

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF ELBURN PARKS COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

Members Present: Dave Dickinson, Chairman Dan Kolzow, Dawn Kuefler, Patrick Leach, Rob Reilley, Amy Szumny

Members Absent: Brian McCarty

Staff Members Present: Village Administrator John Nevenhoven

Others Present: Residents Kyle & Ali Athans, Shodeen rep Bob Skidmore; Blackberry Creek HOA President Eric Ryan

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 – August 20, 2019 – A motion to approve the minutes was made by Kuefler and seconded by Dickinson. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
5. Public Comment – Ali Athens lives on Rowe Rd in the Windenoak subdivision in unincorporated Kane County. Athens inquired if the Village of Elburn has any planned park activities for kids. Her sister lives in a Chicago suburb whose park district offers them. After emailing Mayor Walter, Athens is attending the Parks meeting at his suggestion. Chairman Kolzow said the Commission discussed something previously but it conflicted with the library and fell to the wayside. “Movie in the park” was suggested but we would have to purchase equipment, etc. “Band in the park” was another suggestion where families can bring their own coolers. Perhaps a food truck (something simple) can be at the event(s). As far as timeline, evening or an afternoon on a weekend was suggested. A movie at the Community Center during wintertime was suggested. The Commission will consider and see what can be worked into the budget. Athens said she will volunteer her time to help. Nevenhoven suggested partnering with the library.

Eric Ryan, president of Blackberry Creek HOA – inquired about the pavilion in the park on Blackberry Creek Drive—the HOA donated funds for the construction. Nevenhoven stated the Village has not received a check from the HOA. Ryan will follow-up with the bookkeeper. When funds are received, we will speak with the contractor about getting it installed. Ryan asked if there has been any thought about the park on Liberty Drive which is rundown (the builder put in cheap items and they are worn). Would like to see smaller toddler options and updating to the park. Kolzow said there has been some thought about adding pieces to all parks in town and will take into consideration.

6. Recommend Selection of Playground Equipment Bid – Kolzow said the Commission reviewed three options last month (Nutoys, Playworld and Burke). Blackberry Township chose Burke and the Commission is leaning toward the Nutoys. If Nutoys is chosen, Skidmore (Shodeen rep) does not suggest the lime green color since it is a prairie setting (recommend a forest green). A motion was made by Dickinson for the purchase and installation of Option 1 (Nutoys) in forest green color. The motion was seconded by Szumny. A roll call vote ensued. Ayes: Dickinson, Kolzow, Kuefler, Leach, Reilley, Szumny. Nays: None. Motion carried. A motion was made by Dickinson and seconded by Reilley to keep an option open with Nutoys to add another item (playhouse in forest green). A roll call vote ensued. Ayes: Dickinson, Kolzow, Kuefler, Leach, Reilley, Szumny. Nays: None. Motion carried. Kolzow will ask McCarty to check with Nutoys for a price on the playhouse addition.
7. Commissioners Projects
 - a. Existing Parks Improvement Recommendations – No discussion.

- b. Future Events Planning – See discussion above under Public Comment. Reilley will research the cost of equipment (portable/inflatable screens and projector) for potential “movie nights.” Everyone was encouraged to research kid-friendly bands. Perhaps a night out for adults should be considered as well.
8. Other Business – Reilley has an estimate for porta potties from a local company--\$102/month and will be cleaned out weekly. Stakes are put around it to make it harder to tip. A shelter similar to Lions Park is suggested. Perhaps the Boy Scouts or 4H Club will build. The suggested timeframe to rent is May through October. Reilley will email the quote to Nevenhoven.

The dog station on Anderson Road is not build yet. Nevenhoven will check with Public Works.

A bike rack in front of Village Hall was discussed. There was discussion there does not seem to be many areas downtown for bike racks. Corner Grind does not know where they would put one. Pound 4 Pound would like one at their location. Regarding the vacant lot between downtown buildings (private lot)—the Village has met with owner. They said they wanted to think about it but the Village never heard back. Nevenhoven will look into purchasing additional bike racks.

Thank you to Dawn Kuefler for weeding the playground area at Prairie Park.

Kolzow said we should revisit the budget to see where we’re at and what can be accomplished for the remainder of the fiscal year. Believe Prairie Park should be a priority. The Village is working with the Forest Preserve on a bridge possibility. As far as cement work at the park, Nevenhoven said it is safe for now and may need to wait until next fiscal year to complete. Kolzow visited the parks with a rep from Nutoys. A standalone panel (tot age) can be added in the existing footprint. Larger items would require expansion of the footprint. Byerhof Park and Liberty/Kindberg Park are in need of improvement.

Nevenhoven advised IDNR has denied the Village’s application for a second park in Elburn Station (Unit 1). The reason being the Village does not own the land. We can apply for the next cycle next year—by that time, the Village should have deed to the property.

Nevenhoven advised the Village is starting the budget process for next fiscal year—now is the time to start thinking about projects, additional pieces for parks, etc. Kolzow would like Commissioners to consider the pros and cons with entering into a long-term lease with the Community Center and redo the playground. Kolzow spoke with the Community Center about this and they are interested. The Community Center’s lot is not for sale anymore. Perhaps an OSLAD grant for the Community Center park is an option if the Village enters into a long-term lease. Five options are needed for an OSLAD grant—a large slide or rocket would be fun along with other options.

Reilley said there is development under consideration in the Prairie Valley North area. The Village should see about connecting bike and walking paths and adding park(s) to new developments.

Nevenhoven reminded everyone of the Elburn Comprehensive Plan review on Monday, September 30—everyone received invitations.

Nevenhoven stated there is no update on the Anderson Road extension.

9. Adjourn - Dickinson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. with Szumny seconding the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Diane McQuilkin
Village Clerk