

Village of Antioch Park Commission- 7:00 P.M.
Antioch Senior Center – 817 Holbek Drive Antioch

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

Park Board Chairman Jim Weber called the April 21, 2021 regular meeting of the Park Board to order at 7:06 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the following Commissioners were present: Rentner, Hettich, Wolf, Rosenthal, Flade and Chairman Weber, Others present were: Parks & Recreation Acting Director and Program Supervisor Mary Quilty, Village Board Liaison Mary Pedersen and, Park Board Secretary Toni Galster, Absent Commissioner Johnson.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Antioch Park Commissioners led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Flade moved, seconded by Member Hettich to approve the March 17, 2021 minutes with corrections from Commissioner Wolf. Upon roll call, the vote was:

Yes: 5:

No: 0.

Absent:

5. COMMUNICATIONS

None

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mary, Jim Weber and Jim Keim met with Northbridge Church to discuss future projects in Antioch. They will not be painting Centennial Park, but they are looking for some type of project. Jim mentioned that possibly have them plant trees in May in some of our parks. Mary told the Board that Northbridge Church does not want to do any projects that would require any future maintenance. Sharefest in the past has always had at least 100 people working. But with Covid 19, they are limited to 50 people or less. They would like a project that all 50 people can be included in. Jim would like to see Centennial Park get at least one more year out of it, and the Village should do everything possible to fix the problems for now. In the next year the Park Board should be looking into ideas on Fundraising and Grants that can be raised to replace the park, in either the current location or on the Bittner Property. Jim would like to see the next park have ADA compliance so everyone, including kids in wheelchairs be able to enjoy the park. Jim would like to see any projects planned for the Sawmill to be put on hold until the Marketing Firm has a chance to review and create a marking plan for it. As for a Park District, Jim asked "Could it happen?" more taxes on the Village of Antioch? The Village just passed the referendum for the Library but not on the Fire Department, will they pass anything on the Parks Department? Jim would like to wait on that until the marketing firm has had a chance to review all the future possibilities. Jeff asked Mary what would the cost of surveying the residents

regarding the future of a Park District? Paul told the Board that a Park District is a separate taxing body. The Marketing firm would be able to answer these types of questions. Mary Pedersen told the Board that they will need to find out if the schools will have any referendums in the future that they will be trying to pass in the future that would stop the possibilities of a future Park District.

Jim asked about the bricks at Centennial Park, the bricks are in desperate need of repair and replacing, Jim asked if it is possible to contact the brick owners to see if they would like to pay for new bricks? Lori asked if the Village plans on tearing down the old park, why would anyone want to replace these bricks? Jim explained that the new bricks will help pay for the new park and would not be installed until the new park is built. Lori expressed that we need to know what we plan on doing first before approaching the residents on replacing their existing bricks. Toni asked if it is possible to save the existing bricks and build something with them, a wall or something that people won't be walking on them and destroying them any further. Mary asked the Board to come up with an idea for the Park and bring them to the next COW meeting that will be on April 28th to voice their opinions to the Village Board. Mary told the Board that we as an Advisory Board, we need their approval before we can move forward. Northbridge Church has a grant writer and would like to help raise funds for a future park. Mary talked about the Harmony Park from Effingham IL. that she emailed all the Park Commissioners. The community raised over \$800,000.00 for this park over 3 years ago. Mary would like to see a park like this replace Centennial Park in the future. This community sold pieces of their park to sponsors, and they did it in stages. Mary Pedersen mentioned to the Board that AbbVie Inc. in the past has helped communities with fundraising money to help with parks. Jeff asked if the Village will offer seed money to start researching the fundraising ideas for the Park. Jeff also asked if the grants will help pay for small portions of the parks? Mary told the Board that they can apply for many different grants to help pay for different parts of the park. Mary Pedersen told the Board that the Village has the biggest part of the park, the land. Jeff mentioned that the Clublands needs a playground for the park. Mary mentioned that the Impact Fees should help pay for the playground equipment.

Jim thanked Toni for a great Easter Parade and Egg Hunts. It was very organized and well received by the residents of Antioch.

Jim told Mary that the bike path that runs through Osmond Brothers Park is still holding water. Mary told the Board that the invoice still has not been paid. Dennis was told by Jim that he will call the engineering firm the next time there is a heavy rain fall and have them come out to the bike path to see and figure out what they need to do to fix the problem.

