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MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURES: The Parks and Recreation Board will meet in person and physical spacing will be observed. Any individual with a disability requiring a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact Director of Parks and Recreation Ron Malchiodi at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting at (708) 442-7025. Public comments are welcome on any topic related to the business of the Board during the portion of the meeting devoted to a particular agenda item, or during the period designated for public comment for non-agenda items. Individuals who wish to comment must be recognized by the Board Chairperson and then speak at the podium, beginning by identifying themselves.



**VILLAGE OF RIVERSIDE
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, September 26, 2023
Community Center, 43 E. Quincy Street, Riverside, IL 60546
7:00 pm**

Agenda

I. Call to Order: 7:01 PM

II. Roll Call:

Present: Colleen Incandela
John McGlennon
Sean O'Brien
Jen Dvorak
Elizabeth Kos

Also Present: President Doug Pollock (here to observe and introduce) Trustee Jill Mateo, & guests Ben Sells (147 Bloomingbank), Dave & Beth Strong (402 Fairbank), Cathy & Mike Maloney (290 Scottswood)

III. Approval of Minutes – August 28, 2023 Board Member O'Brien Motion. Board Member Dvorak second. Approved unanimously.

IV. Presentations and Public Comment

A.

V. Unfinished and Deferred Business

A. Disc Golf Update: John gave an update on the proposed course. From 2:00-5:00 PM

on Saturday, September 23, 9 temporary baskets were installed on the proposed course to get a feel for the course. There was a large camp out at the Scout Cabin, so the activity level was high for the day. Holes 7, 8, 9 were unusable due to the campout. Board Member McGlennon invited members of the disc golf community out and said it was too aggressive. Board Member McGlennon believes this course is not for disc golf community due to size, and many members of the community believe it's too small. Board Member McGlennon believes were not going to have that many disc golfers playing it, and it rather will be for the community. Board Member McGlennon let them use the greenspace beyond the tennis courts to make it worth their while to come out. The general feedback on holes 1-6 was good. Hole 1 was concerning because baseball was using the fence as the backstop and were hitting balls out toward hole 1. However, there was room for baseball to move to the other field. With hole 1 there, there would need to be a conversation with baseball to ensure they utilize all of the ball field area. Director Malchiodi will address this with them as it's not ideal regardless of disc golf out or not. Board Member McGlennon believes it did work, but there were too many disc golfers. 30 people out at once. Board Member McGlennon believes it was too many people for the first use of the course. The next time this occurs, it will be smaller and they will make sure holes 7-9 are available. Several committee members provided feedback as well. Director Malchiodi said walkthroughs were done with residents and small changes were made. There were discussions about moving baskets into the tree line. Director Tabb is concerned about poisoned ivy but not opposed to setting them back there. They will go back out with the Village Forester. This was one area where resident and disc golf concerns align, that the holes should be more tucked away for residents and this would make the course more difficult for disc golfers. It is a distinct possibility to tuck them back there, however the poisoned ivy is bad in that area.

- Ben Sells of 147 Bloomingbank mentioned that there is a natural corridor in the area that holes 7-9 were moved, and there is buckthorn in that area. He mentioned that we could move those holes at the back of the ball fields. Board Member McGlennon asked the group to go over there to see what it would look like and he wants to continue to have conversations about holes 7-9 to move them towards the back of the ball fields. Ben stated that he is fine with original 6 holes and believes that corridor could be cleared out for a fairway. If there is a hole going back toward the river it will provide more distance. Board Member McGlennon says that any change with distance is bringing in the disc golf community rather than towards residents. Director Malchiodi discussed that this is the process of looking at the location. The concern with the ball field area is about being able to have enough room to go back around and not have holes interfere with each other, but this is still a consideration. Ben observed positive feedback from the disc golf community that was in attendance on Saturday and they liked the difficulty and course. He thinks that day highlighted the problem with

