

**Recreation Arts and Special Events
Board Meeting Minutes
April 5, 2022**

Approved Signature: /s/ J. Haroian

By Approval Date: 5-3-2022



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, Tony Green, Suzanne Weiss, Jeanette Mallon, Josh Fark, and Lauren Szakielo.
- Parks staff in attendance at City Hall included Nate Tingley, Trevor Spohr, Trina Vetter, Phil Zamora and Kim Lizotte. The Police Department was represented by Lt. Barry Jones. Jesse Allen, Jarian Stith, Emily Tobin, and Stephen Hansen were present as representatives for their event applications.

II. Public Comments

- There were no public comments.

III. Minutes of March 1, 2022

- Correction to the minutes needs to be made where St. Boniface Church is incorrectly referred to as “St. Bonifest Church”.
- Suzanne Weiss motioned to approve the minutes as amended, Jeanette Mallon seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as amended with no opposition.

IV. Events and Facilities Requests

a) Wesley Chapel A.M.E. Church 157th Church Anniversary – Wesley Chapel A.M.E. Church

- Rev. Jarian Stith presented the event application. Their church is the oldest African American congregation in Edwardsville and they have been in their present location since 1771. The Church would like to have their 157th Anniversary on May 21 in the park to celebrate and to let the community know that they are still active and present. They plan to have food, retail, and information vendors. There will be gospel singing throughout the day on the stage. Their goal is to have 300 attendees and they plan to advertise the event once approved. The actual event time on the application needs to be changed to 5:00PM.
- Lauren Szakielo motioned to approve the Wesley Chapel A.M.E. Church 157th Church Anniversary; Jeanette Mallon seconded the motion. The Wesley Chapel A.M.E. Church 157th Church Anniversary was approved with no opposition.

b) Run for Bonifest – St. Boniface Church

- Emily Tobin presented the event application. The run course was approved in previous years, but the event was canceled due to COVID-19. The race route was looked over by police to both make the run safer for runners and to shut down less roads for the run. The run will be held on June 4th.
- Tony Green motioned to approve Run for Bonifest; Josh Fark seconded the motion. Run for Bonifest was approved with no opposition.

c) Unity Fest – Edwardsville Unity

- Jesse Allen presented the event application. The idea for this event is to bring as many faces and voices together on October 1st at LeClaire Lake Park. They are looking at a collection of performers, speakers, and prayers. The event will host different activities to bring people together in the spirit of unity. It will be a free event with no vendors and nothing being sold. There will be food at the event, but it will be catered. Still working to confirm all of the speakers and booths. The goal for attendance is approximately 100-200 people. There were a couple of issues about where they proposed to hang signage. The city code/ordinance on hanging signage was sent to Jesse Allen prior to the meeting.
- Suzanne Weiss motioned to approve Unity Fest; Jeanette Mallon seconded the motion. Unity Fest was approved with no opposition.

d) Busey Bank Rotary Criterium Festival – Edwardsville Rotary Club

- The requested date for the Criterium is August 20. The course will be the same as it was last year, but the race schedule has been slightly modified. The races will finish earlier, allowing for earlier clean up and the roads to open back up sooner. There will be space for entertainment and food vendors.
- Suzanne Weiss motioned to approve Busey Bank Rotary Criterium Festival; Josh Fark seconded the motion. Busey Bank Rotary Criterium Festival was approved with no opposition.

e) Living History Days: A Vintage Baseball Game – Madison County Historical Society

- Stephen Hansen presented the event application. This will be a new event to take place on October 15. They would like to use Winston Brown for the baseball game. The Belleville Stags and St. Louis Brown Stockings have agreed to play, which are real teams that play vintage baseball. The Historical Society will sell prepared food and beer and are requesting the use of the pavilion and concession stand. Hoping to have an attendance of anywhere between 500-750 people. Plan on having batting practice available for a donation. Sport Supervisors from the Parks will come help at event and Parks will assist with marketing.
- Josh Fark motioned to approve Living History Days: A Vintage Baseball Game; Tanner Alexander seconded the motion. Living History Days: A Vintage Baseball Game was approved with no opposition.

V. Recreation Report

Trevor Spohr gave the Recreation Report.

- Adult Basketball season has ended. Adult Softball has 28 teams registered. Youth Softball is up about 30 registrants from last year and PeeWee T-Ball is up to 108 registrations. Youth Sand Volleyball will have games Monday through Friday due to high number of registrations. Tennis Lessons & Leagues, NFL Flag Football, Pickleball Lessons and Leagues, and Adult Soccer are all registering. Youth Rugby season is going great and Adult Cornhole just started their season on March 28. Soccer and baseball/softball tournaments are every weekend at Plummer. 25+ new staff members were just hired for the season. There were only approximately 40 applicants this year compared to about 120 last year.

VI. Program Report

Trina Vetter reported on events and activities.

- There are no events in March. On Saturday, April 9, Paws in the Park will be held at City Park, an Easter egg hunt for dogs. The company that was used to buy Easter eggs last year was sold out of prefilled eggs and was low on empty eggs. Friday night bands and Saturday movies in the park were announced for summer. Trina Vetter handed out flyers to all board members with the bands and movie information. The Summer Kick-Off and Ice Cream Social is tentatively scheduled for May 26. The first Sunday Symphony will be May 29. The Route 66 Festival will be June 11.

VII. RP Lumber Center Update

Phil Zamora gave the RP Lumber Center Update.

- Dasherboard ads have all been installed and all restaurant fixtures are up. Carpet tile is on site. Installation of the track flooring will begin next Tuesday. Currently waiting on an electrical panel from Texas that is needed to get the compressor going to start making ice. As soon as it can be turned on, the facility can get cold and ice can be installed. All of the in-ice logos are also in. Furniture is due to be installed April 27. Work has begun on the sidewalk that will connect the path to the facility. 22 operational staff and 3 supervisors have been hired for when The Center opens. Late May is the goal for opening day.

VIII. Director's Update

Nate Tingley gave the Director's Update.

- Nate Tingley handed out an updated parks map. The map shows the community pool has been removed and added the RPL Center. DRDA and Richards Woods have not been added yet due to lack of accessibility.
- Tingley also handed out a flyer for the Watershed Nature Center event on April 23. This is an Earth Day themed event that will have a 5K and fun run, native plant sale, and educational activities for children. There will also be music and refreshments.
- Native plants are less work to take care for our laborers since they are local plants. The laborers are working on the landscape at Leclaire Field in three phases, where native plants will be planted. Lights and mulch are being replaced and irrigation is being checked. Phase 3 will be across the street under the water tower. The Edwardsville Beautification and Tree Committee is helping fund the work being done.
- 1,500 fish were delivered for Glik & Leclaire Park. Laborers are working to start the foundations up with mulch at the parks.
- The Children's Museum will be getting a shed, which has been already been approved.

Haroian adjourned the meeting at 6:12 PM.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be May 3, 2022

Minutes submitted by: Kim Lizotte