

Minutes

BOARD/COMMISSION: Recreation

DATE: May 10, 2011

MEETING: Regular

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:33 p.m.

QUORUM: Yes

ADJOURNED: 9:28 p.m.

LOCATION: Glen Ellyn Civic Center

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Chairman Girsch, Commissioners Cavanagh, Cornwell, Dell, Graham,
Miller

ABSENT: Commissioner Jourdan,

ALSO PRESENT: Trustee Liaison Cooper, Recreation Director Pekarek

Call to Order

Chairman Girsch called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM. Ward Miller was welcomed to the Commission, Mr. Miller's appointment to the Commission is expected to be approved on April 25, 2011.

Public Comments

None.

Approval of Minutes

The draft minutes of the April 20, 2011 meeting have not been received.

Standing Reports

Manager – Matt Pekarek

Mr. Pekarek reported that play was slow in April, with weather that was much less conducive to golf than the unseasonably nice April of 2010.

1st Assistant Golf Professional Mike Campbell has done an excellent job discouraging Canada geese from nesting at the golf course. With no nests on the golf course, the Village Links should be essentially goose free through late June. Adult geese remain with their young in March and April. They then molt and cannot fly until new flight feathers emerge around July 1. There was discussion about the role and effectiveness of Dylan, the Village Links goose chasing border collie.

Interest in the Spring Special continues to grow. 2011 is the second year for this promotion. It is generating \$22,000 in direct weekday green fee revenue in April and May, up from \$17,000 last

year. Chairman Girsch asked if the Spring Special applied to March. Mr. Pekarek responded that the Spring Special benefit of free weekday golf was extended to March, but write-ups outlining the promotion did not list March as a feature because of the generally poor golf weather in March that might dissuade customers from the promotion as a result. Mr. Pekarek agreed that in the future it might be helpful to advertise March as a “bonus month”.

Financial Report

Mr. Pekarek reported that rounds played was down 37% in April and revenue was down 32%. Year to date revenue is down 29%.

Commissioner Dell asked about the Village Links Junior Golf Program, suggesting that the Village Links would benefit from getting more families to patronize the course. Mr. Pekarek responded that while junior golf is important to the Village Links, it does not play a significant role in generating revenue.

Commissioner Dell suggested that more tournaments late in the year would increase play through the Fall. He cited a successful tournament at a local park district course that he play in his youth that enjoyed great success doing this. Mr. Pekarek summarized the four tournaments held at the Village Links after Labor Day each year. The most recent event was added in late November last year. He agreed that tournaments create interest and said that staff looks to schedule as many competitions as customers will patronize.

Trustee Liaison’s Report

Trustee Liaison Cooper reported that Manor Woods has reopened, due to efforts by local residents and a contractor hired by the Public Works Department. Public Works and Recreation Department staff have developed a plan for maintaining and improving Manor Woods over the next several years at a reasonable cost.

The process for selecting a new Village Manager continues. A new manager should be named by the end of the month.

A new budget was approved for fiscal year 2011-12.

The Village continues to work on an intergovernmental agreement with the College of DuPage to replace the agreement that COD terminated.

There were questions and discussion about the paddle tennis warming hut proposed for Maryknoll Park. This is a Park District project that the Village does not control.

Storm Water Detention System

Mr. Pekarek gave a presentation on the storm water detention system that is integrated into the Recreation Department properties. The Village Links, Panfish Park, Lambert Lake and Village

Green were all purchased and developed to serve as storm water detention, with recreation as a secondary purpose. Storm water flows onto those properties from Wheaton and south Glen Ellyn. The water flows into 25 interconnected ponds, with a single exit pipe at the southeast corner of the Village Links at hole #2. In heavy rains, when water is flowing into the system faster than it can exit from that single pipe, the golf course lakes overflow their banks and the golf course floods. During the severe flooding on July 24, 2010, 55 acres of golf course flooded. Water is released downstream at a controlled rate and within 36-hours after the rain stops, the water has subsided and the golf course is open for play. The storm water system consists of storm water basins, ponds, pipes that connect the ponds and control structures that set the water level for each pond. An important aspect in maintaining this system is protecting over 6-miles of pond shoreline from erosion. The storm water stored in ponds is the primary source of golf course irrigation water. The system is an environmental asset, that has served the Village for 43 years. It is maintained and operated by golf course revenues, at no cost to the tax payer.

Old Business

none

Next Meeting

Chairman Girsch reminded everyone that the next meeting will take place on Wednesday June 15, 2011.

Adjournment

With no further business, Chairman Girsch asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cornwell motioned for adjournment. Commissioner Cavanagh seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

Submitted by: Matt Pekarek, June 11, 2011

Approved by the Recreation Commission June 29, 2011