

**Burr Ridge Park District
Regular Meeting
November 14, 2016**

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Burr Ridge Park District was called to order at the Burr Ridge Community Center at 6:35 pm by President Quigley.

Present:	Board Members: Bergholz, Caplis, Fara, Malloy, Quigley
Absent:	Board Members: None
Also Present:	Director Jim Pacanowski Superintendent of Finance, Jamie Janusz Superintendent of Recreation, Lavonne Campbell Members of the Community

APPROVE

November 14, 2016 Agenda

No changes were made to the Agenda.

October 17, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes

Caplis moved, seconded by Fara, and approved by roll call vote to approve the October 17, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Caplis, Fara, Quigley Nays: None Abstain: Bergholz, Malloy

OPEN FORUM

No Open Forum. Member of the audience stated that they were in attendance to hear more about Woods Pool.

CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing further added to the written report.

REPORTS

Director of Parks and Recreation

In addition to the written report, Pacanowski informed the Board that PDRMA is in the process of sending out an appraiser for the damage to the fall zone at Citizens Park and will be in charge of the process from this point on.

Caplis stated that the re-built retaining wall of the neighboring resident still does not conform to code.

Pacanowski added that sod was laid over what looks to be an attempt at a swail for water retention. However a six foot strip of sod was peeled, which may have been forced by the county in order to put a proper swail in place.

Pacanowski stated that the fencing to block off the area will remain in place over the winter.

Caplis asked if the area is dangerous.

Pacanowski responded that there is sediment and debris and therefore no longer meets the impact standard and is unsafe conditions for the fall zone.

Fara asked how many trees are identified for removal.

Pacanowski responded that there will be a conservative number this year at 2 sites, McCullough and Palisades Park.

Bergholz asked if there is enough money available to replace all the trees or some of the trees right away.

Pacanowski responded that some of the trees are in a location that replanting would not be appropriate. There are only a few days left in the season for planting and will therefore not be done until next spring. In addition, there are a couple trees at Palisades that may actually be identified as the Village responsibility.

Caplis asked if there is enough money in the budget at this time for replacement of the trees.

Pacanowski responded that there is enough money for the removal. Further allocations for the "tree fund" need to be determined prior to knowing how much cash we have to work with.

Bergholz asked Pacanowski to keep in mind that the pine trees in the Southeast corner and near the big rock at Woods Pool are diseased and will need to be removed. The loss of these trees will result in the loss of a tree line.

Superintendent of Finance

In addition to the written report, Janusz informed the Board that Foundation is moving along nicely.

Bergholz added that the Foundation is reviewing fitness stations at Midlothian and Argonne National Laboratories on Thursday. There were structures viewed at other park districts previously. There should be enough funds in the budget to move forward with the fitness stations if the park district matches the donation.

Fara asked if a letter for request for donation support will be sent out in November. Janusz responded that a letter will be sent out November 19th.

Recreation Division

In addition to the written report Campbell notified the Board that the park district will have a Mad Hatter Tea Party float in the Village of Burr Ridge Jingle Mingle.

Fara asked if the research regarding flag football helmets was a proactive endeavor. Pacanowski responded that it is a proactive endeavor with the intention of having the answers before the questions arise.

Fara stated that the flag football program does not seem to be a violent sport. Campbell responded that it is not, however, it may be offered as an option to those parents who would like to require their child to wear a helmet.

Bergholz asked if the staff could expand the senior socials since there are waitlists for November and December.

Campbell responded that there 127 registered for November, 150 for December. The guests are served by in-house staff, there isn't additional room to seat any more guests, and additionally it is not a program that can afford an expansion as there is not a large profit margin. Sponsors are sought for the socials in order to offset the cost. Profit margins are made on the long distance and day trips.

Pacanowski added that the senior social days are intense and are difficult on the staff and facility.

Caplis asked if there is a profit on the Storytime Train.

Campbell responded that there is a profit made on Storytime Train. However, it can't be expanded as the Roundhouse restaurant will only offer 12 spots a year. The only reason an afternoon train was added this year was because another group dropped out and the park district grabbed their spot at the restaurant.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss Operational Status of Woods Pool 2017

Bergholz asked what the final cost of the automated chlorinator would be.

Pacanowski responded that the cost is \$10,400.

Fara asked when the chlorinator would be installed.

