

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF ELBURN PARKS COMMISSION
APRIL 16, 2019

Members Present: Dave Dickinson, Chairman Dan Kolzow, Dawn Kuefler, Patrick Leach, Brian McCarty (arrived at 7:14pm), Rob Reilley, Amy Szumny

Members Absent:

Staff Members Present: Village Administrator John Nevenhoven; Mayor Jeff Walter

Others Present: Members of 4H Lucky Maples

1. Call to Order – Chairman Kolzow called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Chairman Kolzow led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call – A roll call vote ensued.
4. Approval of Minutes – March 19, 2019 – A motion to approve the minutes was made by Reilley and seconded by Dickinson. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
5. Public Comment – Members of the Lucky Maples 4H Group presented their proposal to build a mini library at Elliot Family Park. It will include a 4H insignia and a plaque giving contact information for the free library organization it will be affiliated with. Work on the project should begin in May. The location of the library needs to be determined and a JULIE should be called in prior to digging. Perhaps someone will donate a bench for nearby. Commissioners thanked the 4H Lucky Maples and look forward to seeing the library.

Elburn Mayor Jeff Walter said the Commission is doing a great job. With a new fiscal year approaching, Walter asked the Commissioners to send him an email if they would like to be reappointed or not. Walter presented a \$350 check from Dr. Dave of Vital Wellness who would like to donate a park bench at Elliot Park (perhaps near the mini-library). Half of gambling proceeds is allocated to Parks and revenue is expected to increase next year. Walter met with the new Blackberry Township Supervisor. The Township has no interest in resurrecting the old baseball park but would like to invest in Elburn's park system.

6. Commissioners Project Updates
 - a. Elburn Station Grant Update – Village Admin Nevenhoven said funds are expected to be received from IDNR in the next week or two. Nevenhoven advised the Village Board would like Hitchcock to redesign and move development to the north end of the same property. Instead of access off of Keslinger Road, it makes more sense to move everything to the north so it is located closer to the heart of Elburn and families in the area. This may require IDNR approval. There will be extra cost for Hitchcock to redesign. Using the Metra lot for parking will save us grant money by not installing a parking lot to the south. Eventually when the intersection at Liberty and Keslinger is developed, there could be parking added to the south. The desire is to engineer the entire parcel in order to ensure drainage. There was consensus from the Commission to move forward with this. Nevenhoven will call Hitchcock tomorrow to begin the redesign and will contact IDNR as well. Nevenhoven added this is all contingent on Shodeen agreeing to the plan change. The redesigned plan will be brought back to the Commissioners. Nevenhoven asked what the Commissioners would like to name the park or how they would like to go about choosing a name for it. The Village should determine the amount required if someone wants naming rights—this will be a \$1.9M park.
 - b. Approved Budget Review – Kolzow advised the Parks budget will be approximately \$60K next year for signs, park improvements, sign landscaping, ice rink liner, trash/dog stations on Anderson Road and Prairie Park gazebo repair. Nevenhoven stated Public Works has been looking at options to replace the bridge at Prairie Park so they can gain access to the park for

- their equipment. As far as park signs, the address should be added to the rock sign at Prairie Park.
- c. Dog Park Grant – Reilley said there has been a lot of resident interest and support. The grant application is due next month. Mayor Walter gave an update on Anderson Animal Shelter’s plan to build a state-of-the-art facility near Elburn, including a dog park. In addition to a blueprint and plat of survey, Reilley said letters from residents and a civic leader are needed for the grant application. Reilley will contact previous Illinois recipients of the grant for suggestions. There was discussion about water availability for the park.
 - d. Blackberry Creek Gazebo – McCarty advised no donations have been received. The Blackberry Creek HOA has some funds to donate but we need community donations as well. No one from the Parks Commission attended the April Blackberry Creek HOA meeting.
 - e. Ice Rink Review – Kolzow thanked everyone who helped with the ice rink last winter. Feedback from residents is that they love it. Some ideas for next season were discussed: chains for the tractor; figure out what works best for the hose; some lighting. During the summer or fall, Kolzow will unroll the tarp and check for holes. Kolzow will try and fix the liner and if it doesn’t work, will purchase a new one. There was agreement that an identification sign is not needed—but would be useful to have signage to indicate when the rink is open or closed.
 - f. Heritage Park – Nevenhoven said there are no plans to smooth out the dirt pile but the Village will mow the property. The HOA wants the dirt pile gone. The dirt is used for new homes and most lots in Blackberry Creek have been sold. Walter would like recommendations from the Commissioners for the park: walking path, off-street parking, open-space park with some benches—no huge attraction. The HOA needs to have some buy-in. The new HOA president is very involved—perhaps contact him. The HOA is considering putting in a new monument sign but there is a lot of opposition so there may be funding to help with the shelter at Elliot Park. The HOA meets the second Tuesday of each month.
 - g. Village Signs – Repairs Needed – Kolzow said the American Legion would like to get their logo added to the Village’s welcome signs. The Board will be approached to adapt their signs for organizations to add their logos.
7. Other Business
- a. Reilley reported feedback received from residents is that they want a path from Blackberry Creek to downtown Elburn.
 - b. Reilley suggested renaming the Folks on Spokes event to “Folks on Spokes Presents the Elburn Parks Pedal.” Reilley, Szumny and Leach are interested in serving on a subcommittee to plan the event. Reilley will organize a meeting. When asked why such a well-known event should be re-named, Reilley explained there are similarly named events elsewhere in Illinois and this would identify with Elburn.
 - c. Reilley has been in contact with Ryan Peterson from Kane County and will suggest bike lanes when Kane County re-paves roads.
 - d. The bike rack application is on the Village website now. Perhaps we can do something similar for park bench donations.
8. Adjourn - McCarty motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. with Szumny seconding the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Diane McQuilkin
Village Clerk