



**Village of Lincolnwood
Parks and Recreation**

**Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 8, 2022
7:00pm**

**Council Chambers
Lincolnwood Village Hall – 6900 North Lincoln Avenue**

Draft MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Tucker: The meeting was called to order at 7:03PM.

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

Chair Person: Courtney Tucker

Park Board Commissioners Present: Leah Brennan, Sokol Delisi, Kenneth Malca, Laura Tomacic, Art Lovering

Village Board Liaison: Grace Diaz Herrera

Parks and Recreation Department Staff: Karen Hawk, Anna Koperski-Walsh, Colleen Broderick, Katie Gaughan

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 11, 2022 BOARD MEETING.

On motion Tucker approves the meeting minutes of the January 11, 2022 Park and Recreation Board meeting. 6-0, motion passes.

AYES: Tucker, Brennan, Delisi, Malca, Tomacic, Lovering

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

III. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION AND LETTERS/NOTES/EMAILS FROM THE PUBLIC

No audience participation

IV. OLD BUSINESS

No old business

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion Regarding the 2022 Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony

Koperski-Walsh: Presents information from memo included in the Board Packet.

Board Discussion:

- Comment on how it will be nice to bring it back and it will be easy to be outside and spread out; time to get back to a point of normalcy
- States how he hears from his neighbors how great this parade is; suggests having more attendance would be nice, perhaps promoting it more
- Suggests that people watching the parade could then follow in it
- States how he watched a parade and as people watched, they then joined in and followed at the tail end and in our case, would all end at Proesel Park, getting more participants in the ceremony
- States that the parade he watched was quite large and had other components involved, such as food and drink
- Comment on how another community decorates the kids' bikes and that they ride at the end of parade- this could be cool for Lincolnwood
- Asks if the Lincolnwood Band could participate
- Suggestion of a Parks and Recreation float
- Inquiry to new staff of prior experience of parades and what could be added/brought to Lincolnwood's
- Comments that adding the children's bike parade at the end could be an idea and then maybe there could be a contest for best decorated bike
- Suggestion of handing out flags
- Comments on previous experience at a parade how kids paraded around at a tennis court and there was a contest
- Presents idea on a drone taking pictures from overhead
- Suggests pictures of each child and decorated bike and all pictures can be posted in a Lincolnwood Reporter so that each gets recognition
- Presents idea of a house-decorating, such as front porch, for Memorial Day and perhaps there's an incentive for first place, second place and third place
- Offers comment on how well done Evanston's parade is; suggestion of Fourth of July Parade
- Agreement from several members of the Park Board that they would be willing to be involved in Memorial Day Parade
- Statement that Lincolnwood Schools really need to be involved
- Offers to reach out to band instructor at son's school
- Offers to reach out to choir director at child's school

Koperski-Walsh:

- Asks about the size of parade
- Explains that Memorial Day Weekend is the pool's opening weekend it is a busy week but perhaps there is another way to be more involved and

- exposed
- Explains how getting stakeholders and local businesses involved is important
- Asks Park Board if there would be interest into be involved in Memorial Day Parade
- Recaps a few key points: bike parade at the end of the parade and adding something addition to it, such as a bike around the tennis courts, perhaps with some social media involvement.
- Suggests live-streaming the Memorial Day Parade
- Recaps several commissioners say yes to being involved in the parade
- Agrees that school involvement would be great and explains why band hasn't recently been involved

Hawk:

- Explains that her experience with parades is limited but details how she has helped organize groups to walk in the Evanston parade

B. Discussion Regarding Increasing Aquatic Center Non-Resident Season Pass Cap

Gaughan: Presents information from memo included in the Board Packet.

Board Discussion:

- Asks that the graph be better displayed, as it was not detailed out
- Questions what the cap is at the aquatic center
- Asks for more details on how often higher numbers are met at the aquatic center
- Asks for clarification as to why the aquatic center is projecting a loss with financials, such as an increase in minimum wage and capitol improvements and not to do with operational management/costs
- Presents the idea that the reason the aquatic center reached its maximum in non-resident passes was because of the uncertainty in surrounding communities and whether their community pools were opening
- Asks if this could be a trial year with bumping non-resident passes to 2500
- Questions what minimum wage is
- Asks for further clarification on the negative for the 2022 year, did it have to do with additional expenses from concession stand
- Asks how many resident passes were sold in 2021
- States that the money is needed but questions if pool will become overcrowded; asks if deck chairs can come out on an as-needed basis
- Asks for clarifications on how non-residents can enter pool
- Expresses concern that more people in the pool will possibly lead to more behavioral issues
- Asks for clarification on a family pass and how it counts- such as a family pass for eight

