

VILLAGE OF GRAFTON

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 31, 2013

The Parks and Recreation Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Meg Canepa.

Board members present: Meg Canepa, Trustee David Liss, Trustee David Antoine, Jim Miller, Joe Hildebrand, Mark Slaminski, and Celia Albers

Staff/Officials present: Director of Parks and Recreation John Safstrom, Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Karin Sevener

MINUTES

Motion by Jim Miller, seconded by Trustee Liss, to approve the September 18, 2013 Parks and Recreation Board meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried.

PERSONS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD

None.

MERGE FUTURE STARS BASEBALL INTO GRAFTON LITTLE LEAGUE PROGRAM

Director Safstrom provided the Board with background information regarding an overlap of ages directly competing with the Little League program. The Grafton Little League has approached Director Safstrom to merge the Future Stars Baseball (formerly called T-Ball) with their program and promised to offer T-ball without the obligation to fund raise for the Grafton Little League. Director Safstrom added that the Village could offer a daytime camp over the summer for one or two weeks for this age group.

Mark Slaminski added that a shorter time commitment may be more appealing to many families.

Meg Canepa asked if they can approve this motion to merge the Future Stars Baseball program contingent upon Grafton Little League offering a program for this age group. Director Safstrom confirmed that Little League will run a T-Ball program next year and that the Village will offer this program if they do not. Director Safstrom will create a Program Feasibility Report for a Daytime T-Ball Camp for 2014.

Motion by Meg Canepa, seconded by Trustee Antoine, to recommend the Village Board eliminate the Future Stars Baseball from its 2014 summer programs. Motion carried.

SENIOR CENTER NEWSLETTER PROPOSAL

Recreation Supervisor / Senior Coordinator Sevenser explained the information obtained from Liturgical Publications Inc. to print the bi-monthly Senior Center newsletter was at no cost to the Village of Grafton. LPi has professional sales staff that is responsible for selling advertisements and raising the revenue needed to print the newsletter. Sevenser stated that the Village would have final approval of what companies are displayed in the newsletter and that the entire newsletter would be in full-color in a booklet form. Currently staff spends a considerable amount of time printing and collating the newsletter every other month plus costs for ink and paper. Utilizing this service would allow more copies of the newsletter to be distributed to attract additional participants at the Multipurpose Senior Center. Sample of senior center newsletters printed by LPi were available to view.

Sevenser explained that there is a five year contract with an annual option to cancel, due to an annual advertising agreement.

Board Members reviewed and discussed the agreement.

Motion by Trustee Antoine, seconded by Celia Albers, to recommend the Village Board allow the Parks and Recreation Director to sign the Publishing Services Agreement with Liturgical Publications Inc., New Berlin, WI for the Senior Center newsletter. Motion carried.

2014 – 2018 Park and Open Space Plan

The Board members reviewed the Park and Open Space Plan Recommendations Section. Major components of this section are:

- The Village will not create any new vest pocket parks due to the higher cost of maintaining these small parks.
- Continue to pursue a regional park with surrounding entities.
- Recommended locations for three future Neighborhood parks are identified on the maps as N1, N2 and N3.
- Continue to pursue building unique recreational facilities such as splash pads and a skate park.
- Increase river access and park connections in our Park system.
- Continue to replace signage in the parks.

David Liss asked about adding electric to the future amphitheater in Centennial Park. Director Safstrom added that a simple 110 amp could be added in the future for light amplification or lighting.

Director Safstrom added that these recommendations will go to a Public Hearing. A new Director of Planning and Development has just been hired and she will begin employment soon. A full draft of this document will be completed before the end of the year and will be e-mailed to all Park and Recreation Board members.

BENCHMARK MEASUREMENTS

Board members had no comments regarding the Department's benchmarks.

PARK AND OPEN SPACE FUND / PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FUND REPORTS

Board members had no comments regarding the Department's monthly report.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Joseph Hildebrand asked if there was going to be additional adult enrichment classes offered. Director Safstrom replied that the Village has a computer instructor and will offer more classes in 2014.

Chair Canepa suggested the Village offer art classes for adults. Mark Slaminski offered to find an instructor capable of teaching cooking classes for adults. Joe Hildebrand suggested adding afterschool programs for young children held in the classrooms. Director Safstrom replied that staff is currently working on a few preschool themed activities to begin in the early months of 2014.

ADJOURN

Motion by Jim Miller, seconded by Trustee Antoine, to adjourn meeting at 6:50 p.m. Motion carried.