

Kankakee Valley Park District
Committee Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2018

The Committee Meeting was called to order at 5:07 pm by President Hollis. Those present for roll call were Commissioner A. Hollis, D. Tucker, D. Skelly, B. Spriggs. Others present: Dayna Heitz, Executive Director; Melissa Woodard, Superintendent of Recreation, Rick Collins, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds, Attorney John Coghlan. Not present: Commissioner M. Mullady

COMMUNICATIONS

Written: A campground thank you letter. Bill Stump is our campground host volunteer. He goes above and beyond. He is security and maintenance for us. There was a letter from someone not happy about receiving a ticket in the harbor parking lot. Commissioner Spriggs asked about stain for the small building out there. Commissioner Hollis said there are some kids that need community service from Bishop Mac that could help.

Public Comment: James Smith: We had a lunch program at Pioneer Park. Wanted to come in himself to thank the District and Board. He read a letter he had written to thank the board.

OLD BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

Department Reports

Rick Collins: Added a new truck to the fleet. 2013 4x4 Silverado. Commissioner Hollis asked about Snow Park. Was the equipment damaged? Minor damage on metal platform. Did speak to PDRMA and they wanted to know if anyone had been charged. No. Equipment is still usable. Commissioner Spriggs thanked Rick for cleaning up the river bank at Jeffers. Commissioner Hollis asked about the fence at Jeffers. It has been ordered but not received.

Melissa Woodard: Went over the water events this week and the new rec programming for the fall.

Angie Tousignant: Any questions, please ask Angie.

Dayna Heitz: Went through financials. Financials are through July 31st. We are doing well and that's because we have received the tax distribution. We will be entering the new budget numbers and line items. It will change what you are seeing now. The budget wasn't approved so we needed to wait until then. Check PNC credit card and Midland daily. Checking to see if Midland can match Illinois Funds for interest earned. 1.94% from Illinois Funds and a lot less from Midland. Bond money will go into Illinois Funds. Know the board is really wanting to get some recreation going. Melissa is still doing the Recreation and we are always looking for ways to cut costs. The phone system and alarm system are two she has been working on. There is a spreadsheet going over the cost analysis. We need to upgrade our actual phones and equipment. That initial cost is \$12,241. Then with the proposed new phones we can change the service. There is a large savings. In the next year there would be a savings of \$10,000. Commissioner Skelly asked if this is going to be better for the public. Don't like the automated system. Director Heitz said we don't always know we have voicemails. Commissioner Hollis asked if the company is credible. Yes, Comcast. Ice Valley uses Comcast. Is there an option that if people call here, can they be transferred to Ice Valley? The Rec Center? Will find out. The sooner people can talk to a live person, the better. Need to make it more user friendly. This is in the budget under capital. Check on the contract length for Comcast and guarantee of the rate.

The next item is the alarm system cost. There is another company that is local here. It will be less expensive per year. Our savings would be \$3,560 per year. Commissioner Skelly suggested we talk to Protection Associates and let them know or see if they can match pricing. Want to make sure it's apples to apples deal. Commissioner Skelly stated Protection Associates is head and shoulders above everyone else. If the price is truly that, then have at it. Would be good business to have a conversation with them to see what can be done. Commissioner Hollis said they might be willing to come down. Aaron's is willing to give the same cost for all the buildings. Want to deal with a company that has been consistent and haven't had many issues in the past. Even if we are saving \$3,500 a year. If we are able to stay with the same company and maybe they can come close to this and keep the relationship going. We aren't sure what we are getting with a new company. Understand we have had some management issues with Protection Associates. If Aaron's is doing everything and it matches, that's great.

Commissioner Skelly has a question about the appropriation with the museum. Want to make sure they understand the process. They need to have a mutual place to check the numbers to find it for themselves so they know why they are given what they are. Director Heitz is working on a spreadsheet showing how their tax is calculated. They used to be able to go to county clerk and check the amounts. They will not be able to get the collections sheet but will be able to calculate based on the stable rate and EAV.

Need 3 of you to sign the union staff agreement. Did find out which maintenance positions are union. Would like to have some other meetings to go over some rearranging of ice valley staff and positions. Maybe a rink tech and possibly that would be two-fold with some management.

