

**Village of Antioch
Park Commission Meeting
Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, Illinois
Thursday, November 14, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

Park Board Chairman Jim Weber called the November 14, 2016 regular meeting of the Park Board 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, Jen Dosch, Gina Wolf, Jeff Rosenthal, Cedric Johnson arrived at 7:10 pm. alternate Commissioner Mark Tarkowski and Chairman Jim Weber. Others present were: Parks and Recreation Director Shawn Roby, Program Supervisor Mary Quilty, Recording Secretary Toni Galster. Absent; Paul Hettich

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Ron Horton moved, seconded by Member Jen Dosch to approve the September 21, 2016 meeting minutes as corrected. Upon voice vote: **Yes:** 5: Mark Tarkowski Abstained from voting. **No:** 0. THE MOTION CARRIED. Absent were; Paul Hettich.

COMMUNICATIONS

REPORTS

Chairman Weber: Chairman Weber introduced Mark Tarkowski to the Board. Shawn explained that Mark will fill in for Paul Hettich when he is out of town. Mark told the Board about his family, and business background and that is biggest hobby is his Christmas light show his puts on at his home during the Christmas Season.

Director of Parks & Recreation: Shawn Roby

4th of July Discussion:

Shawn went over all the new items that he would like to see for next year's 4th of July celebration parade and events. Shawn would like the Park Board members to encourage their HOA's to enter floats in the parade. Shawn also mentioned that next year will be the Village's 125th anniversary so the parade will be supersized. Shawn is considering possibly getting a few bands to ride in the parade and hopefully they will entertain at Williams Parks before the fireworks. Mark explained about open air lines, then asked Shawn if it would be possible to have the parade connected to a FM tuner so anyone with a radio could listen to what is going on and being announced. Ron would like the tractors and old cars spread out throughout the parade, rather than having them all together. Jim asked Shawn if the school bands where going to perform in the parade next year. Shawn is contacting the school to see if it is possible. Jim also questioned about the vehicles that don't decorate, how will we handle this situation.

125th Year Celebration and Committee:

Shawn told the Board that the activities for the 125th Celebration will mainly be focused in the month of July. Starting with the 4th of July, followed by the Taste of Summer, which will be supersized, and ending the month with the Lions BBQ. Shawn has expressed to all the organizations that if anyone of them is interested in having an event he will need their information regarding their event as soon as possible if they want him to advertise in the upcoming Connections Newsletter. Ainsley Brooks and Jude Kaider are currently working on the Antioch History book. The Parks department will be hosting the events at the Williams Park Pavilion. New this year, we are considering a tug of war canoeing event in the pool. Shawn is hoping to have more family friendly events. Barbara will be hosting the Taste of Antioch and will have at least 5 bands on Saturday during the event. A balloon drop and 500 cupcakes. The Lions club will be supersize their Auction to end the month of celebration.

Park Rentals Beyond Pavilions Alone:

Shawn explained to the Park Board that the Village normally does not rent the fields to anyone but the Local Sports Organizations. We have a group that has been renting the pavilion for an activity but in the last few years has begun to take over more of the park. We have been fortunate that most their events occur outside of the window when baseball is using the field but Shawn feels that it could be problems in the future if other organizations want to rent the entire park. Toni researched the surrounding area Park Districts to see what they are charging for the use of their parks and fields. Most communities only rent their pavilions only. The fields are usually reserved for their local sports organizations. Shawn explained how the fees for the Non-For-Profit fees were dropped originally. When Mike Kudla was Director he was approached by some of the leaders of the organizations about the use of the fields, and how they maintain the fields, build buildings. The Village Board decided in exchange for maintaining the fields, they would drop their rental fees.

The parks board recommended a fee be charged to for-profit business that are running activities that are using more than just the pavilion area for activities moving forward. For instance, a renter if available guarantee space for their group on a baseball diamond or tennis court for specific times by paying for those spaces above their rental pavilion.

Swim Lessons:

The Village has not raised the price of the swim lessons since 2006. Shawn has suggested the following price changes. An increase to \$55.00 for Antioch Residents (currently \$50) and \$65.00 for anyone living outside the 60002-zip code (currently \$50). Shawn also suggested when the Parks Department start taking swim lesson registration, the residents should be able to sign up for 1 or all 3 sessions right away. Shawn has suggested that residents would get the first 3 weeks to sign up, then after the 3rd week anyone can register.

