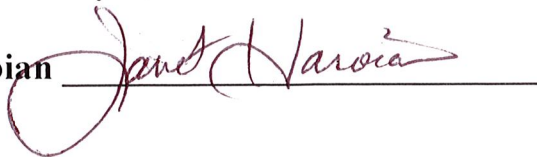


**Recreation Arts and Special Events
Board Meeting Minutes
July 7, 2020**

Approved Signature: /s/ J. Haroian



By Approval Date:

- I.** Meeting was called to order at 5:01 by Janet Haroian in person at City Hall and on Zoom. Members in attendance at City Hall included Janet Haroian, Suzanne Weiss, James Arnold (via Zoom), Tanner Alexander (via Zoom) and Josh Fark.

Park staff in attendance included Nate Tingley, Trevor Spohr (via Zoom), Amy Baxter and Trina Vetter. Police Department was represented by Lt. Chris Byrne

- II.** Minutes read from July 7, 2020 meeting – It was asked to amend the minutes to note that the fireworks were actually held on Friday, July 3rd. Tanner motioned to pass the minutes and James seconded the motion. The vote to pass the minutes was unanimously.

III. Events and Facilities Requests:

- a) Halloween Parade from Chamber of Commerce – Paperwork is ready including insurance and request for state highway closure. Moved by Suzanne to accept and James seconded the motion. The vote to accept the application was unanimous.

IV. Recreation Report

- a) Spohr gave update while on Zoom from Voge Park. Youth softball started July 6th.
- b) Sand volleyball has also started at Winston Brown with 20 teams. 10 teams each 18U and 14U.
- c) Splash pad reservations have started with 5 reservations slots per day including 40 minutes between rentals to disinfect and clean areas including restrooms. Concession sales are not great but now adding snow cones.
- d) Plummer Park has tournaments going and busy. Concessions sales are \$4,000 in sales the first weekend and \$8,000 the second weekend. SWIBL hosting 2U kick-off tournament this coming weekend.
- e) Adult softball starting July 8th including hiring 2 new field workers doing a good job.
- f) City council is voting for liquor license at Plummer Park. Update on that effect with new hiring and training needs. Tingley outlined the new hire needs that will need to happen in order to be in compliance for age requirements with new license.
- g) COVID-19 rules that are being laid out by tournament groups. Struggle is not the rules being in place but the enforcement. Dugouts being packed with kids is an issue. First weekend was packed. Trying to keep the spectators spread out along the fence line. Allowing canopies use

on concrete due to the excessive heat. Staffing from the Parks Department would normally be one person per tournament but now are at two people to do cleanup and rule enforcement.

- h) Vetter gave an update on Special Event programs. Outside event changes are the Madison County Historical Society – Chautauqua will be canceled for 2020 and planning for September 11, 2021. Checking to make sure that does not conflict with Global Brew Oktoberfest weekend.
- i) The City scavenger hunt was held the weekend of June 12-14. There were approximately 77 entries to the drawing with many more participating without entering.
- j) The Fishing Derby will be held on Saturday, July 18th with lessons twice during the week.
- k) Saturday, July 11th is Unplug Illinois which is being promoted on Facebook. Those participating include the library with a book walk, Watershed cleanup, and discount at local golf course.
- l) Upcoming event would be the Mother & Son Date Night in August at the Wildey. Exact date is being re-evaluated.

V. Director's Report

- a) Tingley reported on the July 3rd Fireworks. He discussed how hard people worked together – police department, fire department, public works and school district coming together as a team effort. It was not evident to others at first it all came together including SIUE participating. Compliments were incoming from the community. Well attended and well received. Businesses surrounding appreciated it including hotels, restaurants and people who were lived nearby who could attend from their own backyards. Traditionally it is held at the American Legion golf course.
- b) Tingley discussed Access Nature and Watershed Nature Center happening. The city has provided parking lot lightening, cleaning up the front and other projects to help with the Watershed project.
- c) Tingley and Eric Williams (Public Works Director) are working on four different parks projects right now – Plummer Family Park, Watershed Nature Center – Access Nature, Drda Woods – Parking lot, and Ice and Teen Complex.
- d) Richard Brick property is awarded a grant and now in the process of title commitment, yellow book appraisal, and legal description. The location is between 143 and Schwartz Road. 35 Acres. Similar to Watershed and Drda Woods plans. No time deadline because there is not a project specific to this grant. The grant will be used to buy the property.

There were no public comments at this meeting.

Haroian adjourned the meeting at 5:32 PM.

The next meeting will not be held until August 4, 2020

Minutes submitted by: Trina Vetter