

VILLAGE OF GRAFTON
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 26, 2014

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

Members present: Meg Canepa, Trustee Proefrock, Celia Albers, Joe Hildebrand, Jim Miller, and Mark Slaminski

Members excused: Trustee Dave Antoine

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

MINUTES

Motion by J. Miller, seconded by Trustee Proefrock, to approve the February 19, 2014 Parks and Recreation Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

PERSONS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD

None.

MERGE FLAG FOOTBALL INTO GRAFTON GLADIATORS PROGRAM

Director Safstrom explained the Grafton Gladiators have requested the Junior Flag Football program (grades 1-4) merge into the Grafton Gladiators Football Club for 2014. The Grafton Gladiators have worked with the Recreation Department in previous seasons with coaching and non-administrative aspects of the flag football program. Last year, the Parks and Recreation Department handled the registration process, while the Gladiators handled the actual running of the program. Director Safstrom stated that he received questions at the beginning of the program; however, overall the program ended well.

Mr. Slaminski stated that he spoke with families who were registered in the program and they had similar feelings towards the program.

Mr. Hildebrand stated his son was a participant in the program and he had mixed feelings about the program and that there were some inconsistencies. When asked by Mr. Miller if he would register for the program this year, Mr. Hildebrand stated that he would register since this program would be the only program option.

Director Safstrom explained that the Parks and Recreation Department has offered flag football to grades five and six and will continue to do so. He further stated that the Parks and Recreation Department cannot run a program successfully if other organizations are running a similar program at the same time. When this happens, the participation level is low for both groups, which makes the program unsuccessful. Last fall, the flag

football program for the fifth and sixth grade level had very low participation and was ultimately cancelled.

Mr. Hildebrand asked if the Parks and Recreation Department would be able to offer the program after school hours, instead of evening hours. Director Safstrom stated it is difficult to find instructors for that particular time of day. He further stated that if the Board decides to not merge the programs, he feels the Gladiators will continue to move forward and offer a similar program.

Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Sevenser explained the revenue and expense sheet provided by the Gladiators. The board had a discussion about the \$55.00 fee, which includes a t-shirt, mouth guard, and a yearend party. In addition to the registration fee, the participants will be required to purchase a Gladiator Gold card.

Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Trustee Proefrock, to eliminate Grafton Junior Flag Football from its 2014 fall programs. Motion carried.

GRANT APPLICATION FOR VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK RIVERWALK

Director Safstrom explained to the board that the Village submitted and was unsuccessful for the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program Grant to fund the proposed construction of Veterans Memorial Park Riverwalk.

Director Safstrom stated that he has been consulting with the Director of Planning and Development and stated she feels the Village has enough information to submit an application to the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

Mr. Miller inquired about the costs involved with the application. Director Safstrom stated that unless the grant is received, there will not be any cost.

Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Trustee Proefrock, to recommend the Village Board approve a resolution to submit an application to the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program grant for 50 percent funding of the Veterans Memorial Park riverwalk project. Motion carried.

SUMMER PROGRAM REVENUE – EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Sevenser gave an overview of the Summer Program Revenue Expenditure Summary. She stated that the summary shows how many participants were in each program and their residency status, program fees, and the revenue and expenses for each summer program. She further stated that only two programs were under 70 percent recovery: Over 50 Basketball and Adapted Aquatics. The Over 50 Basketball program had very few participants. The Parks and Recreation Department has decided not to offer this program next year. Adapted Aquatics will continue this summer.

Director Safstrom stated that all of the other programs performed as expected and he is not recommending elimination of any program.

Mr. Miller inquired if there was any new information regarding Grafton swim pass holders being able to use the Port Washington Pirates Hollow Waterpark. Director

Safstrom stated he spoke with the Port Washington Recreation Director. It was decided that Port Washington would like to continue to work together to offer both residents the opportunity to use both facilities.

BENCHMARK MEASUREMENTS

The board members had no comments regarding the Department's benchmarks.

OLD BUSINESS

Director Safstrom stated he has been in contact with the Athletic Director at the Grafton High School in regards to the leadership program. The Parks and Recreation Department is interested in utilizing students from the program to help with the baseball program. Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Sevener stated she is in favor of using this program. The Senior Center has worked with students from this program in the past; the students raked leaves in the fall for senior citizens.

Chair Canepa inquired about the Multi-purpose Senior Center. Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Sevener discussed she is in the process of purchase and installation of a new sign for the center, as well as working on planning the Senior Games. She further stated the Parks and Recreation Department has offering two new programs; Pickleball and Zumba, which are off to a great start. She explained the game of Pickleball to the board members and stated the program began in Woodview Elementary School on Monday evenings, but will be moving to the Grafton High School on Saturday evenings beginning in April. Director Safstrom stated that he is looking into holding a Pickleball tournament. Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Sevener also stated the Zumba class is held once a week and has been well received. The participation level has been very good.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Albers explained this would be her last board meeting with the Parks and Recreation Board. She thanked the board and stated that her experience has been a positive one. She stated that she has learned many things while serving on the board and enjoyed the time she spent with the board. Chair Canepa thanked her for her time and service to the board.

Mr. Hildebrand inquired if the 2014 fireworks will be held at Centennial Park during the Holiday event. Director Safstrom stated the fireworks will be at the Grafton High School with a ground show in Centennial Park. The event will be held June 27 and June 28. He further stated the Grafton fireworks always take place on the Saturday before the Fourth of July.

ADJOURN

Motion by Chair Canepa, seconded by Mr. Miller, to adjourn at 6:42 p.m.
Motion carried.