



*The mission of the Hoffman Estates Park District is to offer healthy and enjoyable experiences to our residents and guests by providing first class parks, facilities, programs and services in an environmentally and fiscally responsible manner.*

**MINUTES  
RECREATION COMMITTEE  
August 11, 2015**

**1. Roll Call:**

A regular meeting of the Hoffman Estates Park District Board of Commissioners was held on at the Triphahn Center in Hoffman Estates, IL.

Present: Commissioner R. Evans, Comm Rep Dressler, Henderson, Koltz, Neel, Wittkamp, Chairman Kinnane

Absent: None

Also Present: Executive Director Bostrom, Deputy Director/ A&F Director Talsma, P&D Director Buczkowski, Parks and Risk Director Giacalone, Rec/Facilities Director Kies, Golf Director Bechtold

Audience: Commissioners Kaplan, McGinn, Kilbridge, President Bickham, Mr. K. Evans

**2. Agenda:**

Commissioner Evans made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Koltz to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried by voice vote.

**3. Minutes:**

Comm Rep Dressler made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Wittkamp to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2015 meeting as presented. The motion carried by voice vote.

**4. Comments from the Audience:**

Commissioner McGinn noted that he had a great time at PIP.

**5. Old Business:**

None

**6. New Business:**

A. Wolf Pack Hockey/M15-098:

Executive Director Bostrom reviewed the item. Commissioner Evans asked about the NIHL Board and Executive Director Bostrom explained that they had their own board and terms and were voted in much like the Friends of HE Parks Foundation Board.

Comm Rep Neel asked if they were a rental could they go somewhere else and Executive Director Bostrom explained that they could but probably would not as they were getting a large quantity of ice unavailable elsewhere as well as prime ice time at the district and did not want to leave.

Director Kies noted that they were also branded here and had a strong reputation; other non-park district rinks are not always as financially sound.

Comm Rep Koltz asked if the hockey program could expand and Executive Director Bostrom explained the challenge would be finding ice time.

Commissioner Kaplan asked about the levels and it was noted that the district offered all levels but did not offer Central States.

Comm Rep Dressler asked if the contract was for one season and it was noted that it was.

Commissioner Kaplan explained that the managers and coaches decided which ice time slots to use for games versus practices per season. Director Kies explained that historically figure skating was usually scheduled prior to hockey times.

Chairman Kinnane asked about a community website that would show all open ice times for the area and Executive Director Bostrom explained that the GM of Ice Doschadis already had an email blast in place to notify other rinks if we had any open ice.

President Bickham asked about using Sears as overflow and Executive Director Bostrom explained that they were already working with the Sears Centre staff.

Comm Rep Koltz asked about the demand for figure skating and Director Kies explained that it was going strong along with the camps over the summer. He noted that hockey could probably take over 90/10 but they would hold at 80% keeping in mind the needs of the whole community.

Comm Rep Neel made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Dressler to recommend the board approve the annual ice rental agreement for WPHC, recognizing them as an ice rental with no ancillary services provided by the District. The motion carried by voice vote.

B. Skate Park/M15-090:

Executive Director Bostrom reviewed the item explaining that the Sheffield area had wanted a skate rink in the area, however, there did not appear to be enough demand to warrant such an expensive undertaking. Director Buczkowski noted his disappointment that there had not been more interest and greater turnout for the input meetings.

Comm Rep Dressler asked if the district offered classes and it was noted that they did at WRC, however, they did not always run.

Commissioner Evans wondered if the invited had included the people interested in sport bikes. Director Buczkowski said yes, however, many of the amenities did not work for both bikers and skaters.

Comm Rep Neel asked if the district hosted tournaments at the WRC Skate Park and Executive Director Bostrom noted that the park was not that large, however, they had offered free clinics.

Comm Rep Koltz asked about busing kids in and Executive Director Bostrom noted that the bus rentals were \$300/4 hours or another bus would cost \$75,000 to purchase as the district already used the buses they owned for preschool, etc.

