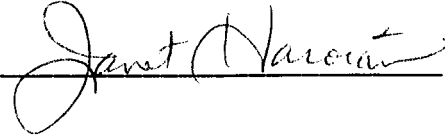


**Recreation Arts and Special Events
Board Meeting Minutes
March 2nd, 2021**

Approved Signature: /s/ J. Haroian



By Approval Date: 4-6-21

- I. Meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm by Janet Haroian. The meeting was held in person at City Hall and on Zoom. Members in attendance at City Hall were Janet Haroian, Suzanne Weiss, Charles Schmidt, and Josh Fark. Tanner Alexander attended via Zoom.

Parks staff in attendance at City Hall included Nate Tingley, Trina Vetter, and Amy Baxter. Trevor Spohr attended via Zoom. The Police Department was represented by Lt. Chris Byrne who attended at City Hall. St. Boniface Church was represented by Dale Renken who attended via Zoom.

- II. Minutes read from February 2nd 2021 meeting – Weiss made a motion to pass the minutes, Fark seconded the motion. The motion to pass the minutes was passed unanimously.

III. Events and Facilities Requests:

- a) **St. Boniface Church:** Run for Bonifest-Renken gave a summary on the event. The run will be similar to the events in the past. The organization is transferring the application fee from last year's Bonifest event to pay for this year's event. The event was canceled last year due to COVID-19. The event will be on Saturday, May 29th, at 8 am. It is 2 hour run. Registrations will be online and in person. Everything will be taking place outside. There will also be a raffle, and the drawing will be done around noon on the day of the event. An application for the raffle has been submitted. A discussion occurred with COVID-19 regulations and the number of people that is expected to attend the event. Renken expected there to be a staggered start, social distancing, and no masks to be worn while running. Tingley confirmed that the event might be allowed if the groups were kept to 50 or less people. If people were less than 6ft apart then they would need to wear a mask. Schmidt made a motion to pass the event on the contingency that the event organizers work with the police department to meet state COVID-19 guidelines set forth by the Illinois Department of Public Health. If restrictions become stricter before the event, the event will be canceled. Alexander seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

IV. Recreation Report

- a) Spohr gave update while on Zoom. Canee' Brown will be the new Parks and Sports Coordinator. Her tentative start date is March 15th.
- b) The Parks and Recreation Department is hiring for summer positions, including supervisors and concessionaires. A new position this year is Sports Park Maintenance. The employee will empty trash and clean restrooms for the rentals.
- c) Spohr gave an update on sports leagues registration. Pee wee t-ball has filled up. If the wait list goes to 20, more slots will be opened. Pee wee t-ball starts May 1st. Youth softball registration is doing well. Kindergarten and 1st grade will play t-ball, 2nd and 3rd grade will be coach pitch, and 4th and 5th grade will be machine pitch. 6th through 8th grade will be player pitch.
- d) Co-ed adult kickball will be at Winston Brown on Monday nights and the Women's league will be at Plummer Park on Thursday nights. Registration is doing well.
- e) Youth sand volleyball will have 2 summer leagues. One will start at the beginning of summer and the other one in the middle. There will also be two summer tournaments.
- f) A new program this year is NFL Flag Football which is affiliated with the NFL. There are 5 divisions open. Spohr mentioned that he is reaching out to local high schools.
- g) Men's and co-ed softball are going to be Tuesday and Thursday nights at Winston Brown.
- h) Women's tennis league and individual lessons will also be open this summer.
- i) Pickleball leagues and tournaments are also new this year. There will be a blitz Monday night league where someone pays \$5 at the door, and plays 5 or 6 games. The winner gets a medal or t-shirt. A doubles league will be on Wednesday nights. A pickleball tournament is scheduled for May 15th, and a September tournament is in the works.
- j) Spohr mentioned that there are several programs in the works for the future: flag football tournament for adults, an adult soccer league, a 3 by 3 tournament and league, and an adult slow pitch tournament.
- k) Spohr gave an update on Plummer Family Park. The weekend's tournament had to be canceled due to low enrollment. Almost 600 rentals for baseball and softball are scheduled for the future, not including tournaments. Glen Ed and the YMCA have started practices.

V. Program Report

- a) Vetter gave an update in person. Vetter mentioned the Mayor's Fitness Challenge which is an event that is happening now. We are working with the Collinsville Parks and Recreation Department on this event. Participation is through April 12th. Vetter gathers the minute sheets from Glen Carbon and Edwardsville and Collinsville does Maryville and Collinsville. The winning community will get t-shirts for their participating members. Every week the top two participating members in the community will be entered in a drawing for a gift card.
- b) Vetter talked about the Mardi Gras shoebox parade. She said that although it was smaller than the previous parade, the viewership was still high. 10 floats participated.
- c) The snow'd in kits are still for sale.
- d) There will be a Paws in the Park Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 28th. This event will be held at City Park. Vendors will be from pet stores, veterinarians, pet supplier's etc. Eggs will be set up in the park with treats in them. Owners will keep their dogs on a leash to sniff out the eggs. A few of the eggs will have prized tickets in them for a bigger treat.

VI. Director's Report

- a) Tingley gave his report. Tingley said that parks staff has been participating in different projects regarding TheCENTER. Alderman will vote on the plans for TheCENTER project tonight (March 2nd, 2021) at City Council. Staff will sell apparel at the meeting. So far, over \$670,000 has been raised for the project. There will be 2 full time staff and around 20 part time staff at the facility. There have been meetings to discuss the internal finishing's with the Public Works staff and Junior Service Club.
- b) Tingley commented on capital projects for the future: a maintenance building for Plummer Park, and improvements on the M street building for the parks laborers since they do not have a restroom in their building.
- c) Glik and Leclair Park have had trees trimmed and mulched put down. There has also been mulch put down at Plummer Family Park. Laborers are also in charge of the beautification and tree commission landscape beds. Also, they have been working on enrolling 19.5 acres at DRDA Woods in CRP.
- d) Staff has been working on creating a 5 year Little League agreement.
- e) Tingley gave an update on what the staff has been up to in the office. It is currently budget and evaluation season.

- f) After Schmidt posed a question about the difference between Winston Brown and Hoppe Park, Tingley explained. Winston Brown has been called “Lower Hoppe” in the past. It has fields used for adult softball, sand volleyball, and basketball courts. Hoppe Park has baseball fields. Tingley clarified that the fields do not compete against each other for registration.

There were no public comments at this meeting.

Haroian adjourned the meeting at 5:56 PM.

The next meeting will not be held until April 6th, 2021

Minutes submitted by: Amy Baxter