

## October 2, 2021 Swansea Park Board Meeting Minutes

### Norman Lehr Building, Melvin Price Park

Members attending: Barb Kimutis Mike Koeneman Matt Lynch David McGhee  
Diane Wickline arrived after the start of the meeting

Village Liaison: Marilyn Neumeayer Guests: Mayor Mike Leopold

President Mike opened the meeting at 7:05 am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: There was no discussion of minutes from the September 11, 2021 meeting, nor was there a motion to approve those minutes.

Current Park Board Membership: Mike K. stated that as of now the Park Board has a membership of 6 people. The last text he sent out to the group asked those who were no longer interested in remaining on the Park Board to let him know. Since that text, he heard from Jim Wolf who will no longer be a member, and Ryan Maitland who is currently too busy with other commitments. Mayor Leopold said he knows a gentleman by the name of Charlie Pitts who currently lives in O'Fallon. He said he invited him to come to this morning's meeting, as he is very interested in becoming a member, but he was unable to attend. Matt has a neighbor who has expressed an interest in joining.

Play Equipment at Mel Price Park: It has been noted that the equipment at the north end of Mel Price Park is in need of repair. Mike K. noted that grant money may be available in the future to assist in getting it replaced.

Schranz Park Stage Pavilion Use Request: The use of the band shell in Schranz Park was requested by Sandra King for the date of October 17<sup>th</sup> for a Community Give Back Concert from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. Extra trash cans were requested, and they will be responsible for trash pickup. This event has been held several times in the past without any problems. They have provided a hold harmless waiver. Dave made a motion to approve, with Barb seconding, and all in favor of the motion to approve the event.

Schranz Park Use Request for Thursdays at 1:00 pm for "Yoga At The Park" through the month of October: The request came from Michele Riechman, and the yoga is for children. Dave made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Matt, and all members present were in favor.

Schranz Park Use Request for Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.: The request is from Daniel Smith of SIUE, for a group meeting for a new community group called "The Band Decades". All present would like to know more about what they want to do in the park, and if they need the band shell. How many people will be in attendance was asked, and if extra trash cans and cleanup will be needed. Matt made a motion to approve the use of Schranz Park as long as all the questions are answered, and in line with the stipulations of Village ordinance. Barb seconded the motion with all in favor.

Condition of Clinton Hills Bridges: This is being looked into, and more information will be coming in the future.

Halloween Children's Event: Mike K. stated that the Swansea Boo Fest is 3 weeks away. All were asked to meet on Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at the Thompson Civic Center to organize the decorations that will

be used. On the date of the event, which is Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, all are asked to meet at 8:00 am at the Thompson Center to set up. Then workers will be needed from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. that evening. Mike said we are going to be short of help. He has put in a call to Fire Chief Tell to request the help of the Explorers for setup and cleanup.

Barb will be shadowing Marilyn to learn how to do the flyers. They should be ready for distribution by October 15<sup>th</sup>. 2000 flyers was discussed as a good number. District 118 and High Mount can get them out via email. The Fire and Police Departments will be at the event. Everyone was encouraged to put out a Facebook appeal for people to attend, and for groups or organizations to participate in giving out treats at the Trunk or Treat portion of the evening. (Those who participate will need to get approval by the Police Department.)

Pavilion and Building Rentals: Mike reported that in December, the Park Board will be discussing and hammering out a plan for pricing. A deposit for pavilion rentals is needed. The deposit must be large enough to discourage negligence in cleanup or care of the facilities, or destruction of property. It was suggested that a credit card kept on file for the deposit may be necessary in case more charges are incurred for damages.

Santa House: The first weekend the Santa House will be open is Saturday and Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. A suggestion was made to hold a tree decorating contest among local schools, which would bring in more decorations, and promote interest in the Santa House. The trees would have to be set up and decorated by November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Dave McGhee volunteered to compose a letter to local schools inviting participation, and promoting the contest and prize for most creative tree.

Unfinished Business: It was reported the Village has received cost estimates for power lines to the lakes at Clinton Hills Conservation Park for fountains. Marilyn had a copy of a letter from Ameren with \$3,780 estimate for non-resident electric. She added that a floating fountain/aerator for a pond would cost around \$2,000. Rick Tucker has been looking into fixing one of the ponds which is leaking, or losing water. It appears it will be springtime before anything gets moving. Marilyn reiterated that a new hire is being looked into for the Parks, and that planning will be done once that position is designated and filled.

Marilyn explained to Mayor Leopold that the Patriots will be donating its sound system to the Village. As a result, the Village can add it to their insurance coverage. It no longer makes sense for the Patriots to pay \$1,000 a year for insurance to cover it, when the Village can get it covered for little or nothing extra.

Mike thanked everyone for attending. Diane made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Matt.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 am.

Respectfully submitted by: Barb Kimutis