holes 7-9 unavailable. He did observe that one person was going to release when someone ran in front of him. He stated this showed how aware golfers are with what's going on. The overall community standpoint is that holes 1-6 are good. If there's a way to stay away from the cabin where kids will be, the community would support it. The course should be contained in IG or along the path. The core objection is with holes 7-9. From an esthetic standpoint, IG is already an active recreation area, and holes 7-9 by the scout cabin is not an active recreation area. Director Malchiodi will have scheduled phone call with resident about moving holes 7-9 to behind the ball fields. The concern is that the position of the baskets on Saturday (when holes 7-9 were moved) was outside of the proposed plan. Director Malchiodi is worried moving the baskets is moving the issue. Ben believes to get rid of that it needs to be pushed away from the roadway. Chairperson Kos asks how far the parks space goes before its PW and Village land. Director Malchiodi says feedback is that it extends to that area. Board Member McGlennon says it is more hidden along the tree line. Director Malchiodi says that is a possibility. They did not explore cutting through, as Director Tabb said the moment you cut that area all liability comes into play with tree branches, etc. Director Malchiodi says that from a committee standpoint we are open to all options, but we don't want to transfer problems. We know the issues with the current layout. Director Malchiodi has no desire to impact cabin due to department use, and is looking to use expanse of land for layout and positioning. Regardless of layout, there would be another round of flyers and feedback. The digging for the holes would take place in spring at the earliest. Ben asked whether the coating would make a difference in sound. There are different basket designs and the way the chains hang make a difference in the playing experience. Ben is interested to hear from the players if they have preference. He believed the sound of the baskets was not an issue.

Dave Strong of 402 Fairbank heard the sound from the disc golf holes and was startled by the sound. There is one hole across from his master bedroom. From his research, the coating is only good for esthetic. His research shows that a sleeve and foam is what helps the sound. He did observe 2 discs in the street. Because these were disc golfers, he was surprised they hit the street. He did believe the noise was a concern. Mike Maloney brought up a good point at a meeting to put the 6 in and then if you play the course 3 times, there 18 holes of golf. He believes it would make all parties happy.

It is discussed that holes 7-9 are problematic. Would disc golf take place while Summer Camp is happening? Director Malchiodi says it's a possibility to cover the holes if that space is being used. He wanted to ensure holes were not in front of the cabin as that is the space the camp

uses. He would explore covering them for a day like Saturday when there is a large group renting the cabin space.

There is concern about when the scout cabin is rented out and when there are outdoor activities taking place at the scout cabin that might interfere with the disc golf course. Director Malchiodi says it would depend on the function taking place at the scout cabin. Generally the rentals don't venture into the area. He says this is similar to other parks and playgrounds that exist. There is concern about an active sport taking place in a passive greenway. The area is meant to be a place to walk. The concern is that disc golfers believe they have the right of way, and someone could get hurt.

Mike Maloney of 290 Scottswood wanted to clarify that the baskets are removable and can be removed seasonally. Board Member McGlennon and Director Malchiodi confirm they could be removed seasonally. He referenced village ordinances. There are two line items in regards to disc golf. The ordinances state area around scout cabin and area around baseball fields are parks and recreation land. He asked if the board knows how far that tax ID extends. Chairperson Kos says Village Manager Francis provided the map of the Parks & Recreation jurisdiction and it extends from where Scottswood hits Bloomingback all the way to the dam. He asked if the board feels that they have this jurisdiction. Director Malchiodi says that's not determined by this board. Mike doesn't believe the board should have jurisdiction over that area. If the Parks & Recreation Board agrees, then there is no conflict. If the board believes they have substantial amount of land, then he believes that is a conflict we need to address. Chairperson Kos states that her belief is that the board has jurisdiction over whatever the Village says they have jurisdiction over. Chairperson Kos isn't prepared to advocate one way or another. Director Malchiodi says if the ordinance is going to be rewritten, it's a Village Board decision. Mike believes it may be a surprise what space that the Parks & Recreation Board has jurisdiction. He believes that there's concern about Parks & Recreation Board successors and there is a need to clarify where the Parks & Recreation Board has jurisdiction and where it doesn't. Board Member McGlennon believes it's clear. Mike believes there's a disconnect between ordinance and jurisdiction over tax parcel, and this is a concern.

There is a question of whether there is there a reason 9 over 6. Board Member McGlennon believes because golf is a 9 hole game. Chairperson Kos believes it can be considered. Chairperson Kos believes all suggestions need to be considered and would be discussed. When the discussion started it was 18 holes, so 9 is already cutting. Board Member McGlennon did not get positive experience from the 6 holes.

Chairperson Kos would want to hear feedback from the committee on 6 holes vs 9 holes and believes it needs to be considered. Board Member

McGlennon believes were overestimating. He believes it will be more Riverside focused and will not bring droves of people out. He doesn't believe the amount of people who attended the walk through on Saturday would come out unless an event takes place. There is a question of if the board thinks it would make a material difference if started with 6 holes. Chairperson Kos believes it needs to be brought to the committee level. Residents are interested in phased approach to see what the usage is. Chairperson Kos is still interested in committee feedback. The consensus is that the objections are related to holes 7-9. Chairperson Kos say the reasons the committee was formed for things like this, as they can make recommendations and she wants more opinions. She also congratulated the committee on what has already been done.

Dave Strong is interested in seeing the 6 holes at the ballpark utilized with a creative way to make it 9. He referenced repeating holes but coming from the other way. He is interested in creative ways to reverse this, especially if there will not be a lot of people playing at one time. Board Member McGlennon says every option is being considered. He mentions that if holes 7-9 do not workout, these can be moved and the course can change over time.

Ben Sells asks if the committee has met in public. Board Member McGlennon says they have met, but they have had a difficult time getting everyone out. Ben was excited about 25 person committee, and thought there would be a lot of community input at the committee level. Chairperson Kos says that Board Member McGlennon is putting the feedback he gets to the committee, and is still trying to get the committee together. Ben believes they should be the conduits for the community and should have public meetings. Ben believes from a community relations standpoint it would be good to have a public meeting. Chairperson Kos says that they don't typically get feedback from committees. The Parks & Recreation board acts as the communicator between committees and public. Ben believes were very close to having an agreement. Board Member McGlennon says he is not a disc golfer, but has taken on the task and the committee is there to have avid feedback on the course as he is not a disc golfer. Chairperson Kos notes that he has devoted a ton of time to this and wanted to recognize that.

- What are the next steps? Board Member McGlennon is still compiling feedback from Saturday and will work through holes 7-9. Chairperson Kos believes placing holes 7-9 where they are and ask for feedback from committee and those in attendance at this meeting. They will ensure that people know when this is taking place. Residents in the area did not know until a neighbor let them know and they would like for the information to come from the board. Board Member McGlennon

believes we need to put more information out there and do another round of flyers. From the resident's perspective, they would like to be included and involved in all of the different parts of the process. Chairperson Kos wants to ensure we have emails for everyone to ensure information gets to them. She directed anyone to reach out to her or Director Malchiodi, but will reach out if there's anything of substance in between meetings. Director Malchiodi says the way the committee has worked since the initial meeting is inviting people out, and having people individually go out and get feedback that way.

B. RFP Update

- Director Malchiodi says they received 7 letters of intent. Some of the letters came with questions, and a spreadsheet was created and everyone received this, whether they asked the questions or not. October 4 is the date set to submit proposals. Board Member McGlennon asks how many questions were asked so far. Director Malchiodi says there are about 8 questions so far, and they are simply clarification questions. When he gets the proposals, they will be in touch with Board Member Incandela. He believes her expertise will be a good weigh in. The Village manager will be involved, and trustees may be involved if they are interested. They will report back to this board. Chairperson Kos believes some trustees may be interested. Director Malchiodi says this is the first RFP the department has done, and he does not know if commissions/trustees have been involved when other departments have done them. Chairperson Kos believes once we get info back, we may want to offer it up to other commissions and boards. Board Member Incandela believes other perspectives will be good to have. Chairperson Kos asks if commissions know about the RFP or if we should reach out. Director Malchiodi says once we have proposals, we can reach out as it depends on what the vision of the board has. Director Malchiodi is most interested in the level of engagement and is most excited about the second phase, which is the analysis, as that is more internal and forensic. The Master plan is framework for 20+ years. Chairperson Kos wants to keep in mind that Olmstead society might be good perspective. Director Malchiodi was happy to receive more letters of intent for difference perspectives. No additional questions.

