

# MINUTES

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BOARD OR COMMISSION: Recreation DATE: October 21, 2015  
MEETING: Regular X Special \_\_\_\_\_ CALLED TO ORDER: 7:01 PM  
QUORUM: Yes X No \_\_\_ ADJOURNED: 8:31 PM

## MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Chairman Browder, Commissioners Carroll, Dell, Graham and Reinke

ALSO PRESENT: Trustee O'Shea, General Manager Jeff Vesevick

ABSENT: Commissioners Jourdan, Kennebeck and Leuzzi

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The October 21, 2015 regular meeting of the Recreation Commission commenced at 7:01 PM at the Village Links of Glen Ellyn; 485 Winchell Way; Glen Ellyn Illinois by Chairman Browder. A quorum was present.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Carroll moved, and Commissioner Graham seconded approving minutes of the September 23, 2015 Commission meeting. The motion was approved.

## **STANDING REPORTS:**

### **Manager's Report**

#### GOLF

Manager Vesevick reported that September was another good month for golf. All golf revenues were up for the month except for the Driving Range, and revenues for all categories are up for the year. The nine-hole bunker renovation was started in September. The funds for the renovation are in the 2015 budget.

There were 33 outside events in September. Outings were of various sizes holding 1, 109 players and generating \$60,000 in golf revenue and \$30,000 in banquet revenue. Although the size of groups is shrinking, they did provide 14% of all golf revenue for September.

#### GROUNDS

The nine-hole bunker renovation was started in September. The funds for the renovation are in the 2015 budget. Dead trees were removed in Panfish Park and 41 tree stumps were ground and reseeded on the golf course.

The versatility of the grounds staff was shown in the past few weeks as they did everything from building an above ground roaster for the pig roast and replacing brake lines on trucks to cleaning carpets and rodding a drain at the clubhouse.

#### RESERVE 22

Restaurant and bar revenues were up 24% in September. Many outings, although small, used the banquet facilities. For the pig roast, although there were 230 reservations, 130 actually attended. Staff is considering various devices that will facilitate taking credit cards over the phone to help eliminate the no-show problem. However, those who did attend felt it was a success.

A buffet will be offered on Thanksgiving, with the facility closing by 4:00 PM. Commissioners discussed whether this event will be financially successful. Just a few large families will make it successful at \$33.00 a person.

The staff is requesting approval from the Village to expand the management staff at Reserve 22, and enrolling additional staff in the IMRF program. The need to add a Sous Chef and expected expansion of the banquet business are two of many examples of why this request is necessary. It was noted that the Village Manager's office is exploring other ways to organize staff hours.

Commissioners discussed how to reduce the number of no-shows that have made reservations for dinner or special events. There was a consensus that something needs to be done to require a deposit, although staff calls to confirm reservations 72 hours in advance. Concern was expressed about credit card security.

#### **Financial Report**

Manager Vesevick reported that there is over \$1 million in reserves, which will be used in the winter months. A surplus is expected for year-end. There are capital improvements that may

still be made in 2015 or obligated for 2016, as there have been few capital improvements to date. Cash reserves increased \$229,000 in September.

Commissioners discussed the drop in income on the driving range. Many junior golfers who would normally use the range during the PGA Jr. League were instead on the golf course. It was thought that discounts may be appropriate to increase range usage and revenue. The range is now larger, but the initial increase in revenue has slowed in the past two months.

### **TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

#### **Village Links User Fees for 2016**

Manager Vesevick circulated a chart showing fees of many courses in the area, including the Links. Commissioners' consensus was that the Links should be able to charge more. An increase of perhaps \$2 or \$3 over 70,000 rounds would be worth it, and would probably not cost many players. It was noted that the Links' somewhat higher non-resident rates serve to keep resident rates relatively lower. Also, rates were not raised after the renovations. Non-resident rates were last raised approximately 10 years ago. Manager Vesevick said that the number of rounds played in the area is flat, and only about 20% of course representatives said at a recent meeting that they are raising rates.

There was extensive discussion concerning programs to encourage pre-payment for several rounds at once and how to increase revenue without chasing away players. The goal for increased rates is to provide approximately \$100,000 in additional yearly revenue. In the past, cutting costs have always been the answer to maintain the bottom line. The consensus is now to raise rates. Manager Vesevick recommended the more conservative scenario presented of increasing rates overall approximately 5%. He also noted that any proposed changes do not have to immediately be brought before the Board of Trustees for approval, so the Commissioners have additional time to consider this matter.

Commissioners also discussed how best to present the changes to the public. Rates have not been increased for quite a while, and costs have increased. Staff wants to keep a good course and a good facility. It has been a good value, and will continue to be a good value even with a rate increase.

**The vote on a rate increase recommendation will be made at the Commission's November meeting.**

**Trustee Liaison Report**

Village staff is awaiting plans from the developer of the former Geische property, which will be impacted by the decision of St. Petronille's parish to not participate. Additionally, there has been a proposal received for the McChesney property, which will also feature Village parking. There are new restaurants expected to open in the downtown area.

The bonds for the new police station have been sold.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Trustee O'Shea asked that a schedule for topics of discussion be created and circulated. Manager Vesevick will circulate a calendar of future topics.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Graham moved and Commissioner Reinke seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Submitted by Karen Blake, Recording Secretary  
Reviewed by General Manager Jeff Vesevick