

MINUTES  
VILLAGE OF ELBURN PARKS COMMISSION  
JANUARY 18, 2023  
AT ELBURN VILLAGE HALL

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Village Administrator John Nevenhoven

Others Present: Alli Hoebing: Research Specialist/Association and Public Management (NIU), Melissa Henricksen: MPP- Asst. Director, Strategic Management, Policy and Community Development (NIU), Mike Clark (via phone): Park District and Park Consultant Expert (NIU), Cheryl Gross (public)

1. Call to Order: Chair Kolzow called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
2. Pledge of Allegiance: Chair 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: December 20, 2022 – A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dickinson and seconded by Ott. The motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.
6. Commissioners Projects

Strategic Plan Presentation:

- Allie Hoebing and Melissa Henricksen from NIU lead the presentation. Mike Clark spoke about the four different options for Elburn. Those options are a recreation commission, recreation department, park district, and recreation association. Clark had two recommendations for Elburn if vision and community input show the residents' interests and needs for more.
  - i. Form a Park District or Recreation Association with other municipalities and leave it to the will of the residents/voters via a referendum.
  - ii. If the above is not supported, the Village can proceed with a Plan B which would be a Village operated Recreation Department, and it would live within the means of a tax levy of the current Village footprint.
- Hoebing and Henricksen reviewed the Community Survey and Focus Group results from 2022.
- The commission discussed the vision for the future of parks and recreation in Elburn as to what it would be in 10-15 years.
- A S.W.O.C./T. analysis was discussed regarding the Parks Commission's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges/threats.
- The commission discussed short term and long term goals for the Village of Elburn in regards to the Parks Commission. These goals will be sent out to the commission from NIU for the commission to rank in order of priority.
- Public Comment: Cheryl Gross thanked everyone for volunteering and being a part of the commission. Although Cheryl does not live in Elburn, she is a business owner in Elburn. She recognizes the sense of community within the Village of Elburn.

7. Other Business: None

8. Adjourn: McCarty motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM with Kuefler seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Katie Johnston  
Deputy Village Clerk