

MINUTES  
VILLAGE OF ELBURN PARKS COMMISSION  
OCTOBER 15, 2019

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

Members Absent: Brian McCarty, Amy Szumny

Staff Members Present: Village Administrator John Nevenhoven

Others Present: Resident Bill Myers

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. Public Comment – None
5. Approval of Minutes – September 17, 2019 – A motion to approve the minutes was made by Leach and seconded by Kuefler. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
6. Commissioners Projects
  - a. Elburn Station Community Park Update – Village Admin Nevenhoven stated an engineering meeting will be held at 2:00 on the 28<sup>th</sup> if anyone is interested in attending. Moving dirt will not happen until springtime. The property is drier than it has been because Public Works opened some drainage pipes at the Metra Station improving the flow. Public Works will keep an eye on this and keep it open in the future. Lot 150 (the 20 acre park parcel) is to be dedicated to the Village soon. A proposed change to the plat by Shodeen has caused it to go back to the Village Board for review. While the Village technically owns the land, it has not been recorded. Ownership of the land caused a problem for an OSLAD grant attempt in Unit 1. There was consensus the Village should apply for the next OSLAD grant elsewhere in the Village rather than Elburn Station.
  - b. Existing Parks Improvement Recommendations – Kolzow has pricing for activity panels for smaller children. Kuefler asked about spraying playgrounds vs weeding—are there friendly spray options? Kolzow will work with the Public Works Superintendent and come up with a plan. It was asked why Public Works isn't pulling weeds in the parks. Nevenhoven said there isn't enough manpower. Perhaps we should consider doing what the school district does—contract with an outside vendor and put out a notice each time spraying occurs. The Village currently has someone who treats the grass in the parks—perhaps the same person can spray the playgrounds.

Kolzow spoke with the Community Center Board and they are open to the idea of working with the Village. Legalities would have to be worked out (long-term agreement) and perhaps this would be a good location for the next OSLAD grant. Perhaps the playground can be shifted in order to build more parking. However, the geothermal field (which is 6' deep) needs to be kept in mind. The current playground equipment should probably be scrapped. Both parties agree the long-term agreement is contingent on approval of the grant. This will be the Parks Commission focus next year. Nevenhoven will present to the Village Board and will begin drafting an agreement if they agree.
  - c. Future Events Planning – Kolzow obtained information from the Community Center who investigated different events including movies (indoors and outdoors), etc. There is a \$600/year license fee for showing movies. Other ideas generated are a live band, kids programs, etc. A dollar amount needs to be determined for next year's budget. Until we get a feel for participation, there was consensus to host four months of activities (one per month during June, July, August,

September). It would be nice to rotate events to different parks that can handle the attendance. Perhaps a rental company can run the entire show (setup, run the movie, etc.) like the Lions Club had. Leach will check with the Lions to see who they used for a movie event in the past.

d. Outdoor, one-time events – See discussion above.

7. Other Business

- a. Nevenhoven stated the Park Commission should have a “good draft” budget completed by January. Everyone was encouraged to bring projects and budget numbers to the next meeting. In the revenue and expenditure report, the Parks fund has \$53,654.14 remaining in the budget for this fiscal year.
- b. Nevenhoven advised a check from the Blackberry Creek HOA was received today for the shelter at Elliott Family Park. Nevenhoven will meet with McCarty to see if we can get it put up this year.
- c. Nevenhoven reported the bridge option from the Forest Preserve is no longer viable for Prairie Park. We will look into box culverts. Nevenhoven will check with Supt VanBogaert to see if this is something we can get started this fall/winter. Total cost is \$25K to \$27K. The Commissioners asked if they could see a rendering of the bridge and shelter in advance to ensure structures will be appealing and fit in.
- d. Folks on Spokes Bike Ride – can someone take this on? Leach and Reilley are willing to help but can't take the lead. Perhaps it could be a monthly event to include decorating bikes, wear costumes, and other silly things. It could grow over time and be something everyone looks forward to. It does not have to be a long ride. Volunteers would be needed along the course to help direct participants. Signs, food and refreshments would also be needed. It does not have to be someone on the Parks Commission to take this over—it can be an outside volunteer. Leach will write up a proposal as to what it would take to make this type of event(s) happen. Reilley will help with the proposal.
- e. No update on a dog park—a grant opportunity will be available next year. A plan will be required for the grant. It was suggested the Village partner with the Elburn Vet Clinic and use the south end of their property for the park. Reilley will speak with the vet clinic to see if they would be interested.
- f. The American Legion is thinking about purchasing a couple of park benches to put in front of their building on Main Street.
- g. Reilley suggested everyone join the What's Happening in Elburn Facebook page to keep up on discussion about what's going on around town.
- h. The Annual Christmas Stroll will be on December 7.

8. Adjourn - Kuefler motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. with Leach seconding the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Diane McQuilkin  
Village Clerk