



City of Palos Heights
Recreation Committee
Tuesday, August 09,
2022 Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Key called the regular meeting of the Recreation Committee to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Palos Heights City Hall, 7607 W. College Drive. In attendance were Chairman Key, Alderman Bylut, Alderman Clifford, Director of Parks and Recreation Matt Fairbanks, Lake Katherine members Terry Horvath and Dan O'Riley, recording secretaries Morgan Pukula and Ashley Pala and one community member.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Key moved to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2022 meeting as written, seconded by Alderman Bylut. On a voice note, the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

LAKE KATHERINE REPORT

Chair, Terry Horvath provided the Lake Katherine update:

- Lake Katherine had two camps this week – a dinosaur and excavation camp. Last week, there was a STEM camp and two field trips.
- Last week there was a Sunset sonata with 40 people in attendance for music played by the Ostrega Uhl Project.
- A turtle sculpture created by the Palos Fine Arts commission was donated and installed in conjunction with the story board walk in the children forest. The turtle was installed in front of the nature center to highlight the walk.
- Mayslake estate in DuPage county had a pollinator walk looking for ideas for their own possible pollinator garden.
- Three key invasive plants are being removed by staff and volunteers. They include: purple loosestrife, teasel and yellow/white sweet clover.
- We held a Monarch celebration as we prepare for the monarch celebration on September 24th and 25th.
- We held our family campout on Friday night into Saturday morning. We had 6 families/groups attend this event that was held in the children forest.
- Volunteers have been busy weeding, trimming and watering in the variety of gardens around the nature center.

- Around the lake, we have been conducting bench maintenance and trail maintenance.
- We are conducting daily site inspections and corresponding trash pickup and removal.
- We had our monthly summer Sunset Canoe and kayak tour where the attendees got to see our beavers and herons.
- We held the annual volunteer BBQ, where 30 of our 60 plus volunteers turned up to socialize and be thanked.
- We held a dragonfly and butterfly walk for the Palos Senior Center. This is a part of our monthly series program we offer to the seniors.
- Stagg class of '87, held a reunion retreat at Lake Katherine where staff was able to provide a variety of nature based activities for their reunion.
- We held our monthly fishing day with about 30 people in attendees.
- Our monthly Green Team meeting was held where we discussed green notes and other items.

PARKS & RECREATION REPORT

Director of Parks and Recreation Matt Fairbanks, provided the Parks & Recreation update:

- **Misty Meadows Update:** Substantial renovations to the park have been completed. We have been working with George's Landscape regarding maintenance and care for the recently installed new landscaping and grass on site. The architect is working with Kendall and Michael on finalizing informational plaques that will be displayed in the park. Staff is working on getting a press release out to the public so they read about the current status of the park and when a ribbon cutting ceremony will occur. The ceremony was dependent on the park furniture that we were waiting on to be delivered, but that was actually delivered early this week. The finishing touches are to come by George's Landscape and from there we will coordinate with Kendall and Michael for the ribbon cutting ceremony to happen in the fall.
- **Pool Update:** Pool pass sales are just under \$104,000.00 in revenue. Swim lessons are going into their last session and we had a total of 434 kids signed up for a total of over \$27,000. We are up about 70 kids from last year for a \$6,000 increase of revenue. The pool season is winding down and we will have regular operating hours through August 17th, half days on the 18th and 19th, then go to the weekend schedule only, up until Labor Day.
- **CAPRA:** Staff met to complete the concerns/standards that needed refreshing. We put together a timeline and looked at the level of difficulty in case a new form is needed or if we need to create a whole new plan. Myself, Lauren and Joe will be primarily focusing on this, so other staff members can give attention to our other projects.
- **2023 OSLAD Application:** IDNR opened their application for OSLAD on August 3rd to September 30th. The new maximum grant is \$600,000 and the maximum award for accusation project was raised to \$1.1 million. Looking at the park and rec master plan and life expectancy for a pool and bath house: should be about 25 years. Both of ours are double that. The life expectancy for a metal playground is 15 years. Passarelli park has not been renovated within the 15 years either, so our goal in the master plan was to renovate it within the next 3-5 years. Goal for the pool and bath house was to renovate both with possible upgrades to the slide and a new splash pad within the next 3-5 years as well. If we receive the grant, this will help with the pool renovations. Passarelli park renovation funds will be from the capital funds and not rely on the grant funds.

NEW BUSINESS

- Request for motion to approve 4th payment to George's Landscape in the amount of \$69,929.42 for work completed on the Misty Meadows Park Project

Alderman Key motioned to approve a 4th payment to George's Landscape in the amount of \$69,929.42 for work completed on the Misty Meadows Park Project, seconded by Alderman Clifford. On a voice note, the motion passed unanimously. - **AGENDA**

- Request for motion to approve the hiring of Upland Design in the amount of \$6,000.00 for OSLAD grant preparation for the City of Palos Heights for a recreation redevelopment program.

Alderman Key motioned to approve hiring of Upland Design for preparation of OSLAD grant, seconded by Alderman Clifford. On a voice note, the motion passed unanimously. - **AGENDA**

- Request for motion to approve \$47,230.50 for the first installment for 2022-23 membership contribution to the South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA)

Alderman Key motioned to approve the first installment for the 2022-23 SWSRA contribution, seconded by Alderman Clifford. On a voice note, the motion passed unanimously. - **AGENDA**

- Request for motion to approve updated to City Ordinances 34.50-34.54 pertaining to the Recreation Advisory Board. - **AGENDA**

Alderman Key motioned to approve the updates to the RAB ordinances and meetings per year, seconded by Alderman Clifford; keeping the City Administrator and the City Attorney in mind with further guidance. On a voice note, the motion passed unanimously. - **AGENDA**

OLD BUSINESS

n/a

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Key moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Clifford. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Morgan Pukula, Recording Secretary

