

**VILLAGE OF GERMANTOWN
PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
January 19, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Coulthurst.

ROLL CALL: Commissioners Leukert, Stapelman, Depies, Knop and Trustee Rep. Hudson and School Board Rep. Borden. Also present were Director Standridge and Secretary Lemke.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Motion by Hudson, seconded by Borden to approve the minutes from November 17, 2022, as presented. Motion unanimously carried.*

PUBLIC INPUT: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OLD BUSINESS:

DHEINSVILLE PARK LEASE AGREEMENT - REVIEW: Jim Dix, President for the Germantown Historical Society has been in contact with Gil regarding a few additional changes they would like to see in the agreement. There is a “Pancake Haus” on the property, however the Village does not own it therefore it will not be included in the Lease Agreement. Also, the Historical Society does not own any vehicles nor have full-time staff only volunteers therefore they are questioning the Workmen’s Comp insurance.

The Historical Society will need to add an “Umbrella Policy” for insurance coverage as well as Workmen’s Comp for their volunteers.

The group would like verbiage added that the tenant shall be allowed full usage of the entire park, including the Dheinsville Muehl Festhalle during “Octoberfest” which is the last weekend in September.

School Board Rep. Borden question why doesn’t the Historical Society filled out the rental paperwork like other user groups? Village staff puts a lot of hours into getting the facility ready therefore the Village should be recouping money from the group.

Commissioner Stapelman stated he feels tracking hours is ok, however recouping money from this Village wide event is not in the best interest of the Village.

Coulthurst stated that the group should be treated just like any other large event at the park and should have to pay to use the facility.

NEW BUSINESS:

GERMANTOWN JR. WARHAWKS FIELD USE AGREEMENT – REVIEW & RECOMMENDATION: The agreement is a 2-year agreement and is up for renewal. There are no changes to the agreement from the previous one.

Commissioner Knop questioned if this agreement is for tournaments as well as games. Gil stated the agreement includes both. The Village is paid \$3000.00 per year for this agreement. Previous years the Village billed Junior Warhawks for supplies used to prep the fields. Within the new agreement the Junior Warhawks are responsible for providing their own supplies.

Motion by Hudson, seconded by Depies to approve the agreement lease between the Village of Germantown and the Germantown Junior Warhawks as written. Motion unanimously approved.

VILLAGE BOARD REPORT: December 6 meeting a resident requested to have the “right hand” (facing West) side of the trails in Alt Bauer Park plowed. This section will not be plowed this year. The rest of the trail will be plowed. There was an ARPA Fund presentation which indicated that those funds cannot be used for land acquisitions, but recreational trails and paths are approved for these funds.

December 20 the Board approved the purchase of a new pickup truck for the DPW Parks Department.

January 17 meeting had an ARPA Fund listening session. The Village Board is to listen to the suggestions and make the final decision. At this time, the only group discussion at this time has been expanding the Germantown Library. With that expansion they are looking at \$300,000.00 - \$400,000.00.

Stapelman mentioned he would like to see the trail at Spassland Park plowed.

Borden would like to see if Friedenfeld Park could be groomed for walking/snow shoeing.

Phil stated that lack of equipment, cost and priorities are limited for plowing/grooming the parks.

Depies stated that other area communities do not clean their trails either.

Motion by Knop, seconded by Depies to add “School Board Report” to the agenda. Motion unanimously approved.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT: Borden stated schools are staying open at this time with no mask mandate. A new Director of Curriculum will soon be selected. There will be one School Board meeting a month and one combined committee meeting a month. The Buildings/Grounds committee is looking for a committee member for the board. All 3 Board member seats are open and running opposed. There is currently a lot of behavior issues in our schools.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Tree City USA application and Recertification

I recently filled out the application so that the Village of Germantown can be recertified as part of Tree City USA and Arbor Day celebration. I was contacted by Tara Tarantino of the Department of Natural Resources that all materials required were submitted and I should be hearing back from the committee soon. Being certified thru Tree City USA has some advantages. It helps when applying for grants. Tree City provides educational materials that are helpful and well as offer trainings for staff and volunteers.

