

Village of Antioch Park Commission

Wednesday, September 20th, 2023

6:30 p.m. Village Hall 874 Main Street Antioch, IL 60002

1. Call to Order

Park Board Chairman Jim Weber called the Wednesday September 20th, 2023, regular meeting of the Park Board to order at 6:29pm.

2. Roll Call

Libby Deischel	Y	Jodi Klemm	Y
Paul Hettich	N	Dave Olufs	Y
Chris Hartman	Y	Chairman Jim Weber	Y
Samantha Misch	Y		

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Antioch Park Commissioner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Minutes

Member Chris Hartman moved, seconded by Member Sam Misch to approve the September 20th, 2023, minutes. All in favor?

Yes: 5

No:

Absent: 1

5. Public Comment: None

6. Communications: Jim Weber asked if there were any extra business, Sam Misch asked what is happening w/Board Meeting if they plan on finishing the conversation? Jim replied, yes.

7. Chairman's Reports: Jim welcomed new members to the Park Board and asked if they would share a bit about themselves. Libby Deischel, family has been here since 2015 but her husband has been a Teacher for AHS for 22 yrs. Looking for ways to give back to the community. Jodi Klemm, who is a native of Antioch, looking to help wherever she can. Dave Olus has been in area since 2004, from Libertyville, moved permanently here in 2017, loves the area and ways to help if he can. Jim Weber followed up with he's been Park Board Chairman for 19 years.

8. Directors Report: Mary shared that she obtained everyone's phone numbers and addresses off our system, if it would be ok to share these or if they would rather

different numbers or not at all. All said it is fine. Mary "Re: Master plan, for the next phase, 7 Objectives and to go thru them as a group.

- Jim started with Wood chips are needed for Peterson Park & Mary added that woodchips are not for playground surfaces and Centennial Park is the main objective.
- Jim Weber- Saw Mill needs a new wheel, it is ready to fall off and the maybe even build another,
- Mary- Going into Capital Planning, let's get estimates & maybe designer for Centennial and Sawmill. It comes down as a group to fight for these things-at a Board Meeting
- Jim- If we start with a path (blacktop) around the entire Park to make it accessible to everyone
- Mary-Centennial Park is more than a playground, it's Pickle Ball, Tennis, etc., and people want separate Pickle Ball Courts. Will it be sustained over the years? We need to have both. People don't like playing PB on the Tennis Courts, it takes up so much space to have Both.
- Chris asked "why can't you have Tennis @ Centennial and Pickle Ball at Jensen?"
- Jim-Recreational is not just for Pickle Ball or Tennis, it's there for everyone.
- Libby-Have one Park strictly for Tennis, the other PB.
- Mary agreed, as the courts aren't the same-different heights & lines.
- Sam asked if there are adjustable nets, Jim replied they will get destroyed.
- Chris- what is the Data that the Community would want.
- Mary -AT the Strategic Planning, only ppl showed & 7 were PB players. People want to learn it.
- Mary- "12 Spots available and street pkg. as well. (Centennial) At Jensen, there are 3 tennis courts with 4 PB courts painted within them. Centennial maybe get a landscape Architect to look at the park.
- Chris-I thought Hitchcock was doing the survey on what ppl wanted.
- Mary-We will need to be asking the community & Board. It will take time. **Objective # 4** is our priority right now, going forward on Master Plan. Building a Rec Ctr. Is not an option. We don't have any indoor rec space, W/Basketball courts, classrooms, etc., we don't see that. Town is screaming for updating Parks & Trails/Bike Paths. We need more for kids, we only have Depot to Deep Lake (w/out bike path Deep Lk.), we need kids safe, using Bike Paths.
- Libby-Let's look at what can be done now, as a group let's look at the top 3 Priorities.

- Jim-Starting with Sawmill & Centennial, looking to get approved to move forward, to be able to get started by next year Spring/Summer. Libby suggested taking it in phases, with manageable pieces of equipment, Mary stated start with a design & ideas; fundraising & spearheading to help community.
- Mary-This will be taking Points for the next month, so we can keep track of where we're at. **Centennial is Priority #1**, reaching out to older community as they helped build it, brainstorm on promoting & presenting this. Along with the Perimeter around the Park, **#2 Priority, the Sawmill**, new wheel is a must. Also, a Grant for Fishing Pier @ Pedersen Pk, as we are still doing a board walk along the water in answer to Jim's question.

9. Programs Supervisor Report:

- **Camp Crayon:** Numbers are down, but they are still great compared to 2022.
- **Pool Revenue:** by using Concessions at swim meets, which raised \$1200-\$1500 extra, helped a lot w/amount of time we had to close pool due to weather, etc. And by lowering the temp down 2 degrees last year, cut our bill down by a lot! She is also Certified to do Certifications for Lifeguard's, which saves a lot of money as well.
- **Plans Fall/Winter:** Dawn added Zumba and Barre Class (group exercise), which is new to Parks.
- **Wine Walk:** We ordered Bags, they have been delayed, but all will be ok, we will use old bags if we have to. Radion Station has been advertising for it, and our Photo Booth is a mini-Volkswagen. There will be a 1-man band by Station 51 and Something Sweet. Mary invited all at 10am to Senior Center if they are interested to see how it all comes together.
- **Halloween House Decorating:** We need judges, cannot be a part of Antioch to judge the houses, we have 2 now, hoping for 12-20.
- Chris Hartman asked if we highlight more scheduled events for our kids, and more often, and maybe have a link to the specific event, not in the General Catalog, as it's too confusing. Mary said "It is, every Tues/Thurs/Sun we are on schedule to highlight upcoming events.

Financial Report: Mary stated that when she started, our Summer Day Camp (10 years ago) made \$80,000 and this last summer it made \$432,000. Awesome!

Special Events: Mary explained that Mark Sural is now overseeing this, but it is being charged under our budget, for the Parks and Rec.

Jim said "Mark should be here to explain the budget then" Mary said she would tell him.

Mary said "The Laser Light Show, March Madness, that is under Mark.

Jim said "Come to a Board Meeting, we would like transparency, why isn't Mark here & worrying about the bags, and the budget?"

Mary replied, "We have teamwork and keep pushing forward."

Mary: "we are updating our website, we need another layer, Jodi said postage on Parks guide is high, maybe look @ email blasts, etc. Libby asked if we could look at putting some of the brochure in Spanish as that would help!

Sam suggested putting a link right into the event on lien, and it would make it so easy.

Mary said that was a great idea, Friday's updates, Chris asked if we aren't doing them?

Mary said Noone was reading them, to my knowledge, but I will do them then, starting next Friday.

Mark Sural came in at the end of the meeting, and Jim Weber asked Mark about the bags, and the budget. Mark responded the for a little bit it will be a mix, they will be separate budgets by next year. Marks's and the Parks and Rec.

Dave asked about 2023 Agenda/Meetings on website. The only ones placed are Jan/Feb/March, but nothing else is offered. For 2022 that was pretty good, 2023 not so much.

Libby asked about Scholarships, making them better known, having info on different organizations, like Open Arms, Lending Closet, etc. Also putting those in Spanish for our Guide

Mary responded, "that we do offer it, and it is out there."

11. **Next Meeting:** 6:30 pm

12. **Other Business:** None

Adjournment: There being no further discussion, Member Chris moved, seconded by member Samantha to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 8:05pm.

Chairman James A. Weber

Beth DiPersio, Secretary

