

Town of New Chicago

Parks Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: 3/1/2022

Start Meeting: Meeting started at 6pm Central Time

Roll Call:

Kim Krikava - Absent

Joe Bachman - Present

Trilaina Bachman - Present

Morgan McCabe - Present

Dave Anderson (Council Member) - Present

Minutes: February Meeting Minutes – Trilaina made the motion to approve the meeting minutes. Morgan seconded the motion.

Ordinance: Amendment to Ordinance 2008-07

This ordinance change was brought before the town council and has been added to their agenda for March. This will take a couple of months to fully pass, but the council did seem to be on board with this change.

Old Business:

- Easter Egg Hunt
 - This will be held on April 16th, 2022 at 9am.
 - **Update: Need to decide on date/time to meet to fill eggs.**
 - **April 9th @ 11am will be park spring cleanup. April 12th @ 6pm will be the easter egg fill at town hall.**
 - Kim will talk with Tammy to see if she will still come in the Easter Bunny costume.
 - **Update: Tammy will be dressing up as the Easter bunny.**
 - Joe will talk with Sue to see if Tara still wants to help with prizes like she has in the past.
 - **Update: Tara will be helping with prizes as she has done in years prior.**
 - Kim is going to get with Dorothy to get the eggs (both pre-filled and empty) ordered.
 - **Update: Eggs have been ordered and delivered already.**
 - **Still waiting on order from Party City to arrive.**
 - Trilaina has a meeting with the principal at River Forest on Friday to talk about getting some of the high schoolers to help with cleanup the weekend before and also the day of the event that would count towards their community service hours for graduation.
 - **Update: Due to COVID, they have dropped the requirements for community service hours, but they are very excited to partner with us in the future.**
 - Morgan is going to reach out to her contact that does event planning with other schools in the area to see if they have anyone needing to complete their community service hours for graduation.
 - **Update: Morgan has contacted 9 area schools. The schools that have been contacted are ACC, Lake Central, Highland, Munster, Whiting, Calumet NT, Edison, Hammond, and Griffith. She**

has confirmed 6 still have active requirements for community service and left messages with the other three. She is going to create a flyer to email to the schools showing the dates/times of volunteer opportunities and send it to the Parks Board first for approval. Morgan will also be the point of contact for those schools/students that have any questions.

- “Rummage in the Park”
 - Size of Spaces
 - 10’ x 10’ space
 - Cost of Spaces
 - \$25 per space or two for \$40.
 - Concession Stand Open
 - Hot Dogs, Pop, Water, Coffee, Chips, Popcorn will be available at the concession stand.
 - **Update: The Parks Board feels that with the current condition of the snack shack, we may want to advertise that food trucks would be allowed. We are going to reach out to a few of the local food trucks to see if they would be interested in coming to this event.**
 - Power Generators
 - No power generators needed unless needed for lighting.
 - Date/Time
 - This will be talked about at the March meeting.
 - **Update: We plan to hold this on June 4th with a backup day of June 5th in case of rain on June 4th. Joe will make the flyer for this.**
- Trash Can Replacement
 - ULINE Trash Cans w/ Wheels
 - 35 Gallon Capacity
 - \$79 each for 6 or more
 - After further discussion amongst the board members, the following was decided as a course of action:
 - 8 cans would be ordered for Twin Oaks Park
 - **Update: Council approved the purchase of cans for Twin Oaks. I plan to have them order these this month.**
 - We are going to see about getting two garbage cans from Total Disposal for Teeter and Tot parks. Morgan is going to call to see what the additional cost would be to the parks for two more cans.
 - **Update: Morgan did speak with Total Disposal. There is no additional charge for two cans for the other parks. I plan to have Dorothy order these in April so that we are hopefully fully out of the snow season and I can drag the old cans out.**
 - **Update: Morgan will take the 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month to take the cans out to the curb and Trilaina/Joe will take the 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month to take the cans out to the curb.**

New Business:

- Town Cleanup
 - Many residents have been asking about this.
 - Is this something the park would be willing to sponsor?
 - **Joe is going to talk with Total to see about them dropping a dumpster off Saturday morning and picking up on Sunday morning.**

Legal Reports: None

Announcements: None

Other Business:

Morgan has completed a lot of leg work on finding funding opportunities for the parks department. We are currently waiting on a response from the Legacy Foundation about possible grants for this year to help offset the cost of a new snack shack that could double as a community center.

Open Forum for community (3 mins per person):

No community members were present for the meeting.

Comments from Board Members:

Morgan has mentioned that the NWI Times does have a community calendar that will allow us to place events on the calendar for free. Joe is going to check with Indiana 105/X Rock 103.9 about their community calendar also to see if we would be allowed to put stuff on there for free.

Trilaina did bring up the basketball nets needing to be replaced. Looking to replace those of the next week or two.

Dave Anderson also brought up that the flags at the park need to be replaced. We are going to look into proper disposal and get new flags ordered.

Joe will be talking with Fire Chief Joe Eakins about doing a control burn at the park for all the leaves.

Adjournment: Morgan made the motion to adjourn. Trilaina seconded the motion.