

Parks and Lakes Commission Minutes
Village of Island Lake
37320 Greenleaf Avenue Island Lake, IL 60042
February 4, 2024



1. **Call to Order** at 6:30
2. **Roll Call:** Present: Eric Acevedo, Trevor Mock, Lisa Norland, Alissa Rzepecki, Sarah Serio Wiora and Dave Sobieski
3. **Approval of January 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes:** Motion to approve by Lisa Norland, Second by Dave Sobieski. All were in favor. Motion approved.
4. **Public Comment:** none

Old Business

5. Planning

- a. Strategic Park Plan Draft: Alissa looked at Crystal Lake Park District Long Range Park Plan. The most recent is 150 pages long with sections that include 4-5 initiatives and an overview. Priority need defines time frame of completion and projects are aligned to the budget. Recurring tasks—like the punch list and GIS coordinates of parks—are also included. This is a good model to modify and use for Island Lake. It serves as a living document and keeps the Commission on track. Stacey will find land descriptions and GIS coordinates. Community surveys and park history are also included.
- b. Converse Park: Eric reported that we met with Steve Zehner of Robinson Engineering. Adherence to the grant timeline is required. The strategy is to purchase a large piece of equipment and then add on as money allows. Install date will depend on selection and purchase of the main play structure. A plan for future fundraising should be addressed in the long-range park plan.
- c. Lake Treatment Contract: Stacey will contact Integrated Lake Management (ILM) to check on treatment date. Algae spot treatment was added to the contract this year. A schedule for the WaterGator, use of the silt fence and debris removal will be coordinated with Public Works.
- d. Buffer Grant Plan: A meeting between ILM, Public Works and Robinson Engineering will be scheduled to define the timeline for tasks related to creek stabilization and native buffer projects.
- e. Earth Day Expo Planning: Eric emailed vendors from last year and created a flyer and Facebook page. Stacey will get food truck, speakers and bee keeper. Eric will talk to SWALCO about compost. Tables are free to non-profits and \$100 for others. Panda and Marnie have set up Geocache sessions and event. Lisa will coordinate kids' corner. There is an interest form with a link that Eric will send out. We may need to clean up Greenleaf Woods for the Geocache event.

6. Closing

Cardboard Sled race evaluation: Lisa recommended we have predetermined heats, but 4 per heat worked well, and a code word for participant management when help is needed. Numbers should be on the sled and wristband. Additional suggestions included:

microphone and walkie talkies for better communication; closing the hill to the public during the event; increased public relations; greater rewards and planned ceremony for bestowing them; registration scheduled from 1:30 with possible preregistration opportunity, better defined start lines and lanes; shorter distance to finish line; increased and identifiable staff at top of hill, snow fence as border for spectators; designated award and registration areas; expansion of participation—school and STEM participation and other potentially competitive groups (police, teachers, elected officials, etc.); maintain mid-January date; better coordination for transport of sleds from the workshop to the hill; and incorporate transport time in workshop time.

7. Commission Member Comments:

Lisa attended the Seed Expo. Illinois Extension is an excellent resource for seeds and designs. The Mayor's Monarch pledge closes in March and would be good to be part of. Vista, Maple Ridge and Converse Parks should be considered in the long-range park plan for pollinator gardens. We need plugs, not seeds.

Commissioner Comments: What is the timeline on the kayak launch? Trevor will coordinate with the Lions. Puri Family Park Eagle Scout projects need to be addressed. Dave: Check creel limits and signs and website. Alissa: Need an inventory of projects of what Scouts could do. Carpfest and fishing derby planning needs to start. A Lions Pavilion is being considered but the last parking and roadway plan at Eastway should be revisited. Earth Day planning needs to take priority at the next meeting. Volunteers are still needed.

8. Public Comment: Patti wants to bring cotton candy and put out a donation container.

9. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.