

# Huntington Woods Parks and Recreation

## Advisory Board Agenda

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Members Present: Frank Spencer, Eleanor Daniel, Jeff Aisen, Sheila Cohen, Jessica Steinhart, Mary Gustafson

Guests: Jennifer Morgan, Claire Galed, and Gail Linden

- I. Call to Order: 7:36am by J. Aisen
- II. Approval of Agenda: E. Daniel, F. Spencer
- III. Approval of Minutes: F. Spencer, S. Cohen
- IV. Correspondence: none
- V. Public Participation
  - a. C. Galed: Requested that online survey about Master Plan be revamped because there were limited opportunities for comments. M. Gustafson indicated that this would not be possible because people have already started completing the survey. However, she directed residents to come to the Open House on October 3<sup>rd</sup> to share comments.
  - b. J. Morgan: Expressed interest in having a farmer's market
- VI. New Business
  - a. Latchkey: New Director Jenny Morgan was introduced to the advisory board. She is resident of HW and grew up in the area and went to Berkley High School. Previous background in education and camp administration. Started unofficially the last few weeks and will start officially October 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - b. Master Plan Update: The online survey is open until the beginning of November. The Open House for the Master Plan is on October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6-9pm. Additional comments can be made at that time. Seventy people completed the survey during its first week of release. The Master Plan must be completed and submitted to the State before Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, which includes a process for public review, advisory board review, and city commission review. Residents will be notified of relevant meetings as they are scheduled. No hard copy surveys available. The board discussed having the Teen Council and/or National Honor Society stationed at the library to assist residents without computers in completing the survey. Communication about this assistance could go through the Seniors Committee.
  - c. Budget Sub-Committee Report: Long range budget study committee looking at expenditures and revenue. Goal to reduce reliance on funding from the general fund to support programming. Suggestions of the committee include an increase in program fees and review of operational expenses to ensure self-sustaining revenue. J. Aisen suggested that the board review in depth at next meeting.
  - d. 2020 Rate Increase for Camp: The Board reviewed the proposed 5% increase in camp rates. The change in rates also includes a decrease in before camp care and an increase in after camp care. M. Gustafson explained that rates hadn't increase for almost 3 years prior to 2018 increase. This new rate should be stable for more than a year and ensure sustainable funding without support from the general fund. Recommendation from the Board will go to the Commission. S. Cohen and J. Aisen motion to accept proposal. All in favor. The Board recommends educating Rec Center staff to handle resident complaints regarding rate increase.

VII. Old Business

- a. Program Registration Procedure: This was follow-up to previous conversation regarding latchkey and camp registration and how to ensure prioritization for HW residents. In camp this past summer, there were four Royal Oak families in camp (total of 6 children). In latchkey this school year, there are three Royal Oak families (total of 5 children) and four teachers (total of 5 children). Only one HW resident was waitlisted for latchkey. Burton launched its Pit Stop program as an alternative to the Parks and Rec latchkey and they currently have 10-16 kids enrolled. There may be an option to expand Pit Stop but Burton doesn't want to compete and draw kids from latchkey. Half days and vacation days not covered in Burton's program. The Board's proposal is for all Rec Center programming. The proposal is to grandfather in households currently in Rec Center programming but to create a tiered registration system moving forward. The first tier is HW residents and the second tier is households from the Royal Oak section. Teachers will be included in the Royal Oak household tier for latchkey programs. J. Aisen, F. Spencer motioned to accept the proposal. All in favor. The proposal will now go to the commission.
- b. Burton Field Review: Mort Meisner may have found someone to cover the cost of updating infields at Burton (approximately \$16,000) to ensure they are playable. He previously found a donor to update the Men's Club field

VIII. Department Updates

- a. Peasley Park: Construction is starting next week and should be complete in 3 weeks. It is still open for soccer practice.
- b. Reynolds Park: Adult fitness equipment plan has been put together. Cost is estimated at \$128,000. Funding options are being explored and include Men's Club, Realtors Group, and grant opportunities.
- c. Fall Garden Festival: Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> 5:30-8pm. Residents can exchange plants and sell produce. There will be vendors including honey and sessions on composting, tree mulching, and rat prevention.
- d. Hay Day: October 5<sup>th</sup>. E. Daniel indicated that lots of teen volunteers already secured.
- e. Statue Park: F. Spencer said updates have been fantastic.
- f. Scotia Park: Additional work will be taking place. There will be a community planting event the morning of October 19<sup>th</sup>.

IX. Plan of Action for October Meeting

- a. 2020 Rate Increase for Pool
- b. 2020 Rate Increase for Latchkey
- c. Registration Procedure (ie. lottery)

X. Board Member Comments

- a. J. Aisen: Proposed that November Board Meeting be moved to November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm
- b. J. Steinhart: Expressed concerns about ongoing vandalism of Burton playground drinking fountain. M. Gustafson will explore whether company that made the equipment has any solutions.
- c. S. Cohen: Encouraged everyone to attend Lisa Anderson's retirement party on September 27<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6.

XI. Adjournment – 8:45pm