C. 501c3 Update

- Chairperson Kos reached out to some new members and some originals. 1-2 original members would still be interested in participating. TJ is the only one she heard back from of the new members. She wants to go forward with those people and get them into it and then discuss a buy-in or funding process. It requires 3 founders to build, then you can write bylaws and rules. The most important piece is to get started to get to that level. Director Malchiodi wonders if it's an "either or" between the two groups. Chairperson Kos said she didn't feel that, and she wanted

everyone who expressed interest to be contacted. She is hoping for more information on that soon. Board Member McGlennon says there is another person on board.

D. Goals and initiatives Review

- The board discussed the goals and initiatives spreadsheet. Director Malchiodi accessed the spreadsheet to send to Trustee Mateo. The board is interested in projects on this spreadsheet that are smaller scale and in line with results from the RFP. They do not want to override the RFP, but do not want to remain stagnant during the process. Director Malchiodi states that the idea is to start the survey portion of the RFP this year with results in mid to late 2024 with analysis ongoing.

VI. New Business

- A. A meeting with Little League took place last week in regards to the agreement with Little League and Parks & Recreation. No changes are needed to the agreement. There is a budgeted amount earmarked for field improvements, but this is not an amount cut to Little League, but rather the department determines where the improvements are most needed. Little League would like to remove the lip at the IF ball field. They believe it is a safety concern due to the ball bounce. They would like to cut the lip out. Director Malchiodi discusses that while we want field's safe, that is not the primary use so our field improvement typically does not go there. They would like to keep grass baselines, but from our perspective we would make the whole field dirt and remove all grass. Little League asked if they go to the Village Board and ask for more money. Director Malchiodi believes then the Village Board would look to the department and our budget does not have the funds. Chairperson Kos would want them to show the board their funds before we discuss utilizing our funds. Chairperson Kos states that Little League has not had fundraising problem in the past, so it should be considered. The department will hear from Little League in January with costs, wish list, etc. and the board will need to consider what is important. Director Malchiodi says they also approached us about temporary field for tee ball due to Hauser construction. Director Malchiodi asked for dimensions. He brainstormed the right field area of Big Ball Park. Chairperson Kos is concerned as this is a busy corner. The board suggested a Blythe triangle, but discusses that it might not have enough space. Another option brought up is playing from a corner of Harrington soccer field. Chairperson Kos' first pick is Harrington. Board Member O'Brien is concerned about rainouts. Staff would have to look at spring soccer layout. Chairperson Kos asks if there are other ideas. Board Member Dvorak is looking at Harrington park open space at Delaplaine and Olmstead. Director Malchiodi says they talked about Indian Gardens athletic field, but he was concerned they'd hit into other fields. Board Member McGlennon coached tee ball and said you don't need much space. The ball never left infield. Director Malchiodi says the plan is to replace the field once construction is finished, but we want to accommodate them in a safe way

VII. Program and Facility Updates

A. Volleyball League

- Director Malchiodi is having conversations with Mark and Riverside Presbyterian Church. He took part in a Zoom call with Board Member Malchiodi included. All parties remain willing to work this out, but several groups use the gym and are grandfathered in for years. These groups make contributions for the use. Mark presented the idea that the department would pay, in which the group agreed to pay that amount to keep their day. He did not intend for it to be a bidding war, but wants to know what the department is willing to pay. Director Malchiodi needs to confirm with them that we be allowed to take registration and see if we get the teams we need before we displace another group. The women's league is first, and we may be allowed registration for them. The other group would be moved, and we need to ensure the coed league also runs as we would be on the hook. We would program that space if coed does not go. Director Malchiodi is not interested in going back and forth on price if the other group comes back and wants to pay more. The department is having a difficult time finding other gym space for this program. Director Malchiodi wanted to keep the board aware of where this is at.

VIII. Director Report

- A. Financial Report
- B. Operational Report
- C. Maintenance Report

IX. Trustee Report

- Introduction of new president, Doug Pollock

X. Chair Report

- Chairperson Kos wants to discuss signage at next meeting at IG parking lot to stop people from parking on both sides of the one way in. Proposed to move to new business next month. She to ensure there is marking for emergency vehicles to get in as no signage currently exists.

XI. Adjournment

- O'Brien motion, McGlennon second. Passed unanimously.