

Elwood Park & Recreation Committee Meeting
Elwood Village Hall Community Room
Wednesday, July 2, 2008

Call to order by Mike Walsh at 6:35pm

Roll Call: Committee members: Mike Walsh, Brian Keith, Terri Cooke, Greg Hickey, and Don LaPaglia. Also in attendance were Elwood Finance Advisor, Nick Narducci, Elwood Parks & Recreation Director, Scott Tierney, and Kim _____ from the Elwood Children's Garden Committee.

A motion was made to designate Terri Cooke as secretary. The motion was made by Greg Hickey, seconded by Brian Keith and approved by the committee.

A motion was made to approve the June 2008 minutes. The motion was made by Greg Hickey, seconded by Brian Keith, and approved by the committee.

Centerpoint Park: Nick Narducci introduced the new Elwood Parks & Recreation Director, Scott Tierney. Scott went on to begin discussion regarding the new Centerpoint Park. A variety of issues were discussed including lighting, security, parking, water & sewer issues, and more. At the end of the discussion the committee chose to recommend the following actions:

1. Take the necessary steps to groom the fields
2. Bid out the sewer & water extensions, the lights, and the fence
3. Add concrete in the dugouts and lime for under the bleachers.
4. Install signs and barricades needed for security
5. Purchase trash receptacles and install them in the park

The committee has agreed to meet in the park soon to discuss placement of trees, lighting, and restrooms.

Soccer Registration: Scott Tierney reported that we have 25 to 30 registrations completed so far. There are 3 age groups. Scott is working with Valerie Hall regarding a timeline and schedules. The tentative start date will be August 23rd, 2008. The program will run through the month of October. There were discussions regarding schedules, uniforms, and Elwood Days. Scott will look into a camp for the players. There is also a need for volunteer coaches.

Survey of Recreation Activities: A discussion was held. The committee will have a booth at Elwood Days in order to talk to residents and their families about new program ideas. It was suggested that Scott meet with the Elwood Twilighters to get ideas and suggestions for the Senior Citizens in the area.

Fall programs: The committee would like to sponsor a few free concerts in the parks. We recommended to Scott to look into beginning the following programs: dance, aerobics, yoga, CPR, pickle ball, parent/tot activities, after school programs, a movie in the park, and scrapbooking. The committee was asked to think about winter programs

for next month. Ideas that were suggested already included an ice skating rink. Discussion was also had regarding the sledding hill.

Gazebo Dedication: The dedication ceremony will be held on July 30th, 2008 at 11:00am. All the work in that part of the park will be completed by that time.

Guns & Hoses Game: Scheduled for August 3rd, 2008. The Bank of Elwood is a sponsor and will cover the cost of the t-shirts. Watson and the Jackson Township Sportsmen's Club also made donations. No donation was made from the village and a discussion was held regarding the same. It was agreed to give \$100 to the Elwood Baseball and Softball Association for the use of the fields. Another \$100 will be paid to them to fulfill promised made from last year. Scott will approach more businesses regarding donations. Committee members will volunteer to work.

Other Business:

- A discussion was held regarding park rentals and garbage bags in the cans out near the pavilion. Scott will talk to Scott Hayward from Public Works regarding this and to clarify the work schedule for same.
- A discussion was held regarding some potentially upcoming grant money. Kim had requested that some of the money be used to purchase and install pavers ay the Children's Garden. Other committee members discussed the need to complete the basement build out as it is part of our committee goals for the year. Any further discussion was tabled until the actual grant money was received.
- Discussion was had regarding the Attaway Eagle Scout project. No further news has developed as to what has happened to that project.
- The park recommended that any landscaping in the parks be coordinated so that we have a unified theme throughout. It was suggested to see if Midewin would come in to help us with a prairie planting theme.
- There was a general discussion on bike paths and landscaping around the pond. More shade is needed there. Road maintenance at Lloyd Erickson Park was also discussed.
- Land acquisition was discussed. We will look into the release of property from the US Army and what options we may have in procuring some if that opportunity arises.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:56pm. The motion was made by Greg Hickey, seconded by Brian Keith, and approved by the committee.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 6th, 2008 at 6:30pm.