

Parks & Recreation Committee

Minutes of the Meeting on
June 19, 2023

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

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Rose Reynders.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.**3. Roll Call.**

Present at 6:30 p.m. were Chair Trustee Reynders, Members Dan Kenney, Russel Knaack, Bob Kman, Matt Hosteny and Amy Blank.

Also Present: Committee Secretary Alana Charboneau, Parks Coordinator Jennifer Vittori, Mayor Christina Neitzke-Troike, and Village IT Technician, Michael Pearce.
Member Nicole LaHa Z arrived at 6:36 PM

Members Absent: Members Dale Janssen and Marcie Gorak

4. Approval of Amendments to the Agenda. - Chair Rose Reynders motioned for approval to add Tria under old business.

Motion made by: Bob Kman

Seconded by: Dan Kenney

All in favor, zero (0) opposed. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approval of Minutes**a. March 20, 2023**

Motion made by: Bob Kman

Seconded by: Amy Blank

All in favor, zero (0) opposed. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Public Comment. – none.**2. Reports from Chairs. –**

- a. Chair Rose Reynders mentioned the meeting time will be changed to 4 PM, Bob Kman requested to wait until August meeting to start at 4 PM so he can be available. Reynders agreed. Reynders made a motion to approve the time to four o'clock.**

Motion made by: Dan Kenney

Seconded by: Bob Kman

All in favor, zero (0) opposed. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Old Business –

- a. Heritage Park-vision and goals – Chair Reynders mentioned the Splash Pad being a main focus. There were preliminary plans from a company that does Splash Pads. Reynders and the company discussed everything needed for the**

Splash Pad. Reynders asked the committee their thoughts. Member Bob Kman mentioned it is one of the most wanted amenities in Homer Glen's Heritage Park. Reynders stated everybody has one and it would be an asset. She also mentioned Village Manager Carmen Maurella may have some money for the Splash Pad, somewhere around \$200,000. Member Amy Blank mentioned preliminary discussion about the Splash Pad being a big task to put in the back of the park. She asked if it was on the table to not put it back there. Reynders mentioned there are two different ways to recirculate or filter the water for the Splash Pad. Reynders mentioned Carmen may have more information as well as Facilities Maintenance Manager, Bill Frossard, who has experience with putting in Splash Pads.

- b. **Tria** - Member Dan Kenney and Amy Blank both mentioned the previous board meeting about Tria and whether they are coming back or not with their plans. Reynders said she was told, at the very beginning when the committee went to the trustees and said they had \$40,000 to start the Veterans Memorial. Reynders asked the Director of Planning & Zoning, Melissa King, if we owned the plans to the Veteran's Memorial. Melissa King called Tria, Tria stated we did not own the plans. The plans are copyrighted and are unable to be used, unless Tria is the one performing the construction and design. Certain aspects of the plans could be taken and implemented. Reynders stated they were not going to use Tria, she took the concept to a landscaper to have it drawn. Mayor Christina Neitzke-Troike said she received the same answer when asking Tria if we owned them. Member Blank mentioned that although there are all these plans, Heritage Park still feels unfinished. She mentions the amphitheater and walking paths. Reynders said, number one, John Robinson suggest not to put anything behind Village Hall because you will be unable to extend the building. Mayor Christina Neitzke-Troike mentioned there is an overall plan with four phases and maybe a presentation from Jim from Tria, will give more clarity and understanding. There was a little more discussion about details regarding the four phases. Member Kman asked about an update for parking. Reynders said Maurella would be the one to check-in on. Reynders asked if we should ask our counsel to clarify if moving forward, we can use those plans, without using Tria. Everybody agreed.
- c. **Stonebridge Tennis Courts** - Parks Coordinator Jennifer Vittori gave us an update, looking at August at the latest. Overlay, fixing the cracks and then resurfacing it. Reynders asked Vittori if she received a message about Stonebridge having pickleball. She said she is looking into striping tennis with pickleball, but noise is always an issue. Vittori stated she only budgeted so much, but she knows what to expect now so she can budget it for next year. Vittori also stated they are going to fix some major drainage issues at the courts. She did receive the hitting wall and should be in by end of July, beginning of August. Member Kenney asked about any other updates. Vittori said they are going to fix the poured in place and the trail around the park will be getting fixed.

- d. **Parks gifted by Township status-** For existing parks, she is waiting for the piece for the broken slide for Evelyn's Gate park. Vittori mentioned finding ways to receive grants to be able to add more to each of the parks. She also mentioned getting Township parks up to speed as well as the parks we already own. She asked for recommendations about which ones should be prioritized. Member Kenney asked about staffing. Vittori said she is doing well with staffing and that she has enough. Member Nicole LaHa suggested to Vittori to look into the OSLAD to see if we qualify for grants through them because Parks could potentially receive a lot of money from them. It was mentioned that staff should not be writing grants, but there should be a full time grant writer. There was further discussion about grant writing and different sites which we have access to, to see which grants are available. Reynders suggested taking another evaluation of each park and then discuss it.
- e. **Disc Golf** – Reynders said the committee agreed not to do anything with disc golf. Mayor Christina Neitzke-Troike reached out to Tria, they claimed it was supposed to be permanent, but past parks minutes stated it was temporary. Member Kenney asked if the disc golf was originally supposed to be for nine holes, Member Russell Knaack mentioned there was a plan for 18 holes when there was nothing in the park. Kenney stated it was just supposed to be the removable baskets. Pearce suggested rubber on top of the starting pads. Vittori suggested crushed aggregate that is padded down and still temporary. The disc golf will have to be removed as the park progresses, but Reynders stated, as of right now they are leaving the disc golf course as it is.

4. **New Business**

- a. **Countryview Estates Park-** There was discussion about where Countryview Estates Park is located and why they asked the Village to take it over. The park would need a lot of work done, and with all of the township parks the Village just inherited, it would not be realistic. The consensus was to decline taking Countryview.

Motion made by: Nicole La-Ha Z.

Seconded by: Amy Blank

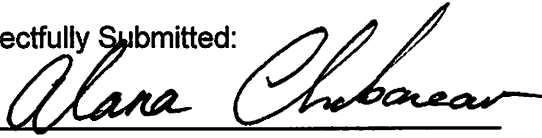
All in favor, zero (0) opposed. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **Reports and Communications from Staff** – Member Russell Knaack asked for the Parks and Rec masterplan spreadsheet to review and update. Member Knaack and Blank mentioned how successful soccer has been.

6. **Committee Member Updates- none.**

11. **Adjournment.**

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alana Charboneau". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Alana Charboneau
Committee Secretary