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

i). **Village Budget**

Mary told the Board that the 2021 Budget has been passed by the Village Board.

ii). **4th of July upgrade**

The Village Board passed the upgrade to \$30,000.00 in Fireworks.

iii). **Northbridge Church / Centennial Park**

We already spoke about Northbridge Church when Jim spoke.

iv). **Skatepark**

Mary asked the Board if they have read the emails that she sent them regarding the Skate park? The kids are requesting the Village replace the Skate with a cement skatepark.

Their plan would be replacing the park and the kids would start shopping and supporting our local businesses and they could start meeting other skaters.

v). **Senior Center**

Mary sent all the Park Board Commissioners the video of the Seniors Dancing on Friday night in the parking lot of the Senior Center. The Center is looking to be open full time in June.

8. PROGRAM SUPERVISOR REPORT

i. **Camp Crayon Preschool Update**

Camp Crayon registration is slow and steady. Mary told the Board the closer we get to fall; the classes will fill up.

ii. **Summer Day Camp**

Summer Day Camp is filling up fast, there are already 135 kids registered. The 10:10 am swim class that the campers usually sign up for is now full. Dawn is now offering the 8:30 am timeslot for them. Mary will have parents drop them off at the pool and our camp counselors will be picking them up and bringing them to wherever their group is at.

iii. **Sports**

Hotshots is doing very well with registration. Looks like parents are signing their kids up again for all the classes.

9. SPECIAL EVENT COORDINATOR REPORT

1. **Easter Re-Cap**

Toni explained the parade and how well it went. Lori Flade did an amazing job being the Easter Bunny this year. Paul Hettich and Lori also helped with the Flashlight Egg Hunt. This year even though we could only sell 50 wristbands in each egg group we still were able to make a profit.

2. **Community Garden**

At this point only 6 people have signed up for 8 plots.

3. **Summer Wine Walk**

Wine Walk Tickets are now on sale. The 1:00-4:00 pm timeslot is at 99 tickets while the 12:00-3:00 pm is only at 56.

4. **Mother Daughter Bingo**

Mother Daughter Bingo is a sell out. All three timeslots are full. Lunch will be provided by Piggly Wiggly. All the prizes have been donated by Toni and Lisa as well as the Parks Department.

5. Daddy Daughter Bowling Night

The Daddy Daughter Bowling Night is moving very slow. Antioch Upper Grade is supposed to have their graduation on the same night. Lori Flade told the Board that AUGS just announced that they are now having graduation on May 22nd. This should help with ticket sales. The 5:00 pm timeslot is at 60 people and the 7:00 pm is only at 11. If the ticket sales for the 7:00 pm timeslot doesn't pick up, then Toni will need to be combining the 2 timeslots to 5:00 pm

6. Upcoming Events

Everything is ready to go for the Summer Concerts and Street Market. The Moose is on board with serving food and alcohol. They will be getting their permits in the next few weeks. All bands are under contract.

10. FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Reports for the period ending March 31, 2021 Nothing that is standing out on this report.

Next Meeting: May 19, 2021 Park Walk will be at Sprenger Park at 6:30 pm

Other Business:

Mary told the Board that Amy is bringing internet to the Pool. It will help with security, and the computer system. Jeff asked her if residents will be able to connect to the WIFI, Mary told him yes. Bill asked if it was possible to get a meeting plan together for the next meeting regarding the parks, before they go to the COW at the end of the month. Bill also wanted to thank Mary for her weekly updates. Paul thanked Toni for all her work on the Easter Parade and Egg Hunts, he felt a lot of energy from the crowd as he marched down Main Street. Paul commented on the emails that Mary received from the 2 young men regarding the skate park and their lack of education when putting to sentences together. Paul also mentioned that the Antioch VFW Hall will be fully open on June 1st, everything will be back to normal including Bingo. Paul mentioned that all the events that are planned at the VFW are also sold out. Kids are excited to get involved again. Paul also told the Board that he is planning a Memorial Day Service to honor a Soldier that died in 1812, they found his grave marker in Hillside Cemetery. The service will be on Monday, Memorial Day at 10:30 am at Hillside Cemetery. Paul will be sending out invites and updates as they come available. Gina thanked Mary for her updates.

There being no further discussion, Member Flade moved, seconded by Member Hettich to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 8:21 pm.

Chairman Jim Weber

Toni Galster, Secretary