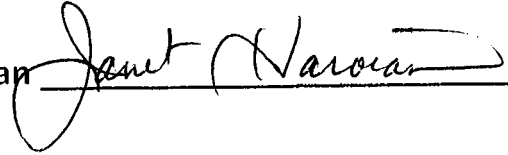


**Recreation Arts and Special Events
Board Meeting Minutes
April 6th, 2021**

Approved Signature: /s/ J. Haroian

 5-10-21

By Approval Date:

- I. Meeting was called to order at 5:02 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 and Josh Fark. Charles Schmidt attended via Zoom.

Parks staff in attendance at City Hall included Nate Tingley, Trina Vetter, Trevor Spohr and Amy Baxter. The Police Department was represented by Lt. Chris Byrne who attended at City Hall. On Zoom was Stephen Hansen who represented the Madison County Historical Society, Rich Luers from Final Lap Race Management, Candice Watson from the Land of Goshen Community Market, and Melanie Suess from Metro Milers. Erica Hunt from Metro Milers attended in person. Megan Riechmann attended from the Watershed Nature Center.

- II. Minutes read from March 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) **The Land of Goshen Community Market:** Farmers Market-Watson gave a summary on the event. The event will start on Saturday, May 8th and conclude on Saturday, October 16th. They will be starting off from where they ended last year. They are following the guidelines from the Illinois Farmer's Market Association. Weiss raised a question about the event. The bike criterium event might start a little earlier this year which would affect the market time. Lt. Byrne told Watson to be prepared to hear from the criterium about adjusting market times. Haroian entertained a motion to pass the event. Weiss moved to pass the event and Fark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- b) **Metro Milers Running and Walking Club:** Route 66 10K-Suess and Hunt gave a summary on the event. The 10K will be held during the Route 66 festival on Saturday, June 12th. This year will be a blended in person and virtual event. The in person event will be limited to 200 people. There will be a sign up program, staggered start times, and water stations with self-dispensers. There will be minimal volunteers and they will carry their own bottles. There will be no food tents or sponsors. Runners will receive a goody bag instead. The waivers will also have COVID guidelines listed. If COVID numbers change

and they are not able to have the event in person, they will move to virtual only. Tingley asked what the plan was if we move into the bridge phase. Sues confirmed that the plan would stay the same. Baxter mentioned that if the event was passed, it would be on the contingency that the copy of insurance and application fee are turned in before the event would move to the ACS agenda. Fark made the motion to pass the event on the previous contingency and Weiss seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously on the contingency.

- c) **Final Lap Race Management:** Running Event @ Watershed-Luers gave a summary of the event. The event will take place at the Watershed Nature Center on Saturday, August 7th. This will be a new running event. It will be an endurance, one mile loop around the pond. The goal is to see how many loops around the pond you can do during the event. The event will be limited to 100 people, will have minimum set up, and follow current restrictions. No spectators will be allowed and this is a cup free event. The 6 hour event will start at 6 pm and end at midnight. The 3 hour event will start at 9 pm and end at midnight. Proceeds made will go back to the Watershed. Everyone will be required to wear a headlamp or have flashlight for when it gets dark. There were questions about the lightening around the marsh for the walk. Riechmann also gave details about the event. She said the restrooms will be open and there will be a Watershed representative there. She also said the event has been approved by the Watershed board. Lt. Byrne asked about parking. Riechmann said that people can park in the Watershed lot, Little Hoppe lot, and N. O. Nelson school lot. Tingley said that people can also park in the Winston Brown parking lot. Haroian entertained a motion to pass the event, Schmidt moved to pass it, and Fark seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- d) **Madison County Historical Society:** Living History Days: A Chautauqua with Teddy Roosevelt and Friends-Dr. Hansen gave a summary of the event. The event will take place in City Park on September 11th. Since last year's event was canceled, they hope to have it this year. If we are still in COVID restrictions then they will not have the event. The event will feature Teddy Roosevelt, others, musical groups, tents and used books. The event will be 4 hours. The library will be assisting by letting the acts use their facilities. There will be alcohol at the event. Schmidt mentioned that the country club is moving the car show to the American Legion that day. Vetter mentioned that Global Brew might not pay for police costs as was planned last year (mentioned on overview guide). Tingley asked where the beer vendors would be located, and it was confirmed on Park Street. Dr. Hansen also asked about the 2020 permit fee and Baxter confirmed it will be used in place of their 2021 permit fee. Weiss motioned to pass the event, Fark seconded, and it was passed unanimously.