Pacanowski responded it would need to be installed for opening day.

Fara asked for verification that the chlorinator would not have to go out for bid.

Pacanowski responded that it would not require going out to bid.

Quigley stated that Board Members should take note that 2016 was the best that Woods Pool will ever be, due to the big push for memberships and great weather. With that being said, the pool showed a \$5,000 loss, and will need an additional \$10,400 in capital expense for the chlorinator, and an additional \$7,000 in maintenance that does not show in operations. In 2017, the \$5,000 loss will be the minimum amount the pool will see. With operational costs, maintenance, and capital expenses, it will cost \$22,000 to \$25,000 to keep Woods Pool open in 2017, and then the cost will most likely go back to \$12,000 to \$15,000 per year. This is for 42 resident households.

Pacanowski stated that there were 39 resident family memberships, 4 half year memberships, and 9 individual resident memberships for a total of 52 resident households participating in one of the membership options.

Caplis stated that there were 29 memberships in 2015, and it increased to 52 in 2016. In the surveys returned, one of the questions asked was will you be returning as a member to Woods Pool next year. 10 said they would not be returning as members next year, yet they rated the pool fine and not having any problems with it. It is disturbing to have such a concentrated effort and push for Woods Pool, yet still lose 10 memberships, 9 of which had no complaints. Caplis stated that Board Members need to move forward with the foregone conclusion of what will happen with membership levels and need to move forward with eyes open. Unless Woods Pool is made a line item from Capital Expenses in order to account for the loss incurred each year, there could be a cash crunch.

Bergholz stated that the cash crunch situation is not here yet, and that when and if a cash crunch arises, operations can be revisited.

Fara stated that 2016 was the best it will ever be for Woods Pool no matter what efforts are made. To Kevin's point with 10 families not coming back next year, if you don't replace them, you are looking at a \$4,000 to \$5,000 loss just from that, along with the \$4,000 net loss, and the \$10,000 cost for the chlorinator. You can spread that cost out over 3 years, however if you don't retain the membership numbers, you are looking at an increasing deficit year after year.

Berholz suggested that we have to stay on memberships. We have had this cycle of losing people year after year. I've gone through name by name and group by group and losing 10 families and gaining 10 families is a common occurrence. We just haven't been data driven, we don't have computers to register people at the entrance, we don't have data, I'm doing homework and I'll let you know what I learn about the frequency of visits. We're learning it on pieces of paper that people sign and put the numbers down. Until we get our registration systems up to date and maybe have a monitor that has people checking you in and some data that is actually actionable you can't say you've lost 10 every year.

Fara stated that it is the 80/20 rule. You know you will retain approximately 80% each year.

Bergholz stated that it is not different this year than any other year. We just had a better year than most and all hands were on deck and it looks as good as it's ever looked. It was a fabulous year, everybody did their part, including the people who did the donations and worked the pool. I'm pretty well sure that when we accepted the money last year we thought we'd give it one last shot.

Quigley asked what is needed from the Board.

Pacanowski stated a decision needs to be made whether the pool will open in 2017. The pool is an asset, there are people who derive pleasure from the pool. How much money is spent for this particular asset vs. another asset is a subjective opinion which varies from person to person.

Bergholz stated that if resident vs. non-resident is a criteria used for Woods Pool, it would need to be used for Harvest Fest and All Hallows Eve as well. There are

thousands of dollars spent on individuals who are not in this district. These events are good for the community and so is Woods Pool.

Caplis stated that the pool is an asset to the community and the village and was heavily used, however, community involvement is needed. The alternatives are to either close the pool or to set up a line item with a designated amount set aside for the pool each year.

Bergholz stated that due to the capacity of the pool, membership can't be increased much more. The options are to either make enough with what we have, or set aside an amount with a maximum for the pool.

Fara stated that revenue can't be increased for the pool.

Pacanowski added that a roof will be needed in the near future.

Fara asked if the chlorinator will save on the amount of chlorine used.

Caplis stated that the automatic chlorinator stops any under or over chlorination.

Campbell stated that the staff tests the pool 3 times daily in order to ensure proper chlorination and avoid any unnecessary chemicals to correct under or over chlorination.

Luisa Hoch, of 560 Conway Court, Burr Ridge, asked if there are activities for senior citizens at Woods Pool.

