

CITY OF PALOS HEIGHTS



RECREATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Key called the regular meeting of the Recreation Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Palos Heights Administration Center, 7607 W. College Drive. In attendance were Aldermen Key, McGovern, Bylut, and Clifford, Parks & Recreation Director Mike Leonard, City Administrator Dan Nisavic, and Recording Secretary Pat Sheppard.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Key moved to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2017 meeting as written, seconded by Alderman Clifford. All in favor. Motion carried.

ADDRESSES FROM THE AUDIENCE: None

LAKE KATHERINE REPORT: Chairman Key reported on behalf of Gareth Blakesley

- Chairman Key informed the committee that he had forwarded an email to them from Gareth which contained the Marketing Survey Report.
- Gareth had attended the joint meeting of the Palos Heights Library, Public Arts Commission, and Recreation Department to plan partnership events for the upcoming year. A Nature and Arts Festival was discussed as a potential fall event.
- Gareth had met with Joe Smith from the Recreation Department to identify park areas that could be used for bio-strips which was planting native vegetation to provide different host plants for pollinators and Monarch butterflies. This would support the Mayor's Monarch Pledge.
- The annual Volunteer Appreciation Night event was being held on Thursday evening (1/11/18) where awards and presentations are made to the Lake Katherine volunteers.
- Preparations were underway for WinterFest being held on Saturday, February 3.
- Gareth passed the Herbicide License Test.

DIRECTORS REPORT: Mike Leonard

- The City Administrator was working on the final draft of the F/Y2018 budget and Mike would be meeting with Chairman Key to review soon.
- Practice for the youth basketball league was starting the following week with games beginning on January 27.
- A Candy Cane Hunt was being held on Martin Luther King Day, January 15.
- Auditions were taking place for the children's musical production of "The Wizard of Oz".
- The pre-school open house was being held on Saturday, January 27 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Alderman Bylut inquired about the Recreation Department's pre-school program and what sets it apart from other pre-school programs offered at various locations in the area. Mike felt there were several reasons: 1.) there was a washroom connected to the classroom, 2.) the facility itself offers many amenities, and 3.) it offered a good curriculum that has improved over the years. Mike said there were 45 children currently enrolled in the program which was the max for one classroom. Mike also clarified this program was not a daycare program nor an accredited pre-school under DCFS regulations. This is a Rec based program called Me Too Play School. Mike felt it was best for residents to attend the Open House and talk to the instructors/teachers.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Payment #2 to Innovation Landscape, Inc. in the amount of \$42,095.32 for Services Rendered for the Community Park Sports Plaza Renovation.

Mike noted \$1,801.57 was being held as retainage.

Chairman Key moved to approve payment #2 to Innovation Landscape, Inc. in the amount of \$42,095.32 for services rendered for the Community Park Sports Plaza Renovation, seconded by Alderman Bylut. On a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried. **AGENDA**

OLD BUSINESS

None

ALDERMEN'S COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:

Alderman Clifford inquired about the City's involvement with the new parking lot at Lake Katherine. The City Administrator stated the process would go through the City and the City's Engineer would design the lot. He noted the project was still pending funding from MWRD.

Alderman McGovern congratulated Mike and his staff on the Noon Year Eve's event which he thought was great.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Key moved to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Sheppard
Recording Secretary