

Parks & Recreation Committee

Minutes of the Meeting on
March 19, 2018

**Village of Homer Glen
14240 W 151st Street, Homer Glen, IL 60491
Community Room**

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Co-Chairperson Sharon Sweas.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Roll Call.

Present at 6:31 p.m. was Committee Co-Chair Sharon Sweas and Members Dale Janssen, Ed Cryer, Bob Kman, Russel Knaack, Regina Robinson and Mark Gawron.

Members Absent: Co-Chairperson Christina Neitzke-Troike and Members Cassandra Courtright and John Walters.

Also Present: Administrative Analyst Sean Keane.

4. Approval of Amendments to the Agenda.

None.

5. Minutes.

a) February 26, 2018

Co-Chair Sweas stated that the minutes from the February 26, 2018 Parks and Recreation Committee meeting were being presented for approval. Member Janssen made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 26, 2018 meeting; seconded by Member Gawron. The motion passed.

6. Public Comment.

Residents John and Diane Principe spoke to the Committee regarding erosion problems adjacent to a path in Stonebridge Woods Park.

Ms. Mary Lee and Ms. Lisa Johnson were present on behalf of the Homer Glen Junior Woman's Club. The Homer Glen Junior Woman's Club Executive Board awarded the Village of Homer Glen a grant in the amount of \$24,000 to be used towards constructing a gazebo in Heritage Park. The Village Board will formally recognize the grant by passing a Village Resolution at a Board meeting in the near future.

7. Report from Co-Chairs.

None.

8. Old Business.

- a) Update from Committee Member Mark Gawron and Resident Amy Blank Regarding Planning for the Village's "Chalk-It-Up" Special Event.

Ms. Amy Blank and Member Gawron updated the committee on planning for the "Chalk-It-Up" event.

Recap – Decisions Made

- Combine a fun, free event where community members of all ages come together to create chalk art in conjunction with the dedication of Goodings Grove Park
- Target date: July 14th; back-up date: July 28
- 75 participants max; multiple age brackets / prizes awarded
- Out-reach to include signage in the neighborhoods around the park and use of Goodings Grove School virtual backpack in May 2018. Paper mailing only if necessary to get to 75 participants.
- Registration to be automated via Homerglenil.org.
- Parking – Use small Goodings Grove Lot as staging area; Use Glengary, Graystone, Sheffield Drives and St. John Serbian Orthodox Church parking lot for attendee parking
- Judges, DJ, face painters, professional artist, registration team, set-up team, clean-up team – all on a volunteer basis

Progress Since Last Meeting

- Detailed plan – initial draft of detailed plan completed
- Amy recruited 2 volunteer judges

Food Trucks

- In addition to a refreshment trailer, the Committee discussed the possibility of having additional food truck options.
- Trustee Sweas stated that many food trucks have sales quotas, and given the smaller scale of the event, sales may not be adequate for the vendors.

Sponsors

- A final decision from the Village on soliciting sponsorships for this event is pending.

9. New Business.

- a) Discussion Regarding the Preliminary Site Plan for the Active Core Area of the Heritage Park Project.

Administrative Analyst Sean Keane presented the preliminary site design of the Active Core and representative imagery of the amenities. Committee input was requested regarding the color schemes for the tennis and pickleball courts and the challenge course. The Committee was in favor of the royal blue and winter green color scheme for the courts. The Committee concurred with the

design team's recommended color pallet for the challenge course (spring green, light green, green, dark green, brown, beige, and bronze).

Member Knaack stated he would like to see basketball courts included in the Active Core area. He stated, per the Village's Parks & Recreation Master Plan, there is a need for more basketball courts.

Member Robinson stated she would like to see White Oak trees and Violet flowers included in the park because they are the official tree and flower of the State of Illinois.

Member Knaack stated the site needs more benches and the locations of the restrooms need to be looked at again.

Member Robinson stated she will speak with Nancy Kuhajda of the University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners regarding involvement of the Master Gardeners in plant selection and maintenance of the Sensory Garden planned for the Active Core area. The Village is awaiting a decision on a Green Regions Grant from Openlands to be used towards the Sensory Garden.

Member Janssen suggested that a maze could be placed in the park in lieu of the "berm play" area.

Member Cryer stated the park needs to have an adequate number of shade structures and shade trees. Furthermore, the design should consider the changing colors of the seasons.

Member Robinson discussed the concept of geocaching as a potential activity for Heritage Park. Furthermore, she stated the park should have signage about native animals.

A Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for Wednesday March 28 for the Board to discuss the preliminary site design for the Active Core.

b) Flower Pot Art Concept for Heritage Park.

The Committee discussed a flower pot decorating project in partnership with the Homer Glen Junior Woman's Club. Generally, this project would entail local organizations or businesses decorating a flower pot to be placed along the soon-to-be-constructed Heritage Circle. The Committee's recommendation was to wait until spring 2019 to implement this project, due to the construction currently occurring on the site.

10. Reports and Communications from Staff.

a) Specific Parks and Recreation Project Updates.

1. Heritage Park Phase I Project Update

The project remains at approximately 48% complete. Phase I completion is expected in mid-June 2018. The 319 storm water portion

of this phase should go out to bid in Spring 2018. This portion will be funded from the bond issue and has a 60% grant reimbursement.

Imagery of the signage for the 319 grant area was presented to the Committee. Member Kman suggested the date of the project be added to the 319 grant sign.

b) Facilities Manager's Update

With the assistance of a local Boy Scout Troop, the Village will be planting oak tree saplings in Goodings Grove Park. Individuals interested in volunteering can contact the Village.

The Facilities Maintenance staff will attend a basic forestry class in April at the Morton Arboretum.

Two seasonal maintenance staff members will begin work on April 2 with two more potentially beginning in May.

11. Committee Member Updates.

Member Knaack expressed his desire for the Committee to explore the prospect of purchasing a parcel within the Old Oak subdivision for a new park.

10. Adjournment.

Motion by Member Kman, second by Member Gawron to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Sean Keane
Administrative Analyst