

**Village of Antioch  
Park Commission Meeting  
Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, Illinois  
Wednesday, December 17 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Park Board Chairman Jim Weber called the December 17, 2015 regular meeting to order at 7:02 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, Cedric Johnson, Jen Dosch. Chairman Weber. Others present were: Parks & Recreation Director Shawn Roby. Absent: Angela Brooks, Will Martino and Recording Secretary Toni Galster.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Ron Horton moved, seconded by Member Cedric Johnson to approve the October 21, 2015 meeting minutes as corrected. Upon voice vote: **Yes:** 4: Ron Horton, Gina Wolf, Cedric Johnson, and Jen Dosch **No:** 0. THE MOTION CARRIED.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Mulch questioned the Board about the Village trucks and other dump trucks dumping dirt at the Bittner property. Shawn was not aware of this and will look into it. Jim noted that there was a water main break near Gary's drive and it's possible the dirt is from there.

**REPORTS**

**Chairman Weber:**

Jim told the board that the Village is getting rid of the Ash trees, but there is no time frame as to when the trees will be coming down, or where they will be coming down. Shawn told the board that the trees will be taken down depending on the degree of concern. The bigger ones coming down first. Public works is working on the actual replacement which will probably end up with a 20% of total species throughout the complex and some sort of agreement between homeowner and village. There are some HOA's have stated that they would be happy to help replace the trees in their subdivisions if there was a split on it. Two people from the master HOA did come into open session and agree to work on the replacement program.

Jen told the board when she was in Round Lake they had a similar problem and what they did was they approached the homeowner about their tree, they had 3 options to choose from. First the home owners could take it down asap, the homeowner would replace it with 12 different trees, second option is 50/50 program. The third option the Village will take it down, but they are at the bottom of the list.

Shawn told the board that the village is looking into a possible third party tree vendor to go Co-Op with when purchasing the trees. The plan would be to purchase all the trees from one company at a discount. If the owner of a home wants to purchase the tree themselves, Shawn will look into possible splitting the cost with the homeowner. There are also questions regarding where other trees would be put up through the Village. Jim asked Shawn if the

Village plans on grinding the tree stumps Heron Harbor? Ron Horton told the Board, once Public Works has enough tree stumps they will rent the grinder to do it. There are plans in the works with the Village like the ones that Jen spoke of with the phases. Ron spoke about how the trees need to be placed where there are no water mains, or sewer lines. Shawn told the board that the water main break was caused by the roots of a tree.

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

### **Memorial Brick Program**

A resident came into Shawn's office regarding a memorial brick of some type. Shawn would like to bring it up again. There are many of places to place these bricks. Would it be multiple locations or one location? Centennial Park needs the Boy Scouts to come in and have the bricks retraced. Shawn has been in search for Boy Scouts to do this project. Shawn believes Centennial Park should not be included in the new brick program. Shawn reminded the board that the original idea was to start at the Aqua Center first a few years back. Sell the bricks during the fall and winter, have them installed in the spring. Then sell them in the summer and install in the fall. Shawn would like to go over to the pool count the bricks and decide what bricks in which location would be sold. The brick program could help offset some cost for something like the new water slide cost (\$150,000.00).

Shawn asked the board if they want to bring back this program. If we sell the bricks for the Saw Mill, then the money would only go to the Saw Mill. Expanding on the Sawmill brick program Ron believes that the roots in the Saw Mill area would cause more problems. Shawn recommends the walk way, possible to a brick wall at the end of the path.

Jen thinks the pool would be the best selling point. Shawn doesn't believe there are thousands of bricks to sell. Jim reminded Shawn that we had also discussed selling bricks on the outside of the fence. Larger bricks for businesses. Jen also suggested brick be placed around the pavilion, unfortunately in initial conversations about the direction of the park those bricks might be in a bad place when things get moved around.

Jim would like to see a brick wall built near the grass area of the parking lot and picnic area. This would be the prime example of why we would want a true masterplan for the park so decisions like this are made with the most current plans. Once again a master plan needs to be established first before anything can be done. Once a master plan has been established, the Village will know how much money will be needed to be raised. Shawn expressed to the board that he would like to get together with everyone and discuss where we could build the brick wall, or whatever is decided, and decide how many bricks will be needed and how much.

Another idea came before the Board, changing the location of the fireworks display area. Shawn has considered moving the launching area to Tim Osmond Sports Complex. There are obstacles that would need to be addressed and fixed before even considering the move. Issues like getting sign-off from Waste Management, parking and traffic flow issues as well as placement of the fireworks to provide the best show for the most number of people.

