

**Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
James Harmon Community Center - 44 Main Street
Thursday, January 11, 2018 8 PM
MINUTES**

In Attendance: Joanne Baecher-DiSalvo (Chair)

Commission: Gene Calamari, David Downs, Mike Jacobs, Angela Reeve
Lisa O'Reilly (Recreation Assistant), Rich Strobel (Parks Foreman)

1. Call to Order

2. Public Comments - no public comment

3. Old Business

- Approved and adopted the minutes from the December 2017 monthly meeting.
- Upcoming/New Programs

For young children:

*ABC123 - Feb & Mar

*Preschool programs (Storybook Art, Natural Wonders, Creative Kids - Jan thru Apr)

For school aged children:

*Hillside Afterschool Programs - K - 4th - Jan 16 - Mar 5

*Youth Basketball - K-2nd - Jan 20 - Feb 10

*Youth Track and Field - K-4 - Jan 20 - Feb 10

*Paper-Craft Electronics - ages 8-13yrs - Jan 17

For tweens/teens:

*DJ Basics for Beginners (10yrs & up) - Jan 11 - Mar 8

*Lifeguard Training (15yrs & up) - Feb 20-22

For young adults / adults / seniors:

*NY State Defensive Driving Course - Jan 20

* Trip to Castle Royale (former Polish Center) - Jan 24

*How To Prevent and Treat Diabetes - Lunch & Learn Series - Jan 30

*Valentine Party for Seniors - Feb 12

*Senior Calendar of Events (see handout for December)

For Families and the Community:

* Martin Luther King Jr. Community Breakfast - Jan 15

*NY State Defensive Driving - Jan 20

*No Empty Bowl Chili Night - Hastings Rec & Project SHARE - Feb 17

4. New Business

- **Uniontown Park - Update**

Rich Strobel reported that the contractor has resumed work on 1/10/18 since the weather permits. The contractor does remind us that as winter is upon us the work/progress will be slow. The rock removal has been completed. Rich clarified that come May, the outfield at Uniontown would be seeded and the infield would be sodded. Both areas will need several months of rest to establish. Rich is still waiting on the arborist report from Gisolfi about the large oak tree at Uniontown.

Rich & Lisa met with representatives of the Hastings Little League (HLL) board to brief them on the project. In discussing what options exist for field space come spring play. Lisa will try to coordinate with the Hastings schools, who often rely on Zinsser fields for their spring needs, to see if Zinsser could not be reassigned to give HLL sole use of the fields after school and evenings. Alternate practice areas could be Draper Park, MacEachron Waterfront Park, and perhaps the 9A parcel could be prepared such that Lacrosse could be located to 9A to further free up Zinsser Park. Gene Calamari suggested HLL could explore option with Andrus Children's Center, and mention was made that perhaps Westchester County Parks (Macy Park in Ardsley) might be an option for HLL to explore.

Commission discussed what preparations would need to take place before use of the 9A parcel of land could occur. Rich reported that the sprinkler system that Ginsburg installed is currently an above ground piping system, which would have to be pulled up before program/play could be considered on that grassy parcel. Rich says that it is a major plus that there is water that runs to that parcel. The Village Manager added the 9A parcel of land into the Village's landscaping contract so that the site will be included in the 2018 landscaping maintenance schedule. Rich will check with the Village Manager to see if we can install fencing/netting on that site. He noted that the previous Superintendent had purchased netting that is currently stored in the Rec Center basement and that netting could be used for the 9A site.

- **Spray Pool - Update -**

Rich is still awaiting the Village engineer to complete the plans. The plans will then need to be reviewed by Rich and Fran before submitting to Westchester County Department of Health.

- **Bocce - Update**

A location is still undecided for a future install of a bocce court. There was more discussion of possible location at Uniontown Park. That location would best be considered in early spring, after the renovations have resumed in earnest and we can better see if the basketball area at that park might be of consideration. For now, the Rec Dept will include the cost of install (approx \$3,500) in the 2018 department's budget.

