

12 February 2022 Swansea Park Board Meeting Minutes

Norman Lehr Building, Mel Price Park

Members Present: Rose Connors Barb Kimutis Mike Koeneman Matt Lynch David McGhee
Jonas Wilson Diane Wickline

Village Liaison: Marilyn Neumeyer Guests: Mary Taylor, Justin Done of Fan Man Discs

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 8 January 2022 minutes by Barb, second by David. Motion approved by all.

Park Request: Amy Huller – Swansea Conservation Park, May 7th, Girl Scout Troop 497, Girl Scout Fishing Derby, catch and release. This event was held last year without any problems. All members agreed.

Park Request: Elise Abernathy – Swansea Conservation Park, March 26th, Jr Service of St Clair Co. Adult Easter Egg Hunt. Outside area (not pavilion), 4:00pm-8:00pm. Alcohol consumed at Fletchers, approximately 100 in attendance. All Village rules were signed. All members agreed.

Park Request: Keith Wolf – Swansea Conservation Park, June 7th, Touch-A-Truck, 10:00am-2:00pm. Chief Johnson "is on board" with this event. Village Police on hand.

Park Request: Bob Flake Memorial Run. Clinton Hills Conservation Park, April 23rd, using the 5K cross country course set up on previous runs (date tentative, may be postponed – Prom is the same date). 1-mile fun run will follow.

Mr. Flake, a history teacher at Belleville West HS, passed away suddenly, within the last two months, at age 40. He was well-loved by all who knew him. Attempt to help the family and provide annual scholarships has been started. All Park Board members agreed. Committee members will fill out Village insurance and paperwork as soon as date is firm.

Santa House: Marilyn reported income of \$840. David brought another tree and the big tree that fell was saved and is covered and put away with the others. Santa House is in good shape. The new doors from Thompson Center are there and ready to install. Now is the time to look for a camera and possibly a printer. Wifi is already set up in Santa House. We need a printer that doesn't require changing cords. Also, the lighting in the Santa House has been rearranged. It will be put back to the properly illuminate the room and eliminate red eye from the photos.

Other Committee Reports: None.

New Business: Clinton Hills Conservation Park Discussion: Disc golf has become increasingly popular since the first holes were opened at Clinton Hills. Beginners Friendly Courses are for Front 9: beginner and novice disc golfers and Back 9: for intermediate and transitioning to original course golfers. Justin Done would like this area to be closer to the restaurant and parking lot. It is difficult to show the amount of land required and where it is located on the handout. Marilyn requested a large-scale map showing the location and relation to the surrounding area.

Justin provided statistics from the UDisc App. Total plays in 2021, 3597; total individual players, 743. Statistics to date, plays 5063; individual players, 993. Of the 12 Illinois courses listed, Clinton Hills ranks highest. Justin is purchasing golf carts in March or April. This will increase the number of total plays and individual players. Additional improvements are being planned as mulching, tree planting, bridges and stairs, landscaping. Disc Golf tournaments are also in high demand. Chairman Mike asked what benefit Clinton Hills Conservation receives from Disc Golf. Justin answered, "percentage of golf cart rentals, rental of the Park three times last year, bringing people to the Park". Fund raisers are being planned for scholarships, funding high school teams, etc. Other things being considered are owl and bird houses, tee signs and benches, areas around tee pads could be community gardens. Chairman Mike asked Justin to enlarge the map to show the area of the proposed Beginners Friendly Course in relation to original 18-hole course. Tee pads on the Beginners course would not be put in permanently until passed by Village Board.

Unfinished Business: Because Mike K. was unable to attend Village Board meeting, he had lengthy discussions with Rick Tucker and Brian McGuire. As Village liaisons, what information will Mr. Tucker and Mr. Saeger bring to our Park Board meetings every month.

A 60/40 grant has been awarded to the Village. Most of the repair and replacement will take place at Schranz Park. Fencing around the dog park and fence liner must be completely replaced at Mel Price Park. The only work scheduled at Clinton Hills are the fountains. Ameren will do installation.

Discuss possibility of a plaque for the people who have donated money for memorial benches or trees at the next Park Board meeting. Not brought up at today's meeting.

Public Comment: None.

General Discussion: List adult events that can be held when temperatures are likely to be above 45 degrees. For example, Adult Easter Egg Hunt in April; Pirates' Scavenger Hunt in mid-September or October. All Park Board members are encouraged to give suggestions.

At our March 12 meeting, Matt Lynch, Clinton Hills Committee Chairman, will take over the meeting. The objective is to sync us with Dave Saeger, our Park Foreman.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn made by Matt, second by David at 8:45am. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Wickline