Director Buczkowski noted he was on the Village Transportation Committee and that the Village subsidized cabs and that the cost from north to south would be about \$10/cab which might not be economical for a teen.

Mr. K. Evans noted that providing the transportation would also mean accepting the responsibility for that minor and making sure they were transported back home. He asked how many people had attended and it was noted that there were between 10 – 12 at each meeting. Mr. K. Evans noted that if 10 – 12 seniors showed up they would get a response from the district and he felt that activities for teens should be addressed. Executive Director Bostrom explained that the district was

interested in supporting the teens and pointed out that Knollwood Skate Park was less than a mile from the Sheffield area and that the district had a skate park at WRC. He explained that the kids were willing to travel to Chicago and other area suburbs to participate in those skate parks. Mr. K. Evans asked if the Sheffield Association was willing to contribute towards the construction of the park. Executive Director Bostrom said he could look into the matter. Mr. K. Evans also asked about expanding WRC Skate Park but Executive Director Bostrom noted that they would have to use part of the dog park for the expansion. Mr. K. Evans noted that there should be something on the south side for the teens and Executive Director Bostrom noted that staff was looking into some new teen friendly park amenities at Chino Park. Mr. K. Evans asked if Knollwood was busy or if Schaumburg was willing to expand their skate park or work together with Hoffman to expand it. Commissioner McGinn noted that what he heard at the meetings was that the kids were bored with Knollwood. Executive Director Bostrom explained that he could talk with Schaumburg about expanding.

Chairman Kinnane noted that the district had parks without kids in them and questioned the ROI for that.

The Committee consensus was to table the item until staff can check with Sheffield Association about their willingness to pay for a portion of the skate park and check with Schaumburg Park District to see about expansion at which time it will come back to the Recreation Committee.

C. IAPD Legislation / M15-096:

Executive Director Bostrom reviewed the issue noting that IAPD had been a great asset to the district over the years.

Mr. K. Evans asked if any portion of IMRF was state funded and it was noted that it was not. Deputy Director Talsma explained that a portion of the district's payments to IMRF could, however, be funded by property tax received.

Commissioner Kaplan asked if there were other lobby groups and Executive Director Bostrom noted there were none for the park districts. Commissioner Kaplan asked what would be the benefit of taking a position on this item and Deputy Director Talsma noted that the public was taking a greater interest in the care and well-being of public pensions. He also noted that IAPD did not abide by the same rules and regulations that a government park district did and could understand the concern.

Mr. K. Evans asked about the IAPD Board and if they were working in the best interest of IAPD given some of the salaries they had approved. Deputy Director Talsma explained they had 18 board members that were selected to serve but that could be something they may need to look at as situations like this should not exist.

Chairman Kinnane asked if IAPD would be viewed as damaged and no longer be effective. Deputy Director Talsma said he did not see any negative response to the articles.

President Bickham noted that IAPD supported the proposed legislature and that they were a very valuable organization to park districts and their boards.

Commissioner Kilbridge agreed that IAPD brought great value to the park districts they served.

Chairman Kinnane asked about the annual dues and Executive Director Bostrom explained that they were based upon district size and that the HEPD paid around \$7,800.

Commissioner Evans made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Koltz to recommend the board support the proposed legislation to eliminate future employees of lobbying groups from participating in IMRF. The motion carried by voice vote.

D. Balanced Scorecard/M15-093:

Executive Director Bostrom reviewed the item noting that one of the changes was the way they counted special events in that last year; that they were events that included specific facility events and this year they were only district-wide.

Comm Rep Dressler asked if there was any concern over any of the number changes and Executive Director Bostrom said no as they all understood what created those changes.

Comm Rep Henderson asked what the definition of a free event was in the report and Director Kies noted that it would be a district-wide free event such as Party in the Park or the Easter Egg Hunt.

