

Village of Glendale Heights  
Parks & Recreation Committee  
September 17, 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> )	Absent
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
Others In Attendance:	
Keith Knautz, Director of Leisure Services	
Tracy Claudio, Assistant to the Director of Leisure Services	
Jennifer Fulton, Administrative Secretary of Leisure Services	
Bill Schmidt, Trustee District 1	

**Approval of Minutes from the 5/21/24**

Motion made by Enrique Arroyo, second motion by Frank Mendez, all approved.

**Discussion Regarding – Program Updates**

Director Knautz stated:

- **Aquatics**
  - Pool closed for the season on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - 15,699 total visits to GH2O, a slight (2%) increase from 2023.
  - 391 Swim lesson enrollments.
  - 571 Total passes sold.
  - New punch this season = 43 sold.
  - Umbrella rentals were new this season. 15 total rentals. Total revenue \$4,616
  - Swim Team = 52 Swimmers
  - Total Aquatic Revenue for 2024 = \$193,018. 10% increase from 2023.
- **PATH Summer Camp**
  - 828 Enrollments, averaging 82 kids per week.
  - Total Revenue = \$115,284 (\$124,037 actual, difference went into daily fees for Aquatics).
- **Youth Soccer**
  - 217 Participants for Summer season. Total revenue = \$25,145.  
Summer 2023 had 152 participants.
  - 175 Participants for Fall season. Total revenue = \$19,920.  
Fall 2023 had 133 participants.

- **Fall Baseball/Softball**
  - 125 Participants for Fall Ball. Total revenue = \$14,235. 111% increase. Fall 2023 had 57 participants.
  - 176 Participants in Spring 2024. 155% increase. 69 participants in Spring 2023.
  
- **Preschool**
  - Started on 9/9 with 66 enrolled. Total of 4 classes. (2) Monday, Wednesday, Friday. (2) Tuesday, Thursday. 2023 there were 50 enrolled with 3 classes.
  
- **Upcoming Adult Trips**
  - 9/26 – Mitchell Park Domes Fall Mums Shoe & Mars Cheese Castle, Milwaukee WI
  - Lake Geneva Fall Color Road & Boat Tour
  - Holiday Shopping at the Volo Antique Mall
  - Morkes Chocolate in Palatine

### **Discussion Regarding – Camera Park Turf Update**

Director Knautz stated that the long delay in permitting was finally cleared up around the end of July.

- Work began back up in the middle of August. Current projected completion timeframe is the middle of October.
- They are working on installing stone and getting things laid out to install fabric, that will begin in a couple weeks.
- No games will be played this year. Will be ready to go in Spring of 2025.
- Field will be lined for Soccer. There are pegs for Lacrosse. No Cricket will be played on the new field.
- John Staffa asked if the track around the field can be used as an actual track for high school. Director Knautz said he was not sure and said it was something that can be looked into.

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

The Millennium Park grand re-opening took place on Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. Director Knautz thanked everyone that was able to make it that evening. He also gave a special thank you to Trustee Maritato, Trustee Pojack and Mayor Khokhar for speaking along with Representative Diane Blair-Sherlock who helped us secure a \$221,000 dollar grant, a large part of this project. A good deal of residents from the area and the students from Glenbard Transitional School that were really responsible for the additional ADA components to the park. Director Knautz also gave a special thank you to the Parks and Recreation Committee who helped make sure that we made a group of kids from the Transitional School have a place where they can play together. Seeing their faces light up, dancing and the fun they were having made the event even more special. Director Knautz also stated that at the Village COW meeting on Thursday, Trustee Maritato will say a few things about the playground, grand re-opening and will show a video of the night's activities. He invited everyone to attend.

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

Director Knautz stated that at the May meeting we discussed the progress of the Community Garden with hopes that we would be able to have it open later this summer. Unfortunately, there were some additional issues that pushed things back further. The cement pad for the ADA garden, bathrooms and shed have been completed. Additionally, plots have been laid out and are ready for spring planting. At the next board meeting, we will have the installation of a well on the property approved so we can control water on site. That will leave the shed, ADA planting beds, and the building around the well for completion before the garden opens in spring.

### **Discussion Regarding – Trees**

Director Knautz stated that the Village's Urban Forestry Management Plan has been approved by the Village Board and we are using it as a guide for purchasing trees and tree maintenance within the Village. Last week we applied for a \$325,000 grant to address trees in areas that are considered disadvantaged. The Emerald Ash Borer wiped out approximately 3,000 trees in the Village. We have been spending around \$20,000 a year to replace those and other trees in the Village. The grant would allow us to replace around 1,600 trees that have been designated as disadvantaged neighborhoods in Glendale Heights. We are not likely to receive this grant as it is through the same organization that did our Tree Inventory and Urban Forestry Management Plan, as they look at communities that have not been given money first. We did go after one of the larger amounts in hopes that there are less communities looking for a top grant. Director Knautz will let the committee know when he learns that status of the grant.

### **Discussion Regarding – Community Recognition**

Director Knautz stated that Bev Pappas recently made a donation to GHYBS in hopes of increasing the number of baseball and softball players in the community. Through her generous donation, the Village set created a new program, My First T-ball. My First T-ball and T-ball were free to residents and that signed up. Registration numbers have increased and carried over to fall ball as well. Trustee Maritato and the members of the Village Board want to do something to thank Bev for her donation. On Thursday night, we will be presenting her with a jersey that she can wear when she comes to a game or if she's out in the community to thank her for all she has done.

Director Knautz asked the committee for approval. Committee voted to unanimously to approve.

### **Adjournment**

The Committee moved to adjourn. The motion was made by Enrique Arroyo, second motion by Jeanette Wilson, all approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.