

**MINUTES**  
**Recreation Commission**  
**City of Willoughby Hills**  
April 2, 2014

**CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 pm**

PRESENT: Dan Philipp, Chairman; Lynn Hallum, Vice-Chairman, Barbara Araps,  
Joseph Jarmuszkiewicz, Gloria Majeski, Jeanette Nelson  
ABSENT: Dee Germano, Council Representative John Plecnik, Mayor Robert Weger  
ALSO PRESENT: Recreation Coordinator Denise Edwards, Katherine Lloyd, Clerk *pro tem*  
Theresa Baptie, Clerk

Prior to meeting Dan Philipp introduced and welcomed new Clerk, Theresa Baptie.

**DISPOSITION OF MINUTES OF February 11, 2014**

Denise Edwards advised the Pancake Breakfast dates were March 2<sup>nd</sup> and March 9<sup>th</sup>.

**MOTION:** Jeanette Nelson moved that the Commission approve the minutes as submitted.  
Seconded by Dan Philipp  
Roll call vote: Ayes unanimous  
**Motion passes 6/0.**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

3/10/14 Letter from Recreation Commission to Mayor Weger RE: Article IX Waiver Request.  
3/12/14 Email from WH Recreation Department RE: Bocce Ball Courts Sub-Committee.  
3/12/14 Email from WH Recreation Department RE: Thank You.  
3/12/14 Email from Ray Somich RE: Thank You.  
3/17/14 Email from Gloria Majeski RE: Waiver of Security for Community Center Events Serving  
Alcohol with Memo Attached.  
3/18/14 Memo from Mayor Weger RE: Waiver of Security for Community Center Events Serving  
Alcohol.  
Reports: Community Center Usage – Received from Denise Edwards on 4/2/14.  
Community Center Rental Reports - Received from Denise Edwards on 4/2/14.  
460 Report – Received from Frank Brichacek on 4-2-14.

**COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT**

None

**RECREATION REPORT**

**Sports Programs.** Basketball is complete. **Baseball and Softball** Draft has been worked out a little bit, still have a few registrations trickling in. Joseph Jarmuszkiewicz reported one 8 youth, one 10 youth, one 12 youth, three 14 youth-girls, 3 instructional boys, 2 Mighty Might, 1 Minor, 1 Major and 1 Pony-boys. He stated that there has been a higher number of registrations, higher number of kids on a team than intended, trying to make accommodations for everyone. Need to get schedules together, line up umpires and get fields ready before practice begins. Need a couple more sponsors for girls. Games are Girls 8-10 3<sup>rd</sup> week of May thru beginning of July, Girls 12-14 beginning of June (due to middle school base ball) thru beginning of July. Second week of July make-up games and 3<sup>rd</sup> week of July is play-off week.

**Pancake Breakfast.** Still have some tickets out. Expenses down \$200 from last year. This year's profit so far is \$2692.93, about \$1000.00 drop from last years \$3459.02. Did get reimbursed from the Lions. The Lions had more tickets at our events than we had at theirs, last year it was the opposite, so we ended up owing them a little bit of money. They also ended up buying supplies from us so after it was all figured out, Lions owed/gave us \$122.50. Nothing to transfer to 460 yet. There is a \$3.50 exchange at the door, we keep track of the Lions ticket count and they keep tract of ours for both events. When packets were issued all tickets were numbered and on spreadsheet, so we do know who has not turned theirs in. As

they are turned in it is kept track of who returned, sold or both. So the est. \$900 matches up to the approximate 150 less people coming. The first one we served 278 (w/ volunteers) vs. 368 last year. The second is 435 (no volunteers) vs. 486 last year. Do not know if the 486 reflected volunteers. Will go through records before wrapping it up. **Spring Craft Fair**. Still need to finalize and sit down with Finance to make sure the numbers match before they approve. Vending spaces were 41 on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and 37 on the lower level. This year less than ½ the vendors chose to set up on Friday instead of Saturday. Kyle Overmyer, Devon, Rhiannam Edwards and Brody Philips helped get the vendors set up. A very special thank you to Mayor Weger and Councilman Germano who were up at the crack of dawn on Saturday setting up the sound system. Received a lot of help and support on Saturday from Mayor Weger, Gloria, Barb, Paula Garbo, Devon and Rhiannam Edwards, Shawn O'Ryan, Jake Bryda, Laura and Monica Ciszewski, Colleen Shannon, Owanna Serlinski, Olivia Ferron, John and Lola Jarmuszkiewicz. Long night getting out though as again lacked help for take-down, but throughout the day had fabulous volunteers. Two of the girls took a cart around for the Lions. Bill Owen does not have final number yet on how well they did. A very special thank you to Shawn O'Ryan from Willoughby South for working 12 hours, he and Colleen (helped sell raffle tickets) are volunteers from Key Cub. Of all the volunteers that signed up they are the only two that came. Paula, Gloria and Barb helped in the morning get everyone in and clean-out and at 6:00 Joel and Lola helped clean up and get the set up's ready for the next day. Some people said they did fabulous, some said they were a little disappointed. Sent vendor surveys out, already got one back, this person said the size and space were excellent, it was a beautiful facility. Very happy at how the restrooms were taken care of during the day. Service was excellent and price was good at the Concession stand although a healthier variety would have been nice (did have salad, etc). As far as the variety of vendors everything was good, set up was excellent. They were impressed that we did the announcements throughout the day. One vendor said she enjoyed this event very much; it was very professional with lots of consideration toward vendors. The customer base may have not been right for her product, however she will probably be back next year. Head count was conducted throughout the day. The fall show count was 737 for walk-throughs. There were 508 for the spring show. Something different this year, \$45 for 1<sup>st</sup> level and \$40 for lower, still sold out of all spaces. Vendors appreciated the ride in the Gator to upper lot, the facility and their cars. Advertised with The News Herald, WH churches, sent home with students of Edison and Grant middle schools, purchased 3 signs, Craigslist, Community Channel Website, Foyer, Facebook and each applicant was sent a flyer via email and asked to post. Pat Catan's website also helped. A vendor's game was suggested. We will try it for the Fall craft show. People are given a sheet containing the list of vendors with space for vendor initials for visit and/or purchase. They get a raffle ticket when the sheet is filled up. The bottom of the sheet will have questions such as how did you hear about the show? Benefit: We can see city wise where people are coming from, from the purchases how well the vendors did and all the vendors get exposure. Unofficial Income totals: vendor fees \$3,325; raffle tickets \$232 equaling \$3557. Expenses for signs, gifts and supplies; \$372.90. Combined total is \$3,184.10. Once feedback is collected, will pass on the information then we can decide whether it's something we want to do again. **Easter Party on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM**. Looking at the suggestions. Last year there were 168 children. A flyer with all our events will go in each bag. Giant Eagle is donating a box of bags. There will be a 2 year and under age group so age appropriate candy (fruit chews, etc) little toys, something safe will be provided at candy grab. United Way donated sample packs of gum and an Easter egg containing a raffle ticket will be put in the bags. Will be jelly bean count, Skipper is stopping by, pictures with the Easter Bunny for \$2, candy drop, coloring contest and snack and drinks. Asked about the chaos around the candy drop, can there be an area set off to the side where we stage the next group? Had looked at doing a new layout last year making the entrance the one that's down by the deck by the main foyer. This way they'll be the check in table and then you go in so the line up will be inside and also the candy grab moved to a different location. There was a question regarding any changes made to listing the time to avoid previous year's confusion. There is still going to be just a start time listed, however this year people will be give time to get settled before the candy grabbed is started. There will be kids, thru the radio station, who are training for media careers coming in to do announcements on a volunteer basis. Start is 1:00, will judge by what the line looks like to make sure people have a chance to get in and get settled enough for the candy drop. This way people will have a chance to participate in all the other activities (i.e. coloring contest as it was not sent to the schools) before the candy drop and there won't be congestion in one area as before.

Volunteers please come at 12:00 this way we can get a count on how many to make sure everything is covered etc. and there will be pizza or something to eat.

**COMMUNITY CENTER REPORT.** Rental total was \$5,035 vs. \$3,845 last year. Keep in mind that we had 3 pancake breakfasts that meant the O'Ryan room was not rented for 3 weekends and the craft show so there were no Saturday or Sundays in March, with that in mind, we did go up considerably. There were 62 rentals vs. an increase in the number of rooms rented last year. Do not have exact number information at this moment as it did not print out. Still not giving a clear image as far as is that increase we're charging for rentals really making a difference because again we're renting more rooms and getting the higher amount.

**Safety Town.** May 7<sup>th</sup> thru 11<sup>th</sup>. Spaces still available although slowly starting to fill up. The helmets each child gets at the graduation of Safety Town, Patty Heller at the fire department has helped to raise the money, she also supplies the helmets for Edison 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, each child gets a helmet every year. She raised, with the 50/50 raffle at 2 pancake breakfasts and the craft show, \$168 retaining \$84 as the other \$84 went to the winner. With that we're going to need to purchase 10 maybe 12 helmets. **Captains Game.** They have offered some really great stuff. Make sure you get a hold of a flyer (online or at the center). July 13<sup>th</sup> (they let us go back to Sundays) is the date of the game and it is a fireworks game. All the baseball kids, with the purchase of an adult ticket, will get in free. Kids will also be entered into a drawing, if selected get to go out onto the field and high-five players as they go out onto the field from the practice area. Kids also get to parade around the field. **Color Run.** Coming up on May 10<sup>th</sup>. **Concerts in the Park.** Starts on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Corn Fest Committee will call a committee meeting sometime in April, will advertise, and finally confirmed some of the bands.

