Saturday signup that they did in the past. Mary will start interviews on Thursday, March 19th for Camp Counselors at the Village Hall.

Financial Reports

Financial Reports for the period ending February 28, 2015 were reviewed. The Village will be working on ways to cut the budget.

Next Meeting: Set for Wednesday, April 22, 2015 @ 7:00 pm

Other Business

Ron told the entire Park Board that he plans on donating his entire years pay from the Park Board back to the Parks Department for upcoming events.

There being no further discussion, Member Cedric Johnson moved, seconded by Member Angela Brooks to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 9:17 p.m.

Chairman Jim Weber

Toni Galster, Secretary