

CITY OF PALOS HEIGHTS



RECREATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Key called the regular meeting of the Recreation Committee to order at 7:13 p.m. at the Palos Heights Administration Center, 7607 W. College Drive. In attendance were Chairman Key, Alderman Bylut, Alderman McGovern, City Administrator Dan Nisavic, and Recording Secretary Pat Sheppard. Also present was LK Director Gareth Blakesley

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Key moved to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2018 meeting as written, seconded by Alderman McGovern. All in favor. Motion carried.

ADDRESSES FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

LAKE KATHERINE REPORT: Gareth Blakesley

- The annual Volunteer Appreciation Night was being held this evening. This event is held to thank all the volunteers who have worked 20 hours or more during the year at Lake Katherine.
- A long-time volunteer, Dick Thomas, passed away on December 28. His funeral arrangements were private, but plans were being made for a dedication in his memory on Earth Day which would include members from other conservation groups he volunteered for.
- A seed cleaning event was held where volunteers from Orland Prayer Center spent an evening cleaning milkweed seeds.
- An inaugural Solstice Burn event was held in December. Volunteers cut down buckthorn and burnt it on a bonfire. A toast was held at sunset...the shortest day of the year. The new event was well received.
- Gareth will be attending a con-ex event on January 12 at Stagg H.S. This will be Peter Gordon's, of "Homes for Monarchs", first conservation expo.
- Staff has been working on developing waste reduction action items to support the environmental ethics statement.
- There has been vigorous buckthorn clearance along the south shore of the lake.
- With the mild temps, they were clearing and tidying up items behind the garage.
- Gareth participated in the filming for SD118's Read-A-Thon.
- He has been participating in online training through the Morton Arboretum on oak woodland to keep up to date on current thinking.
- Martin Luther King Day will be a volunteer work day.
- Plans are underway for WinterFest on Saturday, February 2.

PARKS & RECREATION REPORT: Dan Nisavic

Dan had several comments to make and items to report:

1. He expressed that he felt he was in his element in the Parks & Recreation Department with having 21 years past experience in parks and recreation. He held certified professional certifications, including a CPRP and a pool spa operator's license. He felt comfortable overseeing this department in the interim.
2. He commented that the Parks & Recreation staff were top-notch.
3. In regards to the CAPRA accreditation, Dan felt they were on top of the process and would stay on schedule. Dan had worked with Mike on the process prior to Mike's leaving.
4. In regards to the Open Lands Grant (OSLAD) for Palmer Park, they would be hearing very soon on whether or not they would be proceeding to the next level. Most of that work is being done by Upland Design. If accepted to the next level, a presentation would be prepared to give on February 22 in Springfield, IL.
5. Staff was currently working on the 3rd of July Celebration and summer programming.

Chairman Key noted an indoor concert was being held in the Orchard Room on Thursday, January 17 featuring Rosie & the Rivets. He also commented on the Parks & Recreation staff and applauded Mike Leonard for choosing and molding a great team.

Alderman Bylut asked where the process was in hiring a new director. Dan informed the committee interviews were scheduled with eight (8) candidates. The search team consisted of the Mayor, Alderman Key, Lisa Pesavento, and Dan.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Tennis and Pickleball Courts Renovation Project, Payout Request #1. Chairman Key explained the payout was to Evans & Son Blacktop, Inc. for work completed on the Tennis and Pickleball Courts Renovations at Palmer and Community Parks. He noted there were a couple of items on the punch list that would have to be addressed before retainage in the amount of \$22,928.00 would be released.

Chairman Key moved to approve the request for payment to Evans & Son Blacktop, Inc. in the amount of \$206,352.00 for work completed on the Tennis and Pickleball Courts Renovation Project, seconded by Alderman Bylut. On a unanimous voice vote, the motion carried. **AGENDA**

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Key moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman McGovern. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Sheppard
Recording Secretary