

Village of Glendale Heights  
Parks & Recreation Committee  
November 19, 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
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	
Vince Cassata,	
Bill Schmidt, Trustee District 1	

**Approval of Minutes from the 9/17/24**

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

**Discussion Regarding – Program Updates**

Director Knautz stated we had a good Fall so far with many special events.

- Cops and Bobbers took place in the morning on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. The event is run by the Police Department and Leisure Services assists. Kids are offered the opportunity to fish in Lake Bacerra for trophies and prizes. Hot dogs and chips were served. This year’s event had over 50 participants.
- Harvest Fest followed Cops and Bobbers in the afternoon from 12:00pm until 4:00pm. There was food, inflatables, a hot wing eating contest, donut eating contest, bags tournament, hayrides and much more. The Historic House was open during Harvest Fest showcasing a pumpkin patch and craft vendors by the house making it a larger event. The Historic House had over 50 visits.
- Due to rain, the Show and Shine Car Show and Community Garage Sale was moved to September 29<sup>th</sup>. Camera Park was very busy that day with almost 200 cars registered for the car show and a little over 75 spots were rented for the Community Garage Sale.
- Throughout September and October Camera Park hosted a number of cross country meets for the Glenbard West Cross-Country program. Americana Park hosted a number of soccer games for Glenside Middle School.
- Winter Indoor Soccer started at the Sports Hub on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. There are 311 kids participating in the program this year. In Fall of 2023, there were 268 participants.
- Youth Basketball registration is still open with practices starting in mid-December. Currently there are 85 enrolled and were hoping to reach last years registration of 99 participants.
- The adult trip to Morkes Chocolate is on Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> with 5 enrolled.
- Pickleball is starting to pick up in the mornings. We had approximately 25 players this morning.
- We are currently working on the Winter/Spring brochure. There are a number of new programs. The brochure will be mailed by the middle of December.

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

Director Knautz stated that the turf and fence have been installed. We're still waiting on some landscape. Next year we will be looking to work on the surrounding path. Additionally, we have a plan to add some bleachers on the north side of the field. Also, currently working on signage that will be needed to make sure the field lasts for many years. The plan is for this field to be open to the public when it's not being rented through the Sports Hub.

Trustee Maritato inquired about maintenance for the field. Vince Cassata stated that we have the equipment to maintain the field and several of the Parks staff have worked on the inside turf field and have taken classes on turf field maintenance.

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

Director Knautz stated that the Community Garden will be part of the Winter/Spring brochure. The original set of plots have been prepared and are ready for rental. Rental of the plots will begin on February 1, 2025 on a first come first served basis. 20 plots will be available with the ability to add more quickly if needed. Rates for plots are \$10/Senior, \$15/Resident and \$30/Non-Resident. Recreation is still working on the registration details. Garden committee members will be able to pick their plots first. Director Knautz will bring more details on the registration process to the January meeting.

### **Discussion Regarding – Access Fit**

Director Knautz stated that the DuPage Health Coalition is an organization that works with low-income individuals and families in DuPage County through Access DuPage and their new program Access Fit. The Access Fit program is looking to partner with fitness centers to allow lower income residents the opportunity for better health offerings through access to fitness resources at no or low cost for families that qualify or are referred. As of November 5, 2024 they have 699 active Access DuPage members that live in Glendale Heights, 63 of those residents are diabetic. The program is pretty open to what we can offer. Director Knautz is considering offering 6 three month fitness memberships for the program.

Committee unanimously voted for Director Knautz to continue to look into the program.

### **Discussion Regarding – Special Events**

Director Knautz stated that there are several special events coming up in the next few weeks.

- Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> – Tree Lighting Ceremony. Weather is being monitored for potential alternate plans. The event starts at 6:30pm with hot chocolate and donuts being served, local choirs performing and vendors with activities. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available for pictures and at 7:15pm the Board and Mayor will flip the magic switch to light up Camera Park and a small fireworks show will end the evening.
- Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> – Historic House will be open for tours and the first Christkindl Market will take place at the Historic House from 1:00pm to 6:00pm. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served. Carolers and horse drawn carriage rides will also be available.
- Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> – Breakfast with Santa will take place at the Glendale Lakes Golf Club from 9:00am to 11:30am. Santa and Mrs. Claus are scheduled to arrive via helicopter at 9:00am. Cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids (ages 4-12), kids 3 and under are free. Pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available to purchase for \$3. Pancakes, sausage, apple juice, hot chocolate and coffee will be served.

### **Adjournment**

The Committee moved to adjourn. The motion was made by Jeanette Wilson, seconded by Enrique Arroyo. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.