Tree City USA and Arbor-day go hand in hand. This year Germantown will be celebrating Arbor Day on Friday April 22nd. Not all plans are in place, however Parks and Recreation, DPW, and Wachtel tree services will be hosting Rockfield Elementary as part of the tree planting ceremonies. Tara Tarantino, 5th grade teacher from Rockfield reached out to me back before Christmas wanting to be part of a Parks and Recreation Project. Three fifth grade classes from Rockfield will be participating in this year's ceremony. The initial plan is to have a tree planting ceremony at Rockfield Elementary where their administrators can participate, then the 5th graders will be bussed to a park, TBA, to have another tree planting ceremony with Village of Germantown Administrators and this commission if they wish to participate. After the ceremony I will have planned about an hours' worth of a work project for the students to participate in. Afterwards hope to have lunch and then possibly some games the Recreation staff will plan. Leading up to Arbor Day the fifth-grade teachers participating will teach some educational lessons provided by Tree City USA.

Corp Plan 2021-2026

I met with the Planning Commission at their December Commission (December 12) meeting and gave an overview of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan as well as a power point presentation. I asked that the CORP plan being included in the Planning & development Comprehensive 2050 Plan, and the Commission voted on and agreed unanimously to accept the CORP plan and make part of the 2050 plan. I then took the Plan to the Village Board Meeting on December 20th meeting and made a presentation and they also voted unanimously to accept the CORP plan. However, Unless I am able to use some impact fees or request and receive dollars thru the ARPA plan funding may be minimal.

I have a meeting set up with the DNR, SEWRPC, and Washington County on January 19th to discuss State and Federal Grant opportunities for Trail grants.

I am still waiting on a legal ruling from the Village attorney Brian Sedjak on if I can use our impact fees already in my budget to use consultants to look at our trail system to see how we can expand and give an estimate of costs.

4th of July Celebration

The Kiwanis Organization has been instrumental in planning, coordinating, and overseeing the 4th of July celebration and fireworks in Germantown for years. Well last Fall they spoke to Dean Wolter and told them that they no longer wanted to be in charge of this event. So, Dean Wolter has decided to put together a committee of individuals willing to organize the 4th of July events. The Village has come up with \$8,000 for fireworks and are reaching out to sponsors for more capitol to have fireworks display as well as other events that day. The Kiwanis will be asked to contribute even if they aren't part of the coordination.

The Village Administrator Steve Kreklow ask me, representing Parks and Recreation to be on this committee and I accepted. I believe that Mr. Wolter is taking his proposal before the Board at the January meeting and if approved he will form a committee and I am guessing we will start having conversations very soon.

I am reaching out to this commission and asking for volunteers to serve on this committee. If you have contacts that you think might want to volunteer and assist, please let us know and I will be glad to reach out to them.

Recreation Division Report January 19, 2022, Commission Meeting

We have 42 programs starting/ongoing in January and include: Bucketeteers, 1st/2nd Grade Buckets, Hoopsters, Mini Poms, Poms, Power/Pixies/Spark Poms, Tae Kwon Do, Yoga, PULSE, Sporties for Shorties, Barre Fitness, Barre Fight Express, Kids Choir, Kalahari Trip, Indoor Tennis, Afterschool Volleyball (3 sites), Afterschool Legos (4 sites), Learn to Skate, Into to Hockey, Archery, Oodles of Art, Henna, Babysitters Training, Preschool playgroup (2 age groups), Story Stretchers, Tot Open Gym, Youth & Little Tykes Martial Arts, Music Fun, Music Fun Families, Music Fun Babies, Old Family Photos & the Digital Age, Irish Dance and Tot Workshop Whimsical Make Believe. Ongoing programs are Men's Open Basketball, Pickleball, Monday CoRec Volleyball League, Thursday Women's Volleyball League, Kids Klub (5 sites). Programs cancelled due to low enrollment: Pilates Mat, Watercolor Painting, Archery Level 2 (but Level 1 had a huge wait list, so we changed Level 2 to Level 1 class to accommodate the wait list)

Upcoming events include the following:

Family Scavenger Hunt: We have 70 people enrolled and 2 boxes turned in so far. We can't wait to see who collected the most items!

Snowman/Snow Creature Building Contest: We are looking for the best snowman/creature builders in the Village. To enter they simply have to pre-register and submit a photo of their masterpiece with the builder standing by it. Deadline to submit photos is Feb. 21st. We look forward to seeing the creative entries!

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF PUBLIC INTEREST: The next meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2022

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Shannon Lemke
Park & Recreation Secretary