

# Parks & Recreation Committee

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Minutes of the Meeting on  
April 15, 2019

Village of Homer Glen  
14240 W 151<sup>st</sup> Street, Homer Glen, IL 60491  
Community Room

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Co-Chair Christina Neitzke-Troike.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Roll Call.

Present at 6:00 p.m. were Co-Chairs Christina Neitzke-Troike and Beth Rodgers, members Dale Janssen, Bob Kman, Regina Robinson, John Walters and Mark Gawron. Ed Cryer and Russell Knaack arrived at 6:15 p.m.

Members Absent: Thor Batchelor

Also Present: Chalk-it-Up planning committee member Amy Blank, Facilities Manager John Robinson and Administrative Analyst Matt Walsh.

4. Approval of Amendments to the Agenda.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

5. Approval of Minutes.

- a) January 21, 2019

Co-Chair Neitzke-Troike stated that the minutes from the January 21, 2019 Parks and Recreation meeting were being presented for approval. Member Gawron made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Member Robinson. The motion passed unanimously.

- b) February 25, 2019

Co-Chair Neitzke-Troike stated that the minutes from the February 25, 2019 Parks and Recreation meeting were being presented for approval. Member Gawron made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Member Janssen. The motion passed unanimously.

- c) March 18, 2019

Co-Chair Neitzke-Troike stated that the minutes from the March 18, 2019 Parks and Recreation meeting were being presented for approval. Member Gawron made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Member Janssen. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Public Comment.

Resident Marty Pavlik, of Glenview Walk Subdivision, was in attendance and asked if he would be permitted to speak during the discussion on park prioritization.

7. Reports from Co-Chairs.

Co-Chair Neitzke-Troiike introduced Village Manager Karie Friling to the group. Co-Chair Neitzke-Troiike updated the Committee on her conversation with Township Supervisor Pam Meyers about developing playground equipment on Township land. Supervisor Meyers stated that she was open to the idea and would present it to her parks board. Co-Chair Myers proposed that the Township and Village Parks Committees meet jointly periodically to discuss various parks issues and sharing of services.

8. Old Business.

a) Discussion of Park Prioritization

Analyst Walsh reported that the Village Board would be having a workshop to discuss the findings of the Parks Committee at Tuesday's Village Board Meeting. The Committee discussed the recommendations from past meetings including Glenview Walk Estates, Meadowview West and Country Woods.

Co-Chair Rodgers expressed some concerns about the size and parking available at the Glenview Walk Estates site. There was some discussion about acquiring the available lot adjacent to the Village-owned lot.

The Committee discussed the purpose of the Village Board workshop and the desired outcome. It was agreed that the goal is to present the recommendation of the Committee to the Board to raise awareness and get direction from the Board on how to move forward. Member Knaack pointed out that grant funding looks fondly on requests that are based in need, and this exercise is a step toward presenting that. The Board is not expected to make any decision at the meeting, but the Committee will move forward on detailed planning if the Board agrees.

Village Manager Friling asked the Committee whether the recommendation is for the Village to buy the adjacent lot in Glenview Walk Estates. Member Knaack stated that he believes the Village should buy the lot because it will make it easier to expand to the property to the east when it is developed. Manager Robinson and Co-Chair Neitzke-Troiike discussed installing a fence or barrier to separate the park lot from the detention pond to the north.

Analyst Walsh then introduced the data that was provided in the packet and gave a summary of outstanding questions and issues based on past meeting discussions. The ranking of park locations provided was based on submissions from Committee members.

Co-Chair Neitzke-Troiike suggested that the Committee focus on ranking Glenview Walk Estates subdivision. Mr. Pavlik spoke about the desire among neighbors for a park. Facilities Manager John Robinson discussed a basic plan for a playground

that had been put together by Game Time for the Village-owned land in the subdivision a few years ago. Member Knaack and Mr. Robinson discussed the possibility of connecting the park to park space on the land to the east if it is ever developed. Staff will collect costs and potential plans and report back to the Committee.

Co-Chair Neitzke-Troiike confirmed that the recommendation from the Committee is to prioritize Glenview Walk Estates and to explore the acquisition of the adjacent property for a future phase of development.

Member Walters proposed acquiring the detention pond to expand the park. Manager Robinson stated that the Village has avoided acquiring detention ponds due to maintenance concerns.

Discussion turned to the Village-owned Meadowview West subdivision. Manager Robinson explained that the Gallagher Henry land to the west has proposed placing a park adjacent in the past, therefore creating a large park. Member Gawron asked why Meadowview West scored so high from the Committee. Analyst Walsh explained that Meadowview West is a large subdivision and there is no access to a park within a mile. The subdivision also connects to Heroes Trail. The Committee agreed that the subdivisions would be ranked second but the lot is not desirable to build on until future development.

Co-Chair Neitzke-Troiike reiterated that Country Woods would be the third location based on her earlier report. The Committee members made suggestions to Analyst Walsh on what information to present to the Village Board.

a) 2019 Chalk-it-Up Planning Update

Member Gawron updated the committee on the planning progress. The planning team decided that there would not be many changes. The event will return to Stonebridge Park and use a similar schedule. The goal for participants is to double the event. The Homer Arts Guild is interested in participating with volunteers and also to sell small pieces of artwork under a pop-up tent. There was some discussion of whether or not to hire a face painter. Member Robinson proposed the Village covering insurance cost.

Member Knaack proposed placing large signs in the entrance of nearby subdivisions for marketing.

9. New Business.

None.

10. Reports and Communications from Staff.

a) Heritage Park Updates

Analyst Walsh reported that the Active Core construction has been progressing slowly due to the weather. Integral, the contractor for the project is still waiting to begin paving.

b) Facilities Manager's Updates

Manager Robinson reported that fertilizer has been placed in the parks and maintenance staff is beginning to maintain landscaping.

11. Committee Member Updates.

a) Disc Golf Update

Analyst Walsh reported that the disc golf baskets have been ordered and Member Batchelor was still designing a layout of the course.

12. Adjournment.

Member Knaack made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Co-Chair Neitzke-Troike. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Matt Walsh  
Administrative Analyst