IV. Recreation Report

- a) Spohr gave an update in person. He said they have hired on 18 new staff.
- b) Registration for sports are doing great. We have 63 kids signed up for peewee t-ball, 220 for youth softball, 15 teams for adult kickball, and 28 teams for youth sand volleyball. There are 8 teams for men's softball and 13 for co-ed.
- c) Flag football is not picking up the way we had envisioned it doing. There will be an adult flag football tournament in the summer.
- d) There will be a women's tennis league and tennis lessons this summer.
- e) There is a pickleball doubles league and Friday night drop in. The Friday night drop in showcases different themes. The first tournament is May 15th.
- f) Spohr said he is looking into an adult soccer league.
- g) Canee Brown is planning a 3v3 basketball tournament at Winston Brown. There will also be an adult slow-pitch tournament and youth sand volleyball tournament.
- h) 4.25 tournaments have been hosted at Plummer Park so far. Glen Ed and YMCA are still using Plummer Park.
- i) St. Louis City is having their open registration qualifiers at Plummer Park.
- j) Haroian asked if flag football numbers would increase if there was a news story on the sport. Spohr agreed.

V. Program Report

- a) Vetter gave an update in person. The Mayor's Fitness Challenge continues and ends on Monday, April 12th.
- b) The Paws in the Park Easter Egg Hunt event was on Sunday, March 28th. Vetter said the public enjoyed the event.
- c) The summer kickoff will be Saturday, May 22nd at City Park. Vetter said that we will be working with the library on this event.
- d) The symphony will start on May 30th and go until August. We are waiting on the status of the band right now due to COVID.

- e) Route 66 will take place this year on Saturday, June 12th. There will not be a bike race or children's area this year. Vetter confirmed that the road closures should be the same as previous years unless they choose to close an extra street for extra vendors.

VI. Director's Report

- a) Tingley gave his report. After the last RASE Board meeting, the City Council voted in favor of the plan to build the R.P. Lumber Center. Tingley said that they have been working with the contractor on the project. The ground breaking ceremony has been rescheduled for April 13th at 6 pm.
- b) Tingley said that he met with the EHS club hockey team to make the rink their facility.
- c) We have closed on the Richards Woods property. The land will be turned into a passive park.
- d) The user agreement with the Children's Museum is being redone to include the Nickel Plate Depot. In the future, we will also have a user agreement with the Watershed Nature Center and the Benjamin Stephenson House.
- e) The laborers have been mulching, mowing, trimming trees, opening restrooms, and turning on the fountains at the parks. We are also hiring seasonal laborers this year.
- f) Tree planting for Arbor Day is April 24th at 10 am at Hoppe Park and Winston Brown. Tingley said he is working with the Girl Scout troop to get volunteer hours. He also reached out to his son's Boy Scout den leader.
- g) We are working on an emergency repair of an overflow pipe at the Watershed Nature Center. We are also working on getting rock put down by the trail.
- h) Riechmann also gave information on the Watershed. Access Nature is almost finished. The grand opening event is on Saturday, April 24th from 8 am to 1 pm. They are doing a virtual 5k and fun run. The naming rights sponsor for the 5k is BJC Healthcare. They are doing a plant sale that morning. There will also be a discovery day for kids that morning.

Schmidt congratulated Haroian on becoming a trustee with the Edwardsville Township.

There were no public comments at this meeting. There was one message from Melanie Suess: "Thank you all for your time."

Haroian adjourned the meeting at 6:15 PM.

The next meeting will not be held until May 10th, 2021. Minutes submitted by: Amy Baxter