

**Recreation Arts and Special Events  
Board Meeting Minutes  
February 1, 2022**

Approved Signature: /s/ J. Haroian

By Approval Date: Janet Haroian  
March 1, 2022

**I. Roll Call**

- Meeting was called to order at 5:02 pm by Janet Haroian. The meeting was held in person at City Hall. Members in attendance at City Hall were Janet Haroian, Tanner Alexander, Tony Green, Suzanne Weiss, Josh Fark, and Lauren Szakielo.
- Parks staff in attendance at City Hall included Nate Tingley, Cane' Brown, Trina Vetter, Phil Zamora and Kim Lizotte. The Police Department was represented by Lt. Barry Jones. Cary Harvengt was present as a representative for the Edwardsville Book Festival.

**II. Public Comments**

- There were no public comments.

**III. Minutes of November 2, 2021**

- The committee requested a couple of changes be made to the minutes prior to approval. On page one of the minutes, the word "vertical" needs to be corrected to the word "virtual" and the word "hurtles" under item B. of the Director's Report should be "hurdles". Additionally, a sentence on the final page of the minutes under Open Floor should be reworded for clarity.
- Suzanne Weiss motioned to approve the minutes as amended, Josh Fark seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as amended with no opposition.

**IV. Events and Facilities Requests**

**a) Spring Beer Fest**

- Trina Vetter presented the event application on behalf of Ryan High. This will be the first of Global Brew's two annual events and is planned for April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 11AM-9PM. Documentation was presented showing that money had been donated after the Fall 2021 event. The donation for this event will go to Global Brew's new development fund through the Edwardsville Community Foundation (ECF). There has been discussion of a potential barbeque event for the Edwardsville community. As a non-profit, the Global Brew ECF fund will be able to apply for a grant through the city, which will assist with funding for the barbeque event. The committee stated that the application submitted still states that "attendees can park across from the park as patrons of Global Brew". This statement is no longer applicable as Global Brew has moved locations. Additionally, the section stating that Global Brew will pick up their own trash should be clarified to state that they will be paying parks employees to pick up their trash. Vetter stated that we do not yet have a quote price for event costs, but we will provide a quote to the applicant prior to the event.
- Tanner Alexander motioned to approve the Spring Beer Fest; Lauren Szakielo seconded the motion. The Spring Beer Fest was approved with no opposition.

## b) Edwardsville Book Festival

- Cary Harvengt, a representative from the Edwardsville Library, attended the meeting to present the event application. The first Edwardsville Book Festival was held in 2019, in 2020 it was held virtually due to COVID, and then they had the event again in 2021. The event hosts local and regional authors that come to talk about and sell their books to the community. There is also entertainment and food being sold. The requested date this year is September 17<sup>th</sup> from 9AM to 3PM, which is a change from previous years to later in September. Harvengt stated that the biggest challenge they have is finding food vendors to attend the event due to not being able to estimate how many people will be in attendance. They have also had trouble in the past with food vendors backing out last minute. This year, the library would like to possibly have food trucks at the event. Trina Vetter stated that they will need to make sure the food trucks are on the approved list and to get started on recruiting them as getting food trucks for events is getting more difficult.
- Suzanne Weiss motioned to approve the Edwardsville Book Festival; Tanner Alexander seconded the motion. The Edwardsville Book Festival was approved with no opposition.

## V. Recreation Report

Caneé Brown gave the Recreation Report.

- There were several successful programs in the Fall. Brown presented the October-December 2021 quarterly financial reports for Plummer Family Park daily operations, Glen Ed reservations, coed adult kickball, women's adult kickball, adult cornhole, youth kickball tournament, youth rugby, and adult softball.
- Youth Basketball ended January 19<sup>th</sup>. A survey was sent out to parents to provide feedback. There was a lot of positive feedback from parents. The only complaint was regarding the age group of the teams ranging from 6-8 years old, causing for varied heights and experience in the players. A \$5 gift card was given to the kids at the end of the season, which was graciously received. Adult Basketball kicked off as of January 16<sup>th</sup> at the YMCA Meyer Center.
- The department is currently preparing to hire staff for the upcoming season, pushing their programs, and preparing for another great year at Plummer Park.
- A committee member inquired about how everything went with using the SIUE facility. Brown stated that it went well, but the department would rather go back to the school district if possible due to seating being tight at SIUE and the extra expenses for renting the facilities and parking.

## VI. Program Report

Trina Vetter reported on events and activities for October through December of 2021.

- The Family Campout was rescheduled due to rain, which caused for a loss of about half of the attendees. Due to this, they were not able to do as many games and events as were originally planned
- Santa boxes went out in December with 72 ordered.
- The Elf Workshop attendance was low, with a bit of a profit loss. Vetter believes this may be due to needing to get the word out better and more focus being put on the North Pole Shoppe, which was going on simultaneously. The North Pole Shoppe was well

attended for its first year. There are plans for next year to have a shift of The Elf Workshop designated to children with sensory needs.

- The Halloween in the Park trunk or treat event went well and there are plans to do it again this year. Vetter is considering doing it later in the evening after the walk on main street. The goal for the event is to break even financially, as the only income is from sponsorships, and that goal was met.
- The Winter Market was expanded this year with 88 vendors versus the typical 50. There is discussion of extending the hours next year due to the increase in vendors.
- The Santa House was at a new location and had just under 1000 kids.
- The Christmas Tree Lighting was a last-minute event and still had a great turnout. Smores kits were given out to the kids.
- The next upcoming events is the Father Daughter Dance in February. Friday and Saturday are sold out, but there are still available spots for Sunday.

## VII. Director's Update

Nate Tingley gave the Director's Update.

- Kim Lizotte is the new Office Assistant to the Parks Department. Evan Lutes is a new parks laborer. The department is back to full force with the park laborers, which has helped in getting to several projects, including gravel at the Watershed and addressing erosion issues.
- Lt. Barry Jones from the police department is new to the RASE board. He will be a great resource regarding the events and getting accurate cost information.
- The Wildey is doing well, but COVID is still having an impact on attendance. Numbers are not quite back to what they were prior to COVID, but they did predict an operating loss for this fiscal year.
- The Little League Agreement is a user agreement for the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon's Little League's usage of the park's fields. Both Hoppe fields, Leclaire Field, and one night a week at Plummer Park will be made available to them.
- Phil Zamora announced the current updates with The Center. Things are moving along as predicted for the ice rink, the only possible delay being the Zamboni. The refrigeration system is currently being installed. The first week of April is the goal for ice being put it. The track is set to be installed next week. Zamora met with the fire chief to discuss emergency exit plans. The job posting has been posted for an Ice Technician. That positing will end February 6<sup>th</sup>. Tours for The Center have been ongoing. Working on finalizing dasher board logos and graphics, with the dasher boards to be delivered mid-February.

Haroian adjourned the meeting at 5:48 PM.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be March 1, 2022

Minutes submitted by: Kim Lizotte