

VILLAGE OF GRAFTON

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 19, 2020

The Parks and Recreation Board meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chairperson Meg Canepa

Members present: Chairperson Meg Canepa, Trustee Jim Miller, Trustee Amy Luft, Mark Slaminski, Steve Nauta, Jodi Wolf, and Jamie Grenoble

Staff/Officials present: Director of Parks and Recreation John Safstrom, Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Karin Sevener, Administrative Secretary Charlie Donohue, Community Development Director Jessica Wolff, and Trustee Lisa Uribe Harbeck (6:08 p.m.)

Others present: Grafton Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Pam King

MINUTES

Motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by J. Wolf, to approve the June 17, 2020, Parks and Recreation Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

PERSONS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD

Grafton Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Pam King stated on behalf of the Chamber Organization she is thrilled to be able to honor Director Safstrom with the Outstanding Community Partner Award. This award is to honor and reward Director Safstrom for all the work he has done for the community. She further stated Director Safstrom will receive the award at the Grafton Area Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing and Annual Meeting and Awards Reception on Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at The Bog Golf Course. The Board Members congratulated Director Safstrom.

ADULT PICKLEBALL FEES

Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Karin Sevener stated Grafton's current Adult Pickleball fees are similar or below other comparable government locations. Due to a decrease in the number of participants and an increase in salary expenses, she is recommending the fee increase from \$3.00 per person to \$5.00 per person daily. She further stated a 10-play card option for \$40.00 will be offered. In 2014, the Program Director earned \$9.41 per hour and now this staff person is classified as an Adult League Supervisor at \$12.16 per hour.

Trustee Miller asked why the number of participants is dropping. Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Sevener stated a location change and other communities offering the same dates of play may be a reason. Director Safstrom stated the numbers were favorable when the group played at John Long Middle School. When the Department chose to move the location to Kennedy Elementary School, many players were unhappy.

Trustee Luft inquired if the players have been surveyed and expressed concern that an increase in price could have the potential to deter more players from attending in Grafton. Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Sevenser stated she has not surveyed the group as they have not been playing due to Covid-19. She further stated she has spoken with the Adult League Supervisor and he did not think the price increase would be a deterrent.

S. Nauta inquired if Grafton's participation numbers are in line with other communities. Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Sevenser stated the numbers are pretty consistent.

M. Slaminski inquired if the Department has access to the courts at John Long Middle School and also asked if they are marked specifically for pickleball. Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Sevenser stated yes, the courts are specifically marked for pickleball and the Department does have access to the courts. The courts were available to the public in the months of July and August. The participation numbers were not documented as this was open play.

Trustee Luft asked why the staff person changed classifications and received a pay increase. Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Sevenser stated an Adult League Supervisor is for programs with adults only. This is more in line than a Program Director, which is for programs with children.

Motion by Chair Canepa, seconded by Trustee Luft, to approve the 2020 Adult Pickleball fees as proposed. Motion carried.

CENTENNIAL PARK BALL FIELD NAMING

Director Safstrom gave an overview of the lighted ball diamond request. He stated in the past 28 years, the Board has installed benches and trees, but has not named a facility after an individual.

S. Nauta stated he personally knew Dave Pfannerstill and informed members of his background and passion for softball. S. Nauta stated it is really a great idea to allow something in Mr. Pfannerstill's honor.

Trustee Luft stated the request does not meet the guidelines for naming of Public Parks and Recreation Areas. Director Safstrom agreed. He stated he does not feel the guidelines are being met, but the request was made and felt the Board should discuss. He stated a bench may be a better fit or some other amenity for the softball field.

Trustee Harbeck stated the request is not signed and asked Director Safstrom who submitted the request. Director Safstrom stated the request came from Mr. Pfannerstill's twin brother. He further stated he would contact him and let him know the feedback from the meeting.

VILLAGE OF GRAFTON NEEDS ASSESSMENT STUDY PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IMPACT FEES

Director Safstrom stated as part of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, the Village of Grafton Needs Assessment Study Park and Recreational Facilities Impact Fees should be updated as well.

Community Development Director Jessica Wolff stated there was a small decrease in the fee calculated.

Director Safstrom informed members once the resolution is passed, it will be valid for five years.

S. Nauta suggested removing the words “caused to be” in the first sentence in Section A of the resolution. Members agreed.

Motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by J. Wolf, to recommend the Village Board approve the updated Village of Grafton Needs Assessment Study Park and Recreational Facilities Impact Fees with corrections made. Motion carried.

BENCHMARK MEASUREMENTS

Director Safstrom stated the Department is waiting to hear from the School District regarding facility usage for the upcoming school year.

SENIOR REPORT

J. Wolf thanked her husband for refinishing the benches at the Senior Center. Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Sevenser stated Mr. Wolf did a great job of refinishing four benches.

Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Sevenser informed members the Multipurpose Senior Center is offering outdoor exercise and bocce ball. The Center is also a meal site for the county, which is offering a drive thru service while the Center is closed to the public. She further stated Senior Center Office Assistant Katie Dunfee and herself have been working on projects around the center, including weeding around the building and removing wallpaper and repainting.

Chair Canepa inquired on the progress of the Bee Pollination project. Director Safstrom stated he has not been in touch with Ms. Lindemann. M. Slaminski stated he attempted to reach out to Ms. Lindemann to offer a donation via email; however, he has not received a response and was questioning the contact information. Chair Canepa stated she was able to communicate using the same contact information and suggested he try again.

ADJOURN

Motion by Chair Canepa, seconded J. Miller, to adjourn at 6:32 p.m.
Motion carried.