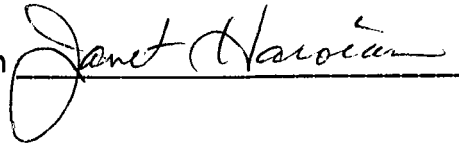


**Recreation Arts and Special Events
Board Meeting Minutes
February 2nd, 2021**

Approved Signature: /s/ J. Haroian



By Approval Date: 3/2/21

- I. Meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm by Janet Haroian. The meeting was held in person at City Hall and on Zoom. Janet Haroian, Charles Schmidt, and Tanner Alexander attended the meeting via Zoom. James Arnold attended via phone call. Suzanne Weiss and Josh Fark attended in person.

Park staff in attendance at City Hall included Nate Tingley, Trevor Spohr, and Trina Vetter. The Police Department was represented by Lt. Chris Byrne who attended at City Hall. The Edwardsville Public Library was represented by Jill Schardt.

- II. Minutes read from December 1st, 2020 meeting – Haroian entertained a motion to pass the minutes, Weiss motioned to pass the minutes, and Fark seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

III. Events and Facilities Requests:

- a) **Edwardsville Public Library: Book Festival-Book Festival**-Jill Schardt spoke about the festival. The first book festival was in 2019 and was successful. A virtual book festival event was held in 2020. The library hopes to hold an event similar to the one in 2019 on September 4th, 2021. There will be food vendors, used and new book vendors, crafts, and an area for kids. Weiss asked if the library takes donations for books received. Schardt clarified that new books are sold by authors and used books are sold by Edwardsville Library Friends. The fees from the used books goes back to the library for programming. Arnold made a motion to pass the event, and Alexander seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

IV. Recreation Report

- a) Spohr gave an update in person.
- b) Spohr mentioned that they have been receiving applications for the Parks and Sports Coordinator. The Parks and Sports Coordinator will work full-time under Spohr's supervision and will start in March. Responsibilities of the Parks and Sports Coordinator will include directly overseeing rentals, staff, games, youth sports, and adult leagues at Plummer Park.

- c) Registration for youth softball, adult softball, youth sand volleyball, and adult kickball has opened.
- d) Future programs include pickleball leagues and tournaments, adult and youth flag football leagues and adult and youth soccer leagues at Plummer. All of these will take place at Plummer. In addition, there will be a women's tennis league, tennis lessons, a 3 by 3 basketball tournament at Winston Brown, an adult slow-pitch tournament at Winston Brown, and 2 youth sand volleyball tournaments.
- e) For Plummer Family Park, reservations are open for this year, and so far, there are 28 baseball and softball and 2 soccer tournaments. At this time, they are still working with mitigation restraints which means no baseball or softball tournaments until tier 1. Spohr included graphs in his report which showed the availability at Plummer for the 4 fields.
- f) Spohr mentioned in his quarterly report that Plummer is doing well, adult softball and kickball were very successful and the plan for this coming year is to invest more funds in the Winston Brown fields. Haroian asked if there was any new technology that could help with improving the fields. Tingley said that the problem is the fields are not leveled.

V. Program Report

- a) Vetter gave an update in person.
- b) Vetter spoke about the Winter Market on December 5th, 2020. The Winter Market went well. Adjustments were made at the last minute to allow for more space between the vendors to meet COVID-19 guidelines.
- c) Another holiday event was the Tour lights. People registered their own holiday lights or ones that they knew of, and Vetter put them on a map for people to visit. It was successful as well.
- d) Another new holiday event was the Elf boxes. Vetter bought craft kits, reindeer food, cookie kits and other materials for 100 boxes. Boxes were \$20 a piece, and sold very quickly. Spohr drove the boxes to the patrons. In the future, planning a route will be done ahead of time.
- e) The last holiday event was the Santa Letters. There was a fee for the letter, and it included a personalized photo.
- f) The snowball scramble was in January. Vetter spread out letters with the sponsor's logo in the parks. When people found the letters, they wrote them down to make words. There were 22 participants.

- g) The Snow'd in Kits are still for sale, and they have been receiving positive reviews.
- h) The Daddy Daughter Dance has been postponed.
- i) Mayor's Fitness Challenge-Registration is open, but the event does not start until February 15th. The challenge is between Edwardsville, Glen Carbon, Maryville, and Collinsville. Maryville residents will register on Collinsville's website, and Glen Carbon will register on Edwardsville's website. When you exercise, record the amount of minutes you exercise, and then report it. The Parks Departments will keep a running tally. The winning community will get a trophy and hopefully a t-shirt for every participant in the community.
- j) Shoebox Parade-Mardi Gras Themed-this event will be similar to the one in September, but with a Mardi-Gras theme. In addition, there will be a Mardi Gras Bead Bonanza where beads will be left around the parks to help promote the parade.
- k) Fark asked where residents can go to find out more about special events. Vetter said that events are posted on the website and social media but she is open to new ideas.
- l) Vetter commented on the Santa House portion of the quarterly report. New decorations were purchased this year through the tourism fund.

VI. Director's Report

- a) Tingley said that staff went back into the office when the region went into Tier 2. Tingley also commented that positivity rate has decreased for the area, but the ICU bed availability is still low. We are in Tier 2 because we are following the state's guidelines.
- b) Tingley gave an update about several parks. Glik Park has had trees trimmed and received a fresh coat of mulch. Future plans include fixing the memorial sign in front of the park as well as the dumpster.
- c) Lusk Park-the Edwardsville Beautification and Tree Commission is paying for the trimming of the trees at the park.
- d) DRDA Woods-the laborers have been going through the planted trees to determine which are alive or dead. If the trees are dead, they are removing tree tubes and reusing them on new trees. Tingley said he is also working with Heartlands Conservancy and a farmer on the bottom field to return it to its natural state.
- e) Leclair Park-trees have been trimmed and 2 spring riders have been installed. One of the spring riders was donated by Friends of Leclair and another one was donated by a

father in memory of his son. There is also an issue with the men's restroom which is going to be worked on.

- f) SIUE Pool-Tingley said that they are working on deciding whether to renew the lease or not for the upcoming year.
- g) TheCENTER-Tingley gave an update on the project. He shared a promotional packet through his computer. Right now we are in the bid phase, and are taking bids through the 18th. Tingley also spoke about how to make a donation. There will also be a trail that connects to the building. The PARC grant has been extended for the project and the Glen Carbon Intergovernmental agreement has been approved.
- h) The Nickle Plate station is being restored. Tingley is working with Alderman Morrison to see how multiple groups can benefit from the building.

There were no public comments at this meeting.

Haroian entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Schmidt motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Weiss seconded it. The meeting was adjourned unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 PM.

The next meeting will not be held until March 2nd, 2021

Minutes submitted by: Amy Baxter