

Village of Glendale Heights  
Parks & Recreation Committee  
Tuesday, January 16, 2024  
Sports Hub

**Trustee Pat Maritato called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.**

**Roll Call:**

Jeanette Wilson ( <i>Parks and Recreation Committee Member</i> )	Present
Enrique Arroyo ( <i>Parks and Recreation Committee Member</i> )	Present
Pat Maritato ( <i>Parks and Recreation Committee Member - Chairman</i> )	Present
Chester Pojack ( <i>Parks and Recreation Committee Member - Liaison</i> )	Present
Frank Mendez ( <i>Parks and Recreation Committee Member</i> )	Present
John Staffa ( <i>Parks and Recreation Committee Member</i> )	Present
Jeff Yunker ( <i>Parks and Recreation Committee Member</i> )	Present
Other In Attendance:	
Keith Knautz, Director of Leisure Services	
Tracy Claudio, Assistant to the Director of Leisure Services	
Chodri, Khokhar, Village President	

**Approval of Minutes from the 11/21/23 Regular Meeting**

Motion made by Jeannette Wilson, second motion by Enrique Arroyo, all approved.

**Discussion Regarding – Program Updates**

Director Knautz stated:

- PATH Winter Break Camp was successful averaging 15 kids per day.
- The Winter skills clinic is running with 77 participants.
- The 24% off January fitness special is running through 1/31.
- Youth basketball league started 1/6 with 99 kids participating, up from last season.
- Men’s basketball started with 7 teams competing.
- Beverly Pappas gave a generous donation of \$1,000 to the GHYBS program. With this donation, we are offering free t-ball to residents. We are also offering free to residents, a new My First T-Ball program. Free registrations run through 3/4.

Director Knautz also stated that Beverly will be recognized at the next Village Board Meeting. Enrique suggested that Beverly throw out the first pitch at one of the games on opening day.

**Discussion Regarding – Camera Park Turf Update**

Director Knautz stated the project has fallen behind due to the weather and permitting issues with the county. The turf has arrived and should be completed by late spring.

### **Discussion Regarding – Millennium Park Playground**

Director Knautz stated that he requested additional ADA accessible options for the playground equipment and that the options will be presented at a special meeting that he will set up in February. Funding for the project includes, a \$70,000 playground grant and a \$50,000 donation from NESDRA.

### **Discussion Regarding – Community Garden**

Director Knautz distributed a preliminary draft of the rules and a drawing of garden. He stated that there will not be any concrete walkways and that it will be a decomposable material. He also stated the project will include a tool shed, water barrels and a concrete slab for a portable restroom. The total project cost is \$175,000 with the Parks Division doing the ground work and \$225,000 if a contractor completes all the work. Director Knautz also stated that the Community Garden Clubs first meeting is scheduled for 2/1. This group will finalize the rules and regulations. Trustee Pojack stated that rule #6 should be changed. He recommends that dogs not be allowed. Jeff agreed and stated that no one cleans up their dogs messes.

### **Discussion Regarding – Camera Park Usage 2024**

Director Knautz distributed a calendar of events that take place each year at Camera Park. He stated the list does not include corporate or cultural events except for Oktoberfest. He asked the committee if they want to continue to add big events at Camera Park. He stated he would like everyone's input and would like the committee members to think about it and the subject will be revisited. He worries that we maybe utilizing the park too much for these events and taking away from the residents that use the park.

### **Other**

Director Knautz stated that with the renovated ball fields at Nazos Park and the new turf soccer field at Camera Park, staff will be looking into booking those fields as much as possible. We will look for groups that offer travel leagues to rent the fields to. He stated that a marketing plan is being finalized and that he would bring it to the Community at the special meeting in February.

Chester asked if the Village had pickleball courts and Director Knautz stated that there are four indoor courts at the Sports Hub and it is open to use Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 1:00 pm.

Chester also inquired about the seasonal market and Director Knautz stated that is currently held inside the Sports Hub on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month. He stated that starting May 1, the market would go back outside.

Frank asked if we were going to have concessions at Camera Park this year and Director Knautz responded that the building does not have an area to run concessions. He stated the building holds all the mechanicals for the splash pad and the restrooms.

Frank also asked if something could be put in the dead space at Ringneck Park. Stated he would like to see something there other than dead grass. Director Knautz stated that he will add it to his list to look at options.

### **Adjournment**

The Committee moved to adjourn. The motion was made by Jeannette Wilson, second motion by Enrique Arroyo, all approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm.