

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting - October 12, 2022, 7:30 PM

Village Hall Conference Room 123 Mamaroneck Ave, Mamaroneck, NY 10543

Attendees: Tina Maresca, Kristen Vetter, Brittany Ross, Tim O'Connor, Carlo Reca, Cindy Fasolino, Karrie Sergio, Heather Castellani Milboer (remotely)

Absent: Manny Rawlings

Present: Jason Pinto, Jeff Ahne, Nora Lucas

Opening:

Tina made a motion to open the meeting, Kristen seconded. Tina made a motion to approve the June and September minutes, Brittany seconded, all approved.

Dog Park Update:

At the last BOT meeting the Board adopted a resolution to officially create the Ad Hoc Dog Park Committee and added 3 new members to the existing committee. The committee has been given until January 4th to submit to the Board a new recommendation for a dog park location. The Board will not entertain Rushmore as they don't think it will pass HCZMC for environmental reasons as well as push back from neighbors. The committee will be revisiting the original sites looked at as well as a few others to determine what site would be best to facilitate a dog park in the VOM.

Fields for Kids update:

Fields for Kids, a private organization, has revived themselves with new leadership and have been working on a project to re-build the fields behind the Hommocks and Flint Park. They did not have any plans to include the Village of Mamaroneck. Jerry, Jason, Jeff, Nora & Tina met via zoom as an introductory meeting and Jerry told them to include him if they put together a meeting with the Town of Mamaroneck & Village of Larchmont. As of yet there has not been another meeting but they seem to be making a lot of progress with the Town of Mamaroneck and should be moving ahead within the next year to re-build the fields with turf behind the Hommocks.

HIP Westchester County Pier Update:

George Latimer let Nora know that he sent a note to the County Commission for the DEF (Dept of Environmental Facilities) Vincent Kopicki to get an update. George then called in to let us know the project which was designed and sent out to bid, the low bidder pulled out and when they pulled out it required a rebid which requires approval from the NYS DEC. The DEC said we need to have a mitigation project in order for them to approve this. We had a project that fell through and haven't found a new project that meets their requirements. They've asked the DEC not to hold up the rebidding and they're working through the channels to get approval. The follow up step is for Village personnel to contact the County DEF. Jason said Jerry and Vincent have been in contact and he thinks they may have found a project that will be acceptable and are working together.

Comprehensive Plan discussion with Neil Desai:

We discussed the recommendations, trends and accomplishments since the last update and what we would like to see going forward and into the future. Jason said some items in there are part of their capital plan, looking for things outside of what's already there that we think our community needs. The committee came up with the following wishlist items; year-round recreation facility, indoor space for camp and additional year-round programs, indoor fields, more park amenities such as bathroom facilities, water fountains, safety lighting and cameras, bike paths, pool (outdoor over indoor), senior center, something similar to the Rye Y, walking path around the Harbor, history of Mamaroneck signs, waterfront restaurant, basketball, volleyball and pickleball courts, exercise stations. Also discussed the recommendation for a new Harbor Island Park Master Plan that could incorporate these elements. Could HIP be designed to handle floods better? Neil said they're going to be doing a little public engagement with a community survey and then update the comp plan.

FY 23-24 Fee Schedule discussion/approval:

The biggest proposed increase is the field fee from \$30 to \$38. We had already discussed last year that we wanted a gradual increase and recommend not increasing the field fees that drastically. We settled on \$35 which matches Flint Park. Recommended some increases to some other non-resident fees. Daily parking weekend rates were changed to include Friday. A suggestion was made to extend the season but most felt if the beach wasn't open it would be hard to justify a parking fee. A new addition is VOM business seasonal parking to alleviate parking on the Avenue. Some beach fees were increased and camp early morning/extended day fees were changed from per family to per child. Recommended increasing the camp fees to keep up with inflation and rising costs and increase the non-resident fees as well. The day camp will still be the most affordable, all-inclusive camp around. Kristen made a motion to approve the fee schedule as amended, seconded and all approved.

Parks and Recreation Revenue Discussion: touched upon this last month, tabling for next month.

Code Enforcement in Village Parks:

The issue is the garbage, broken bottles, graffiti, adding cameras, lighting, and partnering with the police to be at the parks in the evening to monitor. Tina had a meeting with the chief and was surprised to learn that the park rangers can't really enforce anything, they can't give out tickets, they are supposed to call the police. Their hours are the other problem. The other thing the chief mentioned is at the Harbor one person can enforce but he is only Sat/Sun daytime hours. The question was asked what is the point of the

park rangers, why not have another parking enforcement person and expand their role to include parks. The park rangers are seasonal, the parking enforcement officers are full time with benefits so it would cost the Village more money. Would have to find out what capacity the parking enforcement has over code enforcement because it's two separate things. Jason said right now it's a free for all with permits alone, people are out there without permits all day long. It was suggested to have the chief or delegate come to our next meeting to discuss how to handle the issue.

Recreation Update:

Jason said they did all the scarecrows and fall decorations. They have a bunch of charity walks, fall sports, Turkey trot, Christmas and Hanukkah stuff coming up.

Parks Update:

Jeff said they did the holiday decorations, mums, running more water supply in the Harbor, and closed down a soccer field to start leveling it and redoing it. They aerated, seeded, and fertilized all soccer fields, little league outfield, Lanza outfield, and pavilion field.

Tina mentioned that Brittany and Cindy had volunteered to help Jason fix the website. Jason will set up a meeting to get started working on it.

Closing: Tina made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting is November 2nd.