

## 8 January 2022 Swansea Park Board Meeting Minutes

### Norman Lehr Building, Mel Price Park

Members Present: Rose Connors      Barb Kimutis      Mike Koeneman      Matt Lynch      David McGhee  
                         Charlie Pitts      Jonas Wilson

Village Liaison: Marilyn Neumeyer      Guests: Mary Taylor, Joe Wickline

Chairman Mike opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:05am, followed by discussion of Agenda Items.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve 11 December 2021 meeting by Jonas, second by David. Motion approved by all.

Clinton Hills Conservation Park Discussion: Clinton Hills Committee Chairman, Matt Lynch, will take over this part of our meeting. We will be using a method called Interactive Workshop to prioritize ideas or talk through things. During a past Park Board meeting, we did some brainstorming and came up with many different ideas. For this workshop, we started with using post it notes to put down our likes, dislikes, what we would like to add to the Park, what we never want to see in the Park, who would be using the Park and which purpose would fulfill their needs. Many more items were discussed.

At this point, Matt suggested we begin with our Park Foreman. The Park Foreman will address needed repairs, call on an expert, if necessary, direct day to day work. Our discussion began with the following: 1. What is the purpose of our park; 2. What are the most pressing needs; 3. Clean up lakes; 4. Signage at Old Collinsville Road, next to Fletchers, indicating Clinton Hills Conservation Park; 5. Signage for donated trees; 6. Make a protected area for birds and wildlife; 7. Maintain trees, shrubs, conservation plantings, etc.; 8. Install fountains or bubblers as suitable; 9. Use existing asphalt golf trails for bike riding. Many more ideas were presented. Planning for future development was included.

Questions were asked about the size of Clinton Hills, how much land the Nature Conservancy is allotted and what is its plan for development. A meeting is scheduled with Chairman Mike and Charlie Pitts, Naturalist, with the Nature Conservancy on Jan 18<sup>th</sup>. More information after the meeting.

Pavilion & Building Rentals: Rental fees for pavilions and buildings that we discussed at our December meeting were presented to the Village Board Meeting Monday, Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>. They are very receptive of the changes to solve the rental problems. A deposit of \$100 required. Renter must take a photo of pavilion at beginning and end of use to show that clean-up specifics have been complied with. An ordinance has been prepared that will be presented and approved at the next Village Board meeting on Jan 18<sup>th</sup>.

Santa House: Thank you very, very much to all who helped put Santa's Winter Wonderland away. Everyone teamed up, boxes were packed, trees were covered, ornaments, ribbons, etc. were labeled and put in the storage room. Starting in November, we will begin getting Santa's Winter Wonderland ready to welcome Santa when he arrives in December.

Work is beginning in the Thompson Center kitchen. Walls will be painted, floors will be stripped and waxed as well as the main floor. There's a new electric range going in as well as a countertop microwave. The kitchen will be a part of the rental of the Thompson Center just as the kitchen is part of the rental in the Lehn Building. We restructured it to hopefully get more use. Music will most likely not be allowed. It appeared to have been approved; however, enforcing music rules may be part of the issue. As the Park Board, we are fortunate to have the support of the Village Board.

Marilyn assured us that a Park Foreman will be hired. Personnel Committee is writing a job description for the Park Foreman. That position will be listed under Personnel Committee and will be on the Village Board agenda on every meeting until the proper person is hired. Marilyn believes a Park Foreman will be hired soon. The Park Foreman will have direct connection with the Park Board, will attend every Park Board meeting, will interact on issues and Park Board will make decisions. An example of Park Board being left out is the fitness station past the ball diamond in Mel Price Park. Chairman Mike was being asked about donations for memorial trees and bushes of which he was completely unaware.

Marilyn gave an as-of-Jan 8 report on the Santa House income. It was expensive this year because we purchased a lot of trees and decorations for Santa's Winter Wonderland.

Income from Santa's Winter Wonderland: \$1303. Expenses: \$420. Expected profit \$800.

Income from Santa House: Approximately 500 children visited Santa. Expenses from Santa House: \$3495.

Additional expense to purchase a camera that will connect with wifi and blue tooth and easily switch between both Epson printers is necessary.

Other Committee Reports: None.

New Business: None.

Unfinished Business: Discuss possibility of a plaque for the people who have donated money for memorial benches or trees at the next Park Board meeting.

Public Comment: None.

General Discussion: None.

As there is no further business, a motion to adjourn made by David, second by Barb at 8:40. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Wickline