Comm Rep Neel noted that the Scorecard was her favorite tool and thanked staff for their input.

Comm Rep Neel made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Koltz to recommend the board approve the Balanced Scorecard for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2015. The motion carried by voice vote.

E. Recreation, Facilities & Golf Report/M15-097:

Director Kies reviewed the report noting that PIP had been very successful. He also explained that they were looking to get involved in an Eagle Scout project to build an area with chimney-like structures to offer nesting places for a species of endangered bird.

Comm Rep Kaplan asked about the incident in the pool at the Volunteer Appreciation Night and why the pool had not been cleared. Director Kies explained that clearing the pool was a procedure from Ellis and Associates and that the new service did not follow the same procedure. He also explained that it was up to the Manager on Duty at the time to decide if the incident warranted clearing the pool. He also explained that the life guard in the article about the life saving at one of the other pools in Hoffman Estates had been trained by our staff and worked at Seascape for 3 years.

Comm Rep Koltz asked about the lost and found policy noting that his family had lost an item, called the next day to check on it and been told that the pool did not have the item. Later his wife went to Seascape to check and found the item along with other left items in the garbage can. Director Kies explained that wet items should be hung up and when dried put into the lost and found box, dry items could go directly to the lost and found box and valuable items went to the manager's office. He noted that anything not claimed by the end of the year was donated and that he would speak to staff about following those rules.

Director Bechtold reviewed the Golf report noting that they lost some rounds early in July due to the rain. He also explained that the Friday Rotary had moved to Schaumburg as some felt the Schaumburg/Hoffman Rotary should alternate between Schaumburg and Hoffman.

Commissioner Kaplan asked if they played after the meeting and Director Bechtold said they did not.

Comm Rep Wittkamp asked about the goats and it was noted that the 20 goats would arrive soon, be fenced in near the natural areas of the course to eat the invasive species. He was expecting it to be a beneficial experience.

Commissioner Evans asked about not manning the golf range hut and Director Bechtold said that it was not manned during slower times and they were not seeing any loss of revenue or much negative feedback.

Chairman Kinnane asked if the lights went off at certain times and Director Bechtold said they were turned off manually depending on what was going on at the range.

President Bickham asked about serving food at the range and Director Bechtold said that it started good but they did not see much anymore.

Commissioner Kaplan asked about the cart hours on the weekend and Director Bechtold said they were in about 7:15-7:30 and on the range by 7:45 am.

Commissioner Evans noted that he had seen a TV ad from Comcast Sports featuring BPC and staff. Director Bechtold said he would get information on when they would re-air it.

Mr. K. Evans asked about the danger to the goats from golf balls and coyotes and Director Bechtold noted that they would be secured inside an electric fence with potentially a 2<sup>nd</sup> fence to keep golfers away from the electric fence and that the goat owner was aware of the circumstances.

Mr. K. Evans noted that he was not impressed with the gaming results and still wished they had not renewed the license.

Comm Rep Neel informed the committee that the Schaumburg Dog Park was at full capacity and had a waiting list. Director Kies noted that they had a maximum of 500 dogs.

Commissioner Kaplan asked if the district had a vet and Director Kies explained they worked with a vet as a consultant who was with the Cook County Animal Control.

Comm Rep Koltz made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Wittkamp to send the Rec, Fac & Golf Report to the board. The motion carried by voice vote.

**7. Committee Member Comments:**

Comm Rep Neel said PIP and Volunteer Appreciation Night were awesome.

Commissioner Evans said the park tour was good; that the music at BPC was great with a great turnout and PIP was also great; staff had done a good job.

Chairman Kinnane awarded Comm Rep Neel a 2 year service pin for being a Comm Rep Volunteer.

**8. Adjournment:**

Commissioner Evans made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Henderson to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. The motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Dean R. Bostrom  
Secretary

Peggy Kusmierski  
Recording Secretary