Next Step: Add "location of bocce court" to P&R Commission's monthly meeting agenda.

- **Tennis - 2018 Permits, Programs, and Use of Hillside Tennis Courts**

The Commission supports offering Tennis Court Resident Memberships in 2018 as follows:

Family:	\$65
Individual:	\$40
Two-Person Family:	\$60
Junior (up to age 23):	\$25
Senior Citizen:	\$25

These fees are the same that were charged in 2015 (the last year that permits were sold before conditions of the Hillside Courts were deemed unplayable).

To highlight some historical reporting to frame this evening's discussion of the tennis courts, note that 2015 tennis permit revenues were approximately \$8500 gross, and expenses were approximately \$7,100 (the cost of two court attendants staffed 26 hrs/week for 17 wks x \$8/hour).

After this evening's discussion, the Commission is undecided as to whether or not to sell non-resident tennis permits (and if so, how many and what fee). We will continue this discussion at the February Commission meeting. For now, not as a point of reference that the non-resident permit fees in 2015 were:

Team (permit valid 4/1 - 6/30 only):	\$10
Senior:	\$50
Individual:	\$50
Two Person Family:	\$80
Family:	\$100

(note, non-residents were required to have a Hastings resident sponsor who held a valid tennis permit . There were 5 non-resident senior and 5 non-resident individual tennis permits sold in 2015).

Two other areas discussed this evening pertained to the relationship Hastings Rec has held with the Hastings School District (in terms of permitting Reynold's courts) and the current School District's needs to access Hillside courts to meet the needs of student athletes/teams.

The Commission would like to know if the School district would be interested in allowing the Rec Department to permit the courts at Reynold's field as in years prior to 2016-2017 for weekends in the spring and during non-school/summer months. The Rec Dept would cover the cost of staffing a court attendant and in return the School district could be sure that access to their Reynold's court was by Hastings residents/tennis permit holders only during high demand times. Lisa will reach out to the School district to start this conversation.

The Commission also hopes to gain a better understanding of what the School district needs in terms of access to the Village owned Hillside courts. In the past, the School's modified and Junior Varsity teams made regular use of Hillside Courts to meet the school's programming/game demands. Lisa will reach out to Jesse Merchant, Athletic Director Hastings UFSD to inquire what the school's needs are for Hillside courts.

Once the Commission better understands what courts will be permitted (ie... just Hillside, or Hillside and Reynolds), and better understands the demands on the courts (in terms of school district usage of Hillside courts), we will be in a better position to decide if non-resident permits should be sold to access the Village courts, and if so, how many permits will be sold and what the price of those permits will be.

Other demands on the usage of Hillside courts will include: The Rec Department's youth instructional program in Spring 2018. Note, the fall 2017 Rec youth instructional tennis program brought in \$3,800 in gross revenues.

There used to be a Westchester women's team that included several residents from Hastings and Yonkers who used to practice / compete regularly on the Hillside courts prior to 2015. To the best of Lisa's knowledge, that team no longer exists or has moved on to other facilities.

- **Other**

Rich seeks Commissions thoughts/input to the suggestion that the P&R Department include these items in the 2018 Budget submission:

Sugar Pond Shed - roof repair:	\$20K
Bathymetric Survey - Sugar Pond -	estimate still pending
Bocce Court -	\$4k
Tools / specialty (currently @ \$0) -	\$4K
9A Fencing -	? (Rich will get estimate)
Uniontown - painting basketball court -	\$?K (Rich will get estim)

Commission supported these suggestions.

David asked that the Parks & Rec Department also include in the 2018 budget:

Hillside Woods - fencing	\$130K
Uniontown - playground	\$70K ?

5. Meeting adjourned 9:20pm.

Next Meeting: February 8, 2018 - 8:00pm at the James Harmon Community Center

Minutes prepared by: A. Reeve
Minutes adopted on: Feb 8, 2018