## **2016 Meeting Schedule**

Shawn went over the 2016 meeting schedule, pointing out the changes of the four months of the schedule with \* after them. March, November, and December will all be on Monday due to other meeting schedules or conflicts falling on the Parks Board meeting dates, and June will be one week later than normal simply because of the way the board schedule plays out. The park board meetings are normally the Wednesday following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday.

## **Upcoming Events**

Shawn went over the upcoming events through May. Shawn noted that we have brought back the Flash Light Egg Hunt which will be on Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup> and the Easter Parade and Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.

Shawn told the Board that the North Pole Express has been successfully going well this year. Unfortunately, Angela cannot be our conductor for Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup> run. Shawn has offered Bernadette the job of being the conductor for the day. Next year Shawn has planned on adding 4 more days to the schedule. The North Pole Express will run Tuesday's through Friday the entire month of December. Going from 12 days of the express to 16 days next year.

Ron inquired about the residents getting their tickets first. Shawn assured the Board that all measures are taken to assure this, but unfortunately we cannot stop anyone from buying tickets for non-residents. If they are a resident, they can purchase the ticket and give it to whoever they want. Ron also told the Board that the New Sun did a nice write up on the North Pole Express.

Shawn has been in contact with several companies regarding new Parks and Recreation software. It's down to three companies at this point. At this point our current software is not user friendly so Shawn and his staff have been reviewing these programs. A program will be chosen that best fits the need of the customer and department. In the end we are looking to step up not sideways when choosing a program.

Jen asked Shawn if we could transfer the data over from the old system. Shawn indicated that importing the data from previous system is never recommended and that our data is incomplete and at least out of date. We will start from scratch but offer some interesting marketing campaigns to quickly build the data in the system.

## **Program Supervisor Report**

Mary pointed out to the Board that the Camp Crayon registrations have been steady. When one child leaves to go to Hillcrest, another one has filled that space. This week is Visit with Santa, so far Paul Green was Santa today and did a great job. Tomorrow Mike Culat will be playing Santa for the Camp Crayon kids.

Zumba numbers are falling short from last year. Punch cards are down but walk ins seem to stay busy. The lunch break yoga has been cancelled due to low enrollment. The contractual programs are on a decline, session to session. It seems that 5 Star Sports continue to teach the same things in each class. Shawn and Mary have spoken to Chris and is currently working on changing how the classes are taught. Mary would like to see a level type of class be offered. Once a child finishes level 1 he or she can continue to level 2 and so on.

The Ski and Skate Resale went well. There was \$1700.00 in transactions, 10% of that, \$172.50 went to the Parks Department. Mary was surprised that only 8 pairs of skates were for sale, but they had plenty of skis, poles, boots on hand.

**Next Meeting:** Set for Wednesday, January 20, 2016 @ 7:00 pm

### **Financial Reports**

Financial Reports for the period ending November 30, 2015, were reviewed. The Village will be working on ways to cut the budget. Jim asked how much money will we have for the parks next year? Shawn told the Board he will have those numbers next meeting. Right now he wasn't sure of the budget yet. Shawn will be re-submitting plans for the tennis courts, playground equipment, Pedersen Park parking lot and waterslide. As this process moves along we should be able to bring those to the board.

### **Other Business**

Ron wanted to express his feelings about how wonderful the Christmas tree looks this year. Cedric inquired about the trees again. And if they are in the feasible plan.

Jen asked Shawn why can't the village purchase St. Peters School for the Parks Department. Shawn indicated that he has expressed to administration some interest in figuring out if that is feasible but has done nothing more than that at this point.

Jen also inquired about the TOSC bolts that she found in a previous meeting were ever fixed. Shawn told Jen that Public Works had been out to the park and could not find any problems. He asked her to send pictures and exact location of the problem area. Jen told Shawn that he will take the guys out to the park herself and show them the problems.

Shawn wanted the Board to know that staff is having discussion with Anytime Fitness for programming regarding fitness classes and other items as well. Mary wants to add fitness programs to our brochure. Anytime Fitness has a fitness on demand system which is an automated video program in which you work out to the instructor on a video. Some thoughts are centering around the idea of moving Zumba to Anytime Fitness and reprogramming the parks building but if that was to happen it would be in the future.

Shawn and Mary will be approaching Antioch Golf Club to promote more programs with them.

Jim asked Shawn about the Ice Rink. The weather is not helping Shawn told the Board. The weather has not been cooperative this year but hopefully that will change shortly.

There being no further discussion, Member Jen Dosch moved, seconded by Member Cedric Johnson to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 8:07 p.m.

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Chairman Jim Weber

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Toni Galster, Secretary