



City of Palos Heights
Recreation Committee Meeting
Tuesday, January 11, 2022
7:00 p.m.
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Key called the regular meeting of the Recreation Committee to order at 7:08 p.m. at the Palos Heights City Hall, 7607 W. College Drive. In attendance were Chairman Key, Alderman Bylut, Alderman Begley, Alderman Clifford, Director of Parks and Recreation Matt Fairbanks, and Recording Secretary Lauren Koszola.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Key moved to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2021 meeting as written, seconded by Alderman Bylut. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

LAKE KATHERINE REPORT

Lake Katherine Board of Directors Chair, Terry Horvath provided the Lake Katherine update:

- New Cook County mitigations came in to place on January 3. It requires people who rent or attend evening programs must show proof of vaccination. General visitors do not have to do this nor do people in programs k-12. We have updated our protocols accordingly.
- In light of the surge in COVID cases, Lake Katherine made the decision to cancel the volunteer appreciation event. Staff and Board Members talked about pushing it out a month but ultimately decided that this may not give enough time for the cases to start easing off. The event will hopefully be in the spring or summer.
- There have been some rental cancellations due to the COVID surge but they are still better then this time last year.
- Education Programs: Little Explorers offered Evergreens and Busy Beavers which had 2 sessions run for each program with a total of 6 different families. Junior Explorers offered Ginger bread and Foxes and Busy Beavers which had 4 sessions run with 17 participants
- New windows have been installed in the auditorium and have been dry walled in. they change the room completely. This will or should be able to help with marketing the space. We also have plans in place for sprucing immediately outside this area to hopefully make this also more desirable.
- Annual staff meeting is set for Wednesday we will be going over our current status out goals for the year.
- We will be putting some sign orders in for different areas around the lake
- We did some brush pile burns on Wednesday removing some of the buckthorn.
- In December we had 4 evening programs- Wreath making with 13 people, fire and wine with 20 people Solstice night hike with 24 people and holiday hayride with 40 people.
- Botanical nature drawing and wine night is coming up January 19th
- MLK day of service will be on January 17 and we will be having volunteer work day that morning.

PARKS & RECREATION REPORT

Director of Parks and Recreation Matt Fairbanks, provided the Parks & Recreation update:

- **Cook County Vaccine Mandate Update-** The Recreation Department started implementing the mandate on Monday January 10. Any patron over the age of 19 who wishes to participate in the

following activities are required to provide proof of being fully vaccinated against Covid-19 Fitness Center, Walking Track, Open Gym, Pickleball, Group exercise classes. All of the other programming has been exempt from the mandate.

Discussion was held about the mandate, Alderman Bylut discussed that he wished the Recreation Department didn't have to do the mandate as he believes the Recreation Department may lose patrons over the mandate. Alderman Key asked Director of Parks and Recreation Fairbanks to speak to the Mayor about adjusting the requirements about the vaccine mandate.

- **Misty Meadows-** Last month, Director Fairbanks worked with Kendall and Michael Schofield the final design pieces of the Misty Meadows playground. JSD is still working on updating an estimate for their cost for the additional design aspects as well as new cost the contractor will have to consider.
- **CAPRA Update-** The Recreation Department has a scheduled virtual visit for the CAPRA Accreditation. The visit is set for the week of June 13. Information will need to be completed and uploaded to their website by the beginning of April. We continue to move forward on completion of the required standards. Director Fairbanks heard from CAPRA and have again been assigned to be on a virtual site review team. This review is for Grand Prairie, TX and will take place the week of May 16. This will help us prepare for our own review the month following. The next team CAPRA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 13.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Motion to approve payment to Vermont Systems INC. for the amount of \$9,350.34 for the annual RecTrac software contract.
Alderman Key motioned to motion to approve payment to Vermont Systems INC. for the amount of \$9,350.34 for the annual RecTrac software contract. The agreement Alderman Bylut seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously. – **AGENDA**
- b. Motion to approve facility fee waiver request for Sober Tuesday group for use of room 106 on Tuesdays from 7-8pm. The fee would be adjusted from \$25 to \$15 per week.
Alderman Begley motioned to approve facility fee waiver request for Sober Tuesday group for use of room 106 on Tuesdays from 7-8pm. The fee would be adjusted from \$25 to \$15 per week. Alderman Bylut seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Pool Landscape-Director Fairbanks presented the landscaping plan from Upland Design. This plan includes the removal of a number of dead trees around the perimeter of the pool as well as new plants and flowering landscape to the area.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Key moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Begley. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Koszola – Recording Secretary