- Asks about a senior couple pass and qualifications
- Asks to look into a more sound policy as to pricing for resident and non-resident pass pricing
- Asks for a report regarding pass suspension regarding behavior issues
- States that there needs to be a no-nonsense approach in terms of behavior at the aquatic center it needs to be taken seriously
- Provides feedback on how space at the aquatic is used, such as kids taking up space to play sports which limits the space for patrons

Gaughan:

- Explains capacity at the aquatic center is 1000 people
- Estimates that it is not typical to be in the 700-900 people range; busiest days are roughly 750 people on the very busiest of days
- Provides that if she recalls correctly, a typical daily attendance is 550, and that is throughout the entire day
- Replies that there was excitement from people to get out of their house with the pool opening which translated to pass sales; there was uncertainty with other municipalities; explains the non-resident guest/pass issue so perhaps that drew non-residents to purchase a pass
- Explains that last summer was the first summer with the new fee structure, which was a slight reduction in cost, so that could also be a contributing factor
- Describes how the weather was beautiful last summer and how passes were continuing to sell in July
- Replies with yes, this summer would be a pilot program with the increase in non-resident passes and staff would see how the summer went and evaluate from there
- Explains that safety of the pool is the number one priority so capacity will never surpass the capacity of 1000 inside the aquatic center
- Replies lifeguards are at \$13 and guest services and maintenance is \$12 and that returning staff bumps up by \$.25
- Stated that resident memberships in the summer of 2021 brought in \$85,639
- Replies that we can look into keeping some deck chairs away but storage is a problem of where the chairs would be kept; further explains that stacking and dragging chairs is part of the reason they are breaking as often as they are
- Explains that a non-resident can get into the pool if they are with a resident or with a pass-holder
- Replies that there are troublesome groups that do come in but the management team and park patrol and the police are all involved
- Explains the protocol on how the problematic kids are handled at the aquatic center
- Explains that a family pass for eight does count as eight passes, not just one for the entire family

- Details how a senior couple pass is for those that are both ages 55 and greater
- States that in 2021, 1,662 resident passes were sold
- States that staff can keep track of pass suspensions
- Replies that staff can look into using the grassy knoll and putting chairs back there so that its additional space and not a space used for sports

Koperski-Walsh:

- Explains the pie graph details to the Park Board
- Explains that the large items are shade structures, deck chairs, drinking fountains, new LED lights; the projection of a loss does not tie into the new equipment at the concession stand

Hawk:

- Explains that capacity is 1000 at any given time, not total entries all day, strictly patrons
- Explains the operational needs that will need to be addressed along with ongoing maintenance along with the increase in minimum wage which will continue until 2025
- Replies that minimum wage is \$12 per hour
- Asks for consensus of the Board to move the non-resident pass cap to increase to 2500 with 2022 being a pilot season
- AYES: Tucker, Brennan, Delisi, Lovering, Malka, Tomacic

VI. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Tucker:

- Friday, January 14th, Commissioner Delisi and she attended a zoom conference along with other Parks and Recreation Commissioners and they received good feedback and it was nice to be involved in that way

VII. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Lovering:

- Asks how Olivia's position has been filled/how it's going

Brennan:

- Congratulates Parks staff on state wide recognition of award from conference
- Comments on the snow piles in the park and details how the kids love the play in the snow piles that are deliberately created

Malca:

- States how when he walks his dogs around the parks, there is a patch between the pool and L Woods and how there is a pocket where there is a lot of garbage, such as Monster cans and beer cans. Asks if a light or camera can be installed to bring this space to more attention.

VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Hawk:

- Welcomes Colleen Broderick as the new Recreation Supervisor. She has been with the Parks and Recreation Department since September 2021 and we are excited to have her join our team
- Announces that Katie Gaughan will be leaving our team as she has accepted another job
- Explains to Board that they will be receiving a Statement of Economic Interest in March and to be on the watch for it
- Explains Agency Showcase at Conference and that the Village of Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation placed First in Overall Marketing Campaign for the 2021 Turkey Trot and Second Place in Large Format Marketing for the banner boxes that are outside of the pool. It's great to be recognized at the state level!
- Lincolnwood Fest Update- planning process is underway and staff is hoping to meet with the vender in the next week and with the event manager that has been assigned. Staff will come back to the Board to see if anyone would want to volunteer.

IX. STAFF REPORTS

Koperski-Walsh:

- Welcomes Colleen to the team!

X. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:33PM

Motion to adjourn: Tomacic/Delisi

AYES: Brennan, Malca, Tucker, Delisi, Tomacic, Lovering

NAYS: None

Park Board Minutes prepared by Julie Glowacki

Park and Recreation Board Chairperson:

Signature

Date

 3/8/2022