Gave a copy of the pavilion permit. Looking for some suggestions to see if we need to make changes on that or the rental agreement. We are having issues with the bounce houses. People don't realize separate insurance is needed from the bounce house company. It is currently stated on the agreement and they are told by Ariana. If they are privately owned, then it goes on their own personal insurance policy. Commissioner Tucker asked how we monitor that? Just by being at the park when they have a rental. It's an issue when we have to shut them down on the bounce house. Commissioner Skelly said on an attorney perspective if kids come to the water day tomorrow, they have to sign waiver. He said his daughter can go play at the park and fall off equipment, PDRMA covers it. But if she goes to water day, she has to sign a waiver. Director Heitz stated PDRMA cover if we are negligent. Water day/slip-n-slides are high risk activities. Attorney Coghlan said people are always looking to sue someone. Bill Stump: Do we have insurance for the campground?

Director Heitz said we have alcohol in the parks, people driving through the parks, and the bounce houses. We are asking what your thoughts are. Should we change the forms, the permits? Commissioner Hollis asked if we still have police fund? Yes. Since PDRMA is making us monitor these things, would it be in our best interest to use some of that money to pay officers? Commissioner Skelly said it's \$45/hour they would get an officer in a car. Attorney Coghlan said or you could build that into rental. Dayna said we could charge a deposit. Our guys are emptying garbage and they call about it.

Surplus equipment: Have applied for the lost titles.

Had some issues at McBroom last night. 3 phone calls from residents. Police told residents to call alderman, alderman told them to call park district. Do have a video of them drag racing. They were parked on the grass but Officer Marci Gearhart made them move. Took about 4 squad cars with spot lights to remove them because it was dark out. There were 75-100 kids in the park. Commissioner Hollis asked what they were doing? Some playing basketball but most just hanging out. Is this an everyday thing? Commissioner Spriggs said it's every weekend thing. Commissioner Tucker asked if we need someone to patrol in the high-volume time? Commissioner Hollis said maybe Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sun. 3-11pm? Commissioner Skelly said to hire someone for \$10-11 to patrol and call the police if they have issues. Commissioner Tucker said hire someone that can do something too. Next year \$8,100 for the

10 weeks, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday in the summer and patrol all the parks. Commissioner Hollis said he's thinking about safety and the tax payer's money. We aren't rewarding bad behavior, we are being proactive. Commissioner Tucker asked what do we do for the rest of the year? Hollis said we need to partner with the city. Director Heitz said do we still have an agreement with the city?

Funding for Splash valley: Have pictures. There is a lot of damage to the pump house, lazy river, and concrete. Please read this all over. This is from Farnsworth. Will meet with Tom from Williams later this week. From the pictures you can see some of the damage. The main beam that goes across the pump house is damaged from the chemicals. The pumps were installed with bolts that aren't stainless steel so those will need replaced. Depending on the main beam and how bad it is, it expands. The concrete eroding is from the chemical damage. That will all need to be redone. The pictures don't do it justice. Biggest problem is the lazy river. It will not be replaced. Do you want us to look at another architect since we already have two? Commissioner Hollis said no one was on this board when this was built. We want it done right. Want someone experienced in aquatics. Showed the experience from Farnsworth. Commissioner Skelly said Dayna has aquatic experience. Commissioner Skelly said we are constrained by budget. Important to get someone who understands our budget. Want the community to be part of the process. Schedule some public meetings. Director Heitz said once we have the bond sold and architects, would do that. Would like to have regular meetings with the board to go over things and not enough time at committee and board meetings. Commissioner Tucker would like to make some site visits.

Golf outing is in the works for 2019.

COMMISSIONERS FORUM

Commissioner Spriggs asked how we are doing with summer help. Will we hire someone to replace Jim Schopf. Not right now. Next year we will hire full time seasonal but not a full-time maintenance position. Commissioner Hollis said we could keep expenses down by hiring seasonal full time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURN MEETING

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 6:34pm by Commissioner Spriggs, seconded by Commissioner Tucker. Upon voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

OFFICIAL REPORTS:

1. R. Collins
2. M. Woodard
3. A. Tousignant
4. D. Heitz

Respectfully submitted by: Melissa Woodard