Campbell responded that there are swim lessons, such as aquacize for the senior citizens. Swim lessons and day camp are profitable at Woods Pool. The Burr Ridge Park District day camp uses Woods Pool and funds are transferred into the Woods Pool account from day camp for the use of the pool.

Pacanowski added that outside day camps also pay for the use of Woods Pool.

Fara asked what the life expectancy of the chlorinator is.

Pacanowski responded about 10-15 years.

Campbell added that it is of commercial grade.

Fara stated that the pool needs to be opened next year with a line item added in the budget to account for the pool.

Bergholz added that if it doesn't work out, the following fall the decision can be made to close the pool.

Caplis stated that a Capital Expense Fund line item budget for Woods Pool should be added to the budget.

Malloy asked if money would be taken from other funds for this purpose.

Caplis stated that money would be reassigned.

Luisa Hoch stated that 5 Seasons is now offering a \$99 a month membership which could affect the membership levels at Woods Pool. In addition, other surrounding area pools are starting to charge less for membership at their pools.

Caplis stated that 5 seasons has offered membership specials before.

Pacanowski added that 5 Seasons membership price decrease did have an impact on Woods Pool membership.

Luisa Hoch asked how Woods Pool can compete with 5 Seasons pool.

Caplis stated that generally Woods Pool is a neighborhood pool. The people who have memberships to Woods Pool can walk there. They don't have to drive their kids there which is where the appeal is to join Woods Pool over 5 Seasons.

It was unanimously agreed to open Woods Pool for 2017.

Determine 2016 Tax Levy Extension

Janusz reported that the District would not go to Truth in Taxation and not levy more than 5% over the aggregate received the prior year. The District will levy approximately 4.9% in order to capture new growth.

Pacanowski presented an opportunity to utilize the Special Recreation Tax for the fitness court and have the ability to levy it and stay under the 5% threshold. The 90% levy would go towards the fitness court, however, the money would have to go towards adaptive equipment in order to qualify. It was originally agreed with Foundation that the \$30,000 would go towards the base and shade structure up to \$30,000. However, that would not be allowed for the Special Recreation Tax. A percentage would have to go towards the base, a percentage to the shelter, and then 2 to 3 pieces of the equipment for a total of \$30,000. Pacanowski asked that this information be brought to Foundation for their notification and concurrence.

Fara asked if any income is gained from the retirement village going in on Route 83 and 91st Street.

Janusz stated that the building is not in the park district boundaries.

Caplis stated that the owner(s) can be approached and asked if they would like to voluntarily annex to the park district.

Caplis asked Pacanowski to contact Steve Stricker at the Village and inquire about the developer in order to contact them.

Pacanowski will get information regarding the proper procedures and pursue contacting the developer and report back to the Board.

2012 Ford F-150 Update

In addition to the written report, Pacanowski reported that the transmission repair needed, number of miles, and age of the vehicle have become a cost/benefit issue.

Bergholz asked if the last vehicle purchase was at 0 miles.

Pacanowski replied that it was.

Bergholz asked if 27,000 miles per year are put on the vehicle.

Pacanowski replied that it is.

Bergholz asked if a smaller vehicle would be better.

Pacanowski responded that the truck is periodically used to haul materials and having one extra truck is of value. It has a 5-1/2 foot bed, not an 8 foot bed.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Fara asked for verification of a Village of Burr Ridge Bill for \$2,000.00

Janusz responded that this is the water bill for Harvester, Woods Pool, and Concession Stand.

Caplis asked for verification of Unclaimed Property.

Janusz responded that these are refunds on people's accounts after 2007.

Caplis asked for verification of change drawers.

Janusz responded that this is for cash drawers for All Hallows Eve.

Caplis asked for verification of Fish Help bill.

Pacanowski responded that this is for the fish tank maintenance. Fish Help replaced Scotts.

Quigley asked for verification of Harris Computer System.

Janusz responded that this is the accounting software annual fee.

Caplis asked for verification of the Eddie Lovett Tot Mountain bill.

Pacanowski responded that this is for a handle finish for Tot Mountain.

Fara moved, seconded by Malloy to Approve the November bills.

Ayes: Bergholz, Caplis, Fara, Malloy, Quigley Nays: None Abstain: None

ADJOURNMENT

Caplis moved, seconded by Malloy and unanimously approved to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Stednitz
Recording Secretary