Shawn would like to see our instructors teaching parent tot lessons the week before regular swim lessons start and the week after the swim lessons end.

Shawn told the board that aqua Zumba was a big hit this past summer, so he has suggested adding additional days next season, he would also like to see possibly water aerobics. Mary is currently talking to Colletti's Physical Therapy to see if they would be interested in teaching a strength training class in the whirlpool.

Shawn spoke to the board about getting the Waves Swim Team more involved with the Aqua Center next year.

Contractual Agreement Discussion:

Jeff questioned Shawn about if the Parks Department is offering the same programs as the Viking organization. Jeff feels we should be combining forces. Shawn explained that the Parks programs start at the age of 3 and our classes are only 6 weeks long. This gives the child/parent a chance to see if they like it and would consider continuing in that sport without signing a contract and spending allot of money only to find that they do not like the program. Basically, the parks department in most cases is a starter program and that our 3rd party affiliates are were children will find true competition if they are looking for that.

Shawn explained to the board that there are concerns related to contractors signing up parks customer by offering a cheaper rate through them.

Our Contractual Agreement is 20% of the fee goes to the Parks Department and 80% goes to the instructor. Unfortunately, once a child has gone through a class the instructor seems to convince the parent to sign a contract with them and bi-pass us. Shawn has asked the park board to come up with ideas on how the parks department should change the way they do business with these outside contractors. Shawn has suggested charging the contractors a flat fee or an advertising fee of \$100.00 a year just to be included in the program guide plus their 20% contractor fee.

Mary is currently working on freeing up space in the Parks building to start new programs.

NRPA Recap:

Shawn spoke to the Park Board about his recent Parks & Recreation Conference that he attended in St. Louis. Shawn spoke about the branding essentials on how to attract partnerships, how reimagining neighborhood parks could work in Antioch. Shawn also spent time reviewing new playground equipment. Shawn told the board that he has downloaded about 20 presentations of various classes that he could not attend due to lack of time. If any of the Board members were interested in these presentations, Shawn will forward them.

Upcoming Events:

Shawn went over the upcoming events, Christmas Parade and tree lighting and the North Pole Express. Ron told Shawn he would love to see the street lights that are on the parade route come on at the beginning of the parade, when Ron worked for the Village the Public Works would not turn the lights on until the parade started.

Ski and Skate sale is on Saturday, Shawn requested all Park Board members to please take down the Resale signs from their subdivision entrances on Saturday after 12 noon.

Shawn told the Park Board that there will be NO Ice Rink this year.

Program Supervisor Report:

Mary spoke to the Park Board regarding the currently programs that the Parks Department offers. Since parks does not have allot of space to hold classes we rely on District 34 and gym availability. The parks department does have the first right of refusal to use the gyms, which helps but when the school decides to have an event we are kicked out of the school, sometimes with only a weeks' notice or shorter. Mary did tell the Park Board she is currently working on new programs. Zumba has been

declining for the past year, Mary told the park board that with so many Zumba instructors in Antioch having classes in their homes. The concerns are that with so many options have we come to a point of moving on from offering this program at least as often as we do today. The parks department will be offering a photography class starting in January for adults.

A Child's Place has approached the parks department to form a relationship and partner where it makes sense. Mary has indicated that there might be a natural partnership as in some cases we have parents who need day care while at the same time wanting to have their child in camp crayon. Currently we are working out logistics and legal documents to be able to provide this service.

Mary told the park board that Hotshots is a new sports contractor offering different types of sports classes. We had Hotshots at the Monster Mash Bash where they could meet parents and introduce themselves to the kids.

Mary also told the Park Board about Skyhawks Sports and how they will be offering 1 week camps for Flag Football and Cheering Leading next summer.

Mary spoke about the Go Antioch programs with AAHAA. The club meets on Saturdays at 9:00 am at Williams Park, they walk through town for approximately 30 minutes each Saturday. The members are wearing Teal Blue shirts.

Financial Reports:

Financial Reports for the period ending September 30, 2016 were reviewed. The Village will be working on ways to cut the Budget.

Next Meeting: Set for Tuesday, December 13, 2016 @ 7:00 pm.

Other Business: None

There being no further discussion, Member Cedric Johnson moved, seconded by Member Gina Wolf to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Chairman Jim Weber

Toni Galster, Secretary