

VILLAGE OF GRAFTON

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MAY 18, 2022

The Parks and Recreation Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Canepa

Members present: Chairperson Meg Canepa, Trustee Jim Miller, Jamie Grenoble, and Jodi Wolf

Members excused: Trustee Amy Luft, Steven Nauta, and Mark Slaminski

Staff/Officials present: Parks and Recreation Director Chad Hoier, Senior Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor Karin Sevener, Administrative Assistant Charlie Donohue

MINUTES

Motion by J. Wolf, seconded by Chair Canepa, to approve the April 20, 2022, Parks and Recreation Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

PERSONS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD

None.

PARK FACILITIES AND AMENITIES INVENTORY DISCUSSION

Parks and Recreation Director Chad Hoier informed members over the winter and spring months, he has reviewed and inventoried facilities and amenities included at each park location. While going through the process, he has identified a list of improvements that need to happen in each park. This will also help identify and prioritize projects that are in most need of replacement that overtime can be put into the Village Five Year Capital Improvement Plan. The inventory list was put together for the Park and Recreation Board to give feedback and guidance to help identify upgrades and improvements throughout our park system. He further explained the highlighted items on the list are items he feels are a priority.

J. Grenoble asked if there is a list of ages for each item. Director Hoier stated he would investigate this.

Director Hoier gave an overview of the list of items in each park.

J. Grenoble stated there are a few rusty pieces on the Lime Kiln Park play equipment. Director Hoier stated he would ask staff to look at these items. He further stated for being a very aged wood play structure, the equipment is still in decent shape.

J. Grenoble inquired on the status of the recycle containers in the park. Director Hoier stated new blue tops for the trash receptacles were purchased and installed in Centennial Park, Lime Kiln Park, and Veterans Memorial Park. Trustee Miller asked if

more tops would be purchased. Director Hoier stated he plans to place an additional recycle container at Grafton Lions Park, but is waiting to see the status of funds available in the budget.

Discussion was held regarding park signage. Director Hoier stated while some parks have signage, others do not. He further stated signs are included in the 5 Year Capital Improvement Program.

Discussion was held regarding the River Bend Park amenities. Chair Canepa inquired if there was a need for additional ball diamonds in such close proximity to the Little League ball diamonds on Cheyenne Avenue. Director Hoier stated the Little League group has grown exponentially and is using the fields on Cheyenne Avenue as well as the ball diamonds at Centennial Park and is excited to be able to play under the lights at Centennial. Discussion was held regarding the necessary ball diamond maintenance at Centennial Park.

Director Hoier stated the basketball courts at Third Avenue Park, Dellwood Park, Pine Street Park, and Wildwood Park are all in need of replacement. Discussion was held regarding basketball court usage, basketball hoop styles, size of courts, court materials, cost, and need at all locations.

J. Grenoble stated the rubber mulch seems to be thin at Wildwood Park and inquired if this could be filled. Director Hoier stated he will investigate if the Department has rubber mulch available and, if not, will look into the cost to purchase.

2023 – 2027 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Director Hoier gave an overview of the 2023 – 2027 Capital Improvement Program, including one significant change; additional funds for park upgrades.

Trustee Miller inquired if ARPA Funds will be used for the Veterans Memorial Park project. Director Hoier stated he has limited knowledge on this process, but is aware there is very specific criteria to meet to qualify. Trustee Miller stated this was discussed at the Village Board level.

Trustee Miller inquired on the status of the repairs at Veterans Memorial Park. Director Hoier stated the hired company worked nights and weekends and the repairs are now complete. Trustee Miller inquired on the status of the painting at the building. Director gave an overview of the areas to be painted.

BENCHMARK MEASUREMENTS

Board members had no comments regarding the Department's benchmarks.

SENIOR REPORT

J. Wolf stated many senior members are looking forward to the upcoming Senior Games and the July picnic at Lime Kiln Park. She further stated the Mother's Day Lunch, including a performance by the Golden Tones Choir, was a very nice event.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Director Hoier informed members the park seasonal staff will begin working next week and in-service and training dates have been scheduled for the Family Aquatic Center seasonal staff. Staff has begun filling the pool and chemicals will be added next week.

Chair Canepa asked who will be managing the pool this year. Director Hoier stated Aubrey Buchholtz will return as the pool manager again this summer. Ms. Buchholtz recently graduated from Concordia University and will begin her master's program this fall. He further stated she has already been organizing and prepping for the summer season.

Director Hoier stated he and Village Administrator Thyges met with Parkitecture + Planning to discuss the Veterans Memorial Park project.

Director Hoier informed members the Family Aquatic Center shade structure, Grafton Lions Park kayak launch, and Centennial Park scoreboard have all been ordered. Director Hoier is now waiting for delivery confirmation.

J. Grenoble inquired on the Family Aquatic Center staffing. Director Hoier stated the Department has been very fortunate with the number of returning staff and applicants for the summer, as many area pool facilities are reducing their hours or closing all together due to staffing shortages. Currently 12 pool attendants and 20-25 lifeguards have been hired. He further stated he hopes to hire a few more lifeguards before the pool season begins.

Trustee Miller inquired on the Grafton Clean Day event. Director Hoier stated this was a very well attended event.

Director Hoier stated the next scheduled meeting will be in July as June will be a very busy month with opening the pool and recreation programming underway. He stated he will have more detailed information ready to share with members at the July meeting.

J. Grenoble stated she is unable to make the July meeting, as she will be on vacation. Discussion was held regarding changing the June meeting to a week before or after the normally scheduled date. Director Hoier stated it is difficult to hold a meeting in the month of June, as it is very difficult to put together a detailed agenda with the opening of the pool and the start of many recreation programs. Trustee Miller stated he is against canceling the June meeting. Director Hoier suggested scheduling a meeting with Trustee Miller during the month of June to share an update. He also offered to email members during the month of June with an update.

ADJOURN

Motion by Chair Canepa, seconded by J. Grenoble, to adjourn at 6:45 p.m.
Motion carried.