

## Minutes

**BOARD/COMMISSION:** Recreation

**DATE:** January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**MEETING:** Regular

**CALLED TO ORDER:** 7:31 p.m.

**QUORUM:** Yes

**ADJOURNED:** 9:51 p.m.

**MEMBER ATTENDANCE:**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Girsch,  
Commissioners  
Rosley, Dwyer, Power  
Forman, Cavanagh  
Gallagher; Recreation  
Director Pekarek

**LOCATION:** Glen Ellyn Civic Center

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Conley

**ALSO PRESENT:** Trustee Liaison  
Cooper, Village Links  
Director of Golf Jeff  
Vesevick

### Call to Order

Chairman Girsch called the Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

### Introduction of new Commissioner Cheryl Conley

Chairman Girsch stated Commissioner Conley would not be in attendance at tonight's meeting and an introduction would take place at the next scheduled meeting.

### Public Comments

No public comments were given.

### Approval of the Minutes of the November 17, 2009 meeting of the Recreation Commission

Chairman Girsch stated the minutes were prepared by Mr. Pekarek and she requested to move the approval of this agenda item to the next scheduled meeting on February 17, 2010.

## **Standing Reports**

### **Manager – Matt Pekarek**

Mr. Pekarek stated that November and December have not been very active months and should not impact revenue on a large scale. He discussed that the 2009 revenue was well behind the 2008 revenue in almost every category.

Mr. Pekarek stated the Village of Glen Ellyn completed its 7<sup>th</sup> year of bond payments to pay for renovations of the golf course and 13 years of payment still remain. Commissioner Rosley questioned why the newsletter was so late in getting to the residents. Mr. Pekarek agreed and stated there have been issues with printing the newsletters in the past and the Village has switched to a new printing company. Commissioner Posley also questioned the progress of sign ups for outings and if there is a marketing plan for accruing more sign ups. Mr. Pekarek stated a marketing plan will be in the works in the coming months and provided a brief overview of how the Village will try to work with local organizations such as schools and the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Vesevick stated bookings have been way down in the past years and many companies and organizations have cancelled golf outings due to budget cuts.

Trustee Cooper questioned why the administration costs were so much higher than in the month of November. Mr. Pekarek stated that a \$250,000 debt service payment was made in December and a one time extra expense was the reason for the increased expense. He also discussed that there are 27 payrolls in a normal payroll and due to the holiday schedule and extra payroll was placed in the 2009 expense account.

### **Trustee Liaison – Peter Cooper**

Trustee Cooper reported the Village clerk has retired and Suzanne Connors will be filling in until the next Village election. He also stated the Village has negotiated a new contract with the Police union that is scheduled for approval at the next Board meeting. He also asked the Commission members for their opinions about holiday lights in the central business district.

Trustee Cooper also discussed the leaf removal program and possible changes to the current plan such as changing the annual fee for unlimited bags, raking in parkway, and other options. The Recreation Commission discussed these alternatives and rated the pros and cons of each option. Chairman Girsch stated she opposed to the annual charge and was in favor of a user fee.

Trustee Cooper questioned if the Village should pursue an ordinance to shovel sidewalks in Glen Ellyn. The Commission discussed how the Village could enforce this and the rules and regulations that could be placed in order to apply a sidewalk ordinance in the Village. Chairman Girsch expressed her concerns with this type of request and was not in favor of pursuing an ordinance to require residents to shovel sidewalks on parkway property.

### **State of the Village Links – Matt Pekarek**

Mr. Pekarek presented the State of the Village Links Report to the Recreation Commission. He reported on the profit/loss summary for the 2009 season and compared these figures to the previous five years. He stated although demand was generally declining, the course has remained profitable and is faring much better than other municipal golf courses.

Commissioner Dwyer questioned the forecast for 2010. Mr. Pekarek stated at this point it is hard to tell what to expect in the upcoming year, the trend over the last five years has shown a steady decline but that could change this year only time will tell. Commissioner Cavanagh questioned if the weather had an effect on the number of rounds played this year. Mr. Pekarek stated some months were great while other months had terrible weather. Over the course of the year the weather tends to average out with both good and bad months. Mr. Pekarek stated the introduction of youth classes have helped the overall number rounds played at the nine hole course.

### **New Revenue Ideas – Summary of Past Efforts – Matt Pekarek**

Mr. Pekarek presented information regarding this agenda item. He stated when determining new revenue ideas several factors come into play such as the upfront costs, the long term revenue, compatibility, staffing, and other factors. He stated any ideas that require drive by traffic will be hard to accomplish because of the location and lack of cars that use the road the golf course is located on. Mr. Rosley stated revenue may not be the only issue that this discussion should include. The Commission discussed Mr. Pekarek's report and tabled the idea of installing a golf dome on the Village property. Commissioner Rosley suggested to take the risk out of the Village and place it in business investors to try and make the golf dome a success. He noted the Village would still receive profits if it succeeds but in the event of a failure the Village would not lose any funds. Trustee Cooper stated the Village does not want to be in a situation where the golf course is operating at a substantial loss and is actively looking for ways to raise revenue through either golf related events or another type of project.

Mr. Pekarek mentioned that staff has considered a wide range of possibilities including moving the entrance to a busier road or the installation of lights on the driving range. General discussion took place over the pros and cons of other options that were included in Mr. Pekarek's report as well as other ideas that were brought from the Commission members. The Commission also discussed the different markets of the golf course such as children, seniors, and working with other organizations such as local health clubs and the College of DuPage to increase the league play at the golf course. Discussion continued between the Commission members as more information was gathered as this topic will be placed on the next scheduled meeting. Chairman Girsch thanked Mr. Pekarek for developing such a comprehensive list of potential revenue ideas that could be implemented at the golf course.

Commissioner Power stated as a Commission, a general consensus should be discussed and a recommendation should be given to the Board in order to try and move forward with a suggestion that Mr. Pekarek has presented or introduce a new idea that could potentially raise revenue. Chairman Girsch agreed and stated a deadline could be implemented in the next few meetings for the Commission to come up with a recommendation to be carried to the Village Board.

### **Announcements and Other Business**

No announcements were made.

### **Reminder – Next Meeting Scheduled for Wednesday February 17, 2010 at 7:30 PM at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center**

Chairman Girsch confirmed the next scheduled meeting will take place on Wednesday February 17, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

### **Adjournment**

Commission Rosley moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Gallagher. Motion carried.

Submitted by: Chris Ragona

Reviewed and edited by Matt Pekarek, Recreation Director February 12, 2010

Approved by the Recreation Commission February 17, 2010.