**460 FUND.** As of April 2, 2014 has a Unencumbered Balance of \$31,466.12. That does not include anything talked about tonight as those are not official numbers.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

**Appointment of Bocce Ball Courts Sub-Committee.** Alescio DiFranco and Mayor Bob Weger have signed up; Lynn Hallum will be on it as well. The first business of the committee should be that if there is no interest out in the community to be on a committee then seriously need to question is there an interest in the community to even have Bocce courts and will they support it once it's there. Part of the purpose of forming the committee was to find out if it is worth going forward and on what scale or level if we do. With as much knowledge as Alescio DiFranco will bring to the table (information, cost, etc), should only take a couple of meeting to decide. Alescio DiFranco is a great resource and he plays for Wickliffe so he already knows the circuit. Once information is brought back to the Commission then a determination can be made as whether or not to continue pursuing.

**Recreation Committee Follow-up to Article IX Issue.** Chairman Dan Philipp spoke for the committee to address those watching at home. All members of the committee are volunteers. We spend a lot of time and effort on our 10-15 events a year. Over the years we have raised over \$31,000 not, counting expenses and that money goes strictly to the 460 Fund. That money has to be used for capital improvement. He himself has a 4 and 6 year old at home and volunteers as much as he can. More importantly he does not believe in making money on his city, therefore when it comes to T-shirts and magnets, etc., those are also donated for the good of the kids and the people of the city. He believes that if you are going to keep property values up in the city, you have to have recreation. People moved to a place because they want to live where they work, play where they live. Recreation is near and dear to his heart as well as to others. Understands there are some issues, he knows himself and probably others did not know the charter etc., or any of the ramifications when we took these positions. None have done anything with intent; we are here to serve the city and will continue to do so. Whenever there is negativity in the news people start not showing up to events, no one wants to be in the middle of a

controversy. Perhaps that's why the numbers were down for the pancake breakfast. The city is in good financial standing, the carry over from 2013 is some \$600,000, that's been done though some tough economic times. The Mayor, Council, his staff, the staff of Willoughby Hills and all the volunteers have helped contributed to that. There are good things happening in Willoughby Hills. We do need volunteers and help, we do ask people to step forward. When Denise talks about volunteers you will hear a lot of the same names. You will also hear similar names to our last names because it's our kids volunteering. Dan Philipp finished by asking if anyone else had any input on Article IX. Gloria thanked Katie Lloyd for the good job and follow through she did on the letter she typed up on the Commission's behalf following the last meeting. Gloria Majeski reported that at the last City Council meeting, Law Director Lobe said that he was going to be hiring independent council to take look at that and that's where it stands at.

At the Council meeting, there was discussion about putting together a group of people who will look at the charter and the many aspects that need to be considered. What is considered family is not defined so there are definite problems with the charter that we need to do something about. We may not know the results right away. All we can do is what we do everyday in City Hall: continue keeping our residents first and not letting them get caught up in all this negativity. We are the city that people want to come to and we don't want to change that because people don't get along. Recreation is an important part of Willoughby Hills. As it stands now, if the violation removed people from the Commission, it would leave only Joe and Barb. As much as people think it's easy to get volunteers, when the people who applied for the councilman's job and didn't get it, Mayor Weger sent letters to all of them saying since you put on your application that you wanted to be involved in the city we have a great opportunity for you, come work on our Rec Board; he did not get one reply. The people who will commit are few and far between. It is the same people sometimes and it's not really that bad of a thing for it to be a family thing. Mr. Jarmuszkiewicz stated that we are a small community so there is not a big pool of volunteers to pull from so it does end up being a lot of the same people. That should be something addressed.

**Update on Grills.** Gloria reported on her contact with Busy Bear. Gloria will meet with her next week. Busy Bear is still putting out summer inventory. She is definitely willing to help us. That will definitely help us instead of buying something online. By next meeting, Gloria plans to report further.

#### **NEW BUSINESS: None**

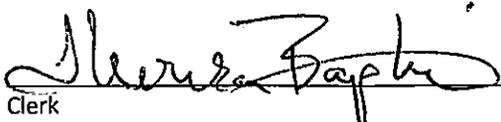
#### **PUBLIC PORTION opened 7:49 pm**

Linda Fulton 2990 Markum Blvd.

I would first like to thank the commission for sanctioning the North Coast Lions. We had our fund raiser on Sunday. It was a huge success. I know how hard it is to get volunteers. I want to give this commission kudos' for doing such a good job and working hard. I was at the Spring Craft Show and Pancake Breakfast's. These are things that are good for the city. Hopefully down the road you can get more volunteers.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm by Chairman Phillip.**

  
Clerk

  
Chairman

Date approved: 5-7-14

4/29/14/TAB

Note: Meetings of the Recreation Commission are recorded and recordings are a public record.