

Village of Hastings-on-Hudson  
Recreation Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, November 10, 2016

Time: 8:00pm

Place: James Harmon Community Center, 44 Main Street

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Old Business / Updates
  - Upcoming/New Programs
- IV. New Business
  - Review – Hillside Tennis courts – next steps
  - Review – Long Range plan for parks
- V. Adjournment

In attendance:

Joanne Baecher-DiSalvo (Chair), John Dailey, David Downs, Angela Reeve.  
Kendra Garrison (Superintendent)

I. Call to order.

II. Public Comment:

Joanne Baecher-DiSalvo (in reference to prior public comment on the slope of access to the lower section of Riverview Park) commented that she recently visited the park and thought that the suggestion of a railing and a paved path to the lower level could still be a consideration. David Downs, John Dailey, and Angela Reeve have also visited the Park within the last few weeks. Downs offered to reach out to the Friends of Riverview Park to share feedback pertaining to the suggestion of a railing to aid in access to the lower level.

III. Old Business / Updates:

Minutes of October 20, 2016 regular meeting adopted. (prepared & submitted by A. Reeve)

Upcoming / New Programs include:

- 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Terry Ryan Memorial Run is this Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Youth Recreation Basketball for grades 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> is underway. Program makes use of the gyms in the Hastings UFSD facilities.

Update – Reynold’s Field Playground – all work is complete.

As a follow up to the Superintendent's "Reynolds Field Playground" notice posted to the Village website 10/19/16 notifying the public that the "bridge" section of the new structure (to which, the monkey bars were attached) was removed due to safety concerns, and advising the public that the Rec Department was working with the playground company to see if there is another possible location for this piece..... Kendra Garrison informed the Commission that the end result of those discussions with the playground company was that the "bridge section" alone could not be replaced, and as the monkey bars were integral part of the design of that piece, the monkey bars alone could not be retained. K. Garrison said we can consider installing free standing monkey bars elsewhere in the park.

#### IV. New Business:

\$210K check received from Saw Mill Lofts, LLC (Ginsburg Development Companies) on Oct 21<sup>st</sup>. This is first of two payments toward the total \$420K in "Recreation Fees" from Ginsburg for the development of the 9A parcel.

J. Baecher-DiSalvo asked if we received clarification as to the actual size of usable land on the 9A site. She is concerned that if the Village accepts this money and it turns out that the donated parcel of land is in actuality something other than what was specified in the original deal, we may not have any recourse.

D. Downs reported that he and K. Garrison walked the 9A parcel on Sep 26 and noticed at that time the dimensions of "usable" land on the donated parcel did not seem to be as large as the dimensions indicated on the paper plans provided by the developer. Downs reported that approximately 1/3<sup>rd</sup> to 1/2 the total parcel (the "L" shaped portion) seemed to be unusable as this portion included boulders and the stream. D. Downs suggested we should have a survey completed on the parcel.

J. Dailey stated we should put the \$210K to use, and we can let the 9A parcel of land sit there, graded and seeded at the developer's expense as outlined in the original agreement, and we can decide what to do with that parcel at a future date.

Commission members in attendance agreed that as we now have some funds in hand, we should start putting those funds to use in purposeful ways. K. Garrison suggested the following "next steps" as they pertain to the overall long term projects being considered:

1. Start the bid process for renovation of Hillside tennis courts. Knowing that the process can take months, the earliest construction would start would be Spring 2017 at best.
2. Move ahead to hire an architect to draw up plans for Uniontown Park so that we can prepare for the bid process for that project.

Public comment from those in attendance:

Shannon Rooney questioned if the Parks & Rec Commission has seen a written communication (through Hastings Little League) with an official "waiver" from Little League district officials stating that dimensions and fencing requirements as outlined in the HLL proposal will be accepted by current Little League requirements for regulation play to host tournaments. D. Downs shared that G. Calamari (current P&R Commission member and former HLL President) had met with LL officials years ago when discussions first started to upgrade the fields. D. Downs tasked HLL (Dan Sbrega, current HLL President and in attendance) with obtaining the official written waiver from Little League. D. Sbrega agreed to get confirmation promptly.

Dan Sbrega (President, Hastings Little League) stated that HLL has been working diligently to try and find an architect who would donate time to draw up plans for the HLL Uniontown proposal of upgrades, and are learning that the costs of an architect (which they are learning run \$12k - \$16k) are beyond the HLL financial means. D. Sbrega did share that in reaching out to local architects, Peter Gisolfi did seem ready and willing to work on the Uniontown project.

The P&R Commission clarified that the need for official architectural plans would be a required Recreation Department first step and funding of the architect is a Village responsibility.

The P&R Commission supports use of a portion of the \$210K collected from Ginsburg to be used for the 2 purposes stated above... proceed with getting the bid process started for the Hillside tennis courts, and proceed with hiring an architect to draw up official plans for Uniontown Park upgrades.

#### Review – Long Range Plan

Trustee Walter Stugis suggested now refining a presentation for the top 2 projects to present before the Board of Trustees. D. Downs asked for Trustee Stugis' assistance in securing a time where the Parks & Rec Commission could present 1) the P&R Long Range Plan; and 2) the Tennis Courts/Uniontown proposal before year's end, to which Trustee Stugis consented.

Trustee Stugis also advised the Commission to have any architect selected for Uniontown draw up a couple different plans/options for upgrade of that space that address the identified areas of concern.

#### Next Steps:

K. Garrison to seek an architect for Uniontown Park.

K. Garrison to solicit bids for the Hillside Park tennis courts.

D. Downs and K. Garrison to polish Long Range Plan for Parks presentation that will go to the Board of Trustees.

W. Stugis will assist in setting up a time for Parks & Recreation Commission to present Long Range Plan to the Board of Trustees.

#### Shoreline Advisory Committee

At the October 20<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission, Mayor Swiderski suggested that a member of the Parks & Rec Commission attend the Shoreline Advisory Committee meetings. D. Downs has offered to serve as a liaison .

#### V. Adjournment.

Next Meeting: December 8, 2016 (Thursday) – 8:00pm – James Harmon Community Center.

November 10, 2016 Meeting Minutes prepared by: A. Reeve

November 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes Adopted on: December 8, 2016