

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, March 2, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER: M. Healy called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL: Commissioners present: Martin Healy, James Joyce and Winfred Lyday
Arrived late: Piotrowski and D. Rasmussen
Also present: Recreation Administrative Coordinator, Ryan Harrison, Recreation Program Manager, Rita Ligeikis, Director of Recreation, Aleks Briedis and Walt Knake, Executive Director for the Park District.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Commission reviewed the minutes from the November 3, 2022 meeting. J. Joyce made a motion to approve the minutes. M. Healy seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved. Roll call was taken and the motion passed unanimously.
4. CITIZENS COMMENTS: None.
5. OLD BUSINESS: None
6. NEW BUSINESS:
 - a) Financials ending December 2022: A. Briedis reported that we are tracking as expected. He reviewed each category with the Commission. The following are questions and responses.
J. Joyce asked what Men's Open gym was. A. Briedis responded basketball for ages over 35 where pick-up games are played.
J. Joyce asked about having more camps. R. Ligeikis responded that 1-week camps are popular and would try and offer more.
D. Rasmussen asked why coop programs revenue was less than previous years. R. Ligeikis responded that less coop classes are being offered than in the past.
D. Rasmussen commented that we should investigate a fitness company to run the fitness classes.
D. Rasmussen asked when the Grand Avenue gym project was planned to begin. A. Briedis responded that the project was not yet out to bid, but is planned to be completed by year end.
W. Lyday asked what we do with all the leftover Tower Trot shirts A. Briedis stated that we use them as giveaways at special events.
D. Rasmussen asked what GAP is. A. Briedis answered Grand Avenue Preschool.
D. Rasmussen asked how grant information is obtained. A. Briedis stated he usually finds out through emails sent from parks and recreation organizations.
W. Lyday asked why there are Building Improvements in 2 different areas of the budget. A. Briedis stated one is for the Recreation Center and the other is the Grand Avenue Community Center.
D. Rasmussen asked how maxed out are our building availability. A. Briedis responded at approximately 95% capacity.

D. Rasmussen asked if there was a minimum age for Open Gym. R. Harrison responded that currently there was not.

7. REPORTS:

- a) **DIRECTOR BRIEDIS:** A. Briedis gave an overview of his written report which included the success of two recent Special Events and Youth Basketball programs, the addition of more Open Gym programs, numbers from our Winter/Spring registration, Tower Trot planning underway, and info on our summer brochure timeline and sessions. Facility wise, the new monitors are up and running, a new drinking fountain with bottle filler will be installed at the Recreation Center and plans for signage at both facilities. He also stated that the Village of Willowbrook has requested to become a member of SEASPAR and that he had been appointed to two new committees.
- b) **PROGRAM MANAGER LIGEIKIS:** R. Ligeikis gave a summary of her written report which included the participation in Safety Days, the high demand for the 1-3 yrs. old programs (By Gym Mini and Sweetie and Me) and an Early Childhood staff update. She stated she is working on the summer brochure and well as interviewing staff and, planning for the camp and Safety Village program. Both Special events, the Candy Cane Cordial and the Little Sweetheart Dance were successful, well attended, revenue generating events.
- c) **SUPERVISOR KENNY:** M. Kenny gave a summary of his written report that touched upon In House, Travel and Spartz Sports Basketball programs that continue to thrive and grow with over 500 participants. He stated as basketball winds down the gym time will be replaced with several Open Gyms and Pickleball which is currently scheduled for 5 days a week until May, when they will shift outdoors for Spring and Summer. Blue Moose programs have started at Laidlaw and Forest Hills and Tower Trot and summer program planning and preparations are underway.
- d) **ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR HARRISON:** R. Harrison gave a summary of his written report which included projects he will be pursuing such as working on a program evaluation form, generating ideas for special events as well as activities to offer to increase attendance at the French Market and continuing to increase our social media impressions by posting photos and flyers of our programs. Some of the projects that he has completed include updating the layouts of the digital signage, hiring 4 Building Supervisors and helping purchase staff apparel for them, gathering summer brochure material and attending the IPRA Conference in Chicago.
- e) **TRUSTEE AND BOARD REPORT:** A. Briedis asked if there were any questions regarding Village business. The Commission had no questions. See <https://wsprings.com/AgendaCenter> for specific Village board meeting minutes.
- f) **PARK DISTRICT UPDATE:** W. Knake reported on the following: *The Park District did not receive the OSLAD grant. He is asking for a review of their application. M. Healy asked if this was the 2nd time they were denied. W. Knake replied yes. *\$200,000

has been pledged for the new pickleball courts along with the Rotary club adding an additionally \$50,000. *Pickleball complaints come in from neighbors saying it is too noisy while others complain there is not enough play time for certain levels. * Projects scheduled are the renovation of Clark Park, new play equipment for Timber Trails, and recoating of Laidlaw tennis courts. Events scheduled are the Easter Egg Hunt and the Picnic in the Park.

- 8) COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: None.
- 9) OTHER: A. Briedis handed out official IAPD cards to the Commission.
- 10) NEXT MEETING: The next Recreation Commission meeting will be held on June 29, 2023.
- 11) ADJOURNMENT: W. Lyday motioned, and J. Joyce seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Roll call was taken and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rita Ligeikis
Recreation Program Manager/Commission Secretary