Mayfield Village Parks & Recreation Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 18, 2012
Civic Center

MINUTES

Attending: Pat Andrzejczyk, Dave Blood, Peggy Kerver, Troy Koch, Tom Marrie, Mary Murphy, Dave Perout, Lori Sperling, Meg Stifler, Kate Sullivan, Bill Thomas, Danielle Echt (8 p.m.), Sean Supler, (8 p.m.), and Donna Heath

Guest: Diane Wolgamuth, Administrator

Introduction: Kate called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Mary made a motion to accept the November 16, 2011, minutes as written. Meg seconded. All Recreation Board members in attendance agreed. Introductions were made. Kate said sign-up sheets are up front.

Senior Programs

Community Partnership on Aging

- Bill said that we have been transitioning for a few months. Eunice retired at the end of this past year, now we welcome Donna to our Department. We will continue this close relationship.
- Diane said the Tri City Consortium is changing its name to Community Partnership on Aging. Eunice had a background in social work. One of things she did was assessments for Meals on Wheels. We have to have someone who is a social worker and we had to do something to fill that spot. We looked at the Tri City Consortium and were surprised at all they have to offer. Lyndhurst, South Euclid, and Highland Heights were the original cities in the Tri City Consortium and they have been doing this since the 1970's. Last year Mayfield Heights joined them when their Human Services Director retired. This group offers services allowing seniors to stay in their homes. They offer transportation, free meals, and social work services. They would have a social worker come into the Village or they would go to their home. They offer travel, transportation, and different recreational programs. They also organize a volunteer core and would come in and run that program.
- Diane said Bill and I spoke with the Commission on Aging. They thought it might make sense to do a survey of seniors before committing to the Partnership to determine need. Diane suggested that the survey is not just for senior residents who are currently eligible. As residents of the Village are planning for their future and thinking about their needs after retirement, if they know the Village is offering these services, wouldn't it have an impact on their decisions? Diane suggested that the larger question is: Are services that help seniors stay and live independently in their homes longer something that residents would like the Village to offer?
- Kate said absolutely; it is a fabulous idea. She related how she took care of her father and her husband's father and said these kind of services would be invaluable.
- Meg asked the percentage of senior population.
- Diane said we have 3,400 residents so we probably have around 1,000 seniors.
- Kate believes that would take so much pressure off of you and it would be a huge relief from both sides.
- Mary questioned funding.
- Diane explained that most of the funding comes from the communities who participate. There is a small amount of Federal funding—currently only 7%. Our annual fee would be $58,000 a year. If all seniors participated, only $58/year each. We should expect that a smaller percentage of the senior population will take advantage of the services.
- Tom said Kate has a very strong point. He said I didn't have firsthand experience and you know exactly how valuable this can be. He explained how Breckenridge is a small community. The more independent you can keep the seniors, the better.

- Meg questioned if the Tri City Consortium has been there since the 1970's. Diane said the original 3 communities joined in the 70's. Mayfield Heights joined last year.
- Meg said $58,000 is a lot of money, but taking care of our seniors is important.
- Dave P. said you have seniors getting out there and others who are homebound. There are all different levels of activity. One reason you would go with them is their expertise and their having the resources. He explained how he went through a similar situation as Kate this past summer and said that type of program would have been helpful.
- Diane said transportation was one of the things we looked at previously and the cost was $25,000 to $30,000. With the Partnership, the cost for the Village to sign up for transportation would be $15,000. That is part of the $58,000.
- Pat said where her mom lives they took her mom places and brought her mom and her groceries home.
- Tom said this is why we are talking about it. The Mayor and Council want some guidance on how you feel. Tom said he remembers when we sent a transportation survey and very few seniors came back saying they would like that. Now we are talking to people who may or may not be seniors. The Mayor and Council are looking for guidance on which way to go; the Village has a lot of great programs.
- Kate said it makes a lot more sense to coordinate through a Consortium than trying to find drivers, etc. ourselves.
- Tom related how a former coworker of his who has Alzheimers and lives in Myrtle Beach is picked up and taken to a place to play cards and then they bring him back home. His wife wasn't able to get out of the house before that.
- Mary questioned how many people would take advantage of this. She asked other members if their Dad would have gotten on a bus and gone places.
- Troy said he has seen it work in South Euclid.
- Kate said because of her situation she knows a lot of people in similar situations. With these kinds of things to have an emergency back-up is huge for the parents and the kids.
- Peggy asked if a survey could be sent to just the seniors.
- Tom said we have a ton of people on the snow removal program.
- Mary asked about how many people attend the different activities.
- Diane and Donna said about 80 attend the holiday party.
- Tom said this type of thing grows.
- Diane said she will find out from the Partnership what percentage of the senior population in the participating communities take advantage of the services. That might give us a sense of how many of our seniors would use the service.
- Troy said in South Euclid, it is a well known service and everyone uses it. He is stunned that the Village doesn't have it. He thought everybody had it. It will take education and advertising.
- Pat asked if we could promote it when we send out the snowplowing correspondence—we could say this is what else is available.
- Dave P. said it becomes a part of what you do. It is something that if it was around and you have seen the vans, you might call for the service.
- Pat said it was available in Euclid.
- Troy said as long as we can afford it, he thinks it would be a great thing.
- Tom said we are looking for input.
- Dave P. said when Highland Heights, Lyndhurst, and South Euclid formed Tri City they felt they could offer more together than they could on their own.
- Tom said it is just like some of the trips that Bill offers with Mayfield Heights.
- Dave B. thinks his mother-in-law would use it.
- Diane said we will continue to explore it.

Christmas Party/Santa Ride Evaluation

- Meg reported the party was busy; crafts were crazy. There were plenty of volunteers and they did a good job. Bill said Santa was really late. It was suggested to maybe start earlier—like 10 a.m. Meg said people were not having a problem waiting for Santa; they kept busy with the crafts, etc. There was a problem with people who were missed Santa (on the ride.) Dave said they don't know how to rectify that problem—Ken Mott goes through first with the sirens—that has helped. Lori said she did not think that was publicized [that Ken was coming through with the sirens ahead of Santa] and Kate asked if it was included on the flyer. Bill said it was on the 2010 flyer but he didn't think it was on this year's flyer.
- **Note for 2012: Make sure the flyer states that the lead car with the sirens will be ahead of the Santa Claus vehicle.**
- Meg said maybe we do not have to say Santa will be there [at the party] exactly at 1:30 p.m.
- Tom said you don't want to cut back on Santa's association with the children but we can try to avoid someone waiting 45 minutes in the cold. Meg asked if Dave has figured out what neighborhoods are the busiest. Dave said it fluctuates. Dave said maybe if we started at 10:15 and could tweak the schedule to add 30 minutes it would help.

Non Resident Use of Parkview Pool

- Bill said he and Dave met with Mayor Rinker and emphasized they want to look at this proactively and determine what we can do better. Dave's first suggestion was that we need to look at having a manager roam the deck and have another manager at the front desk to deal with these issues. He met with Peggy and Kate and felt most issues dealt with the really hot days when our attendance goes up. We will have two managers on duty—one at the main entrance and one roving. We want to get your feedback but don't want to put you in the middle at the pool. Direct all concerns to the manager on deck. One concern was the log jam on hot days. Dave's practice will be allowing people to come in five minutes earlier to get them in so we don't have a long line. It was suggested having two locations (one for card swipes and one for those paying), but the difficult thing is that some may swipe and also pay for a guest.
- Bill said the pool managers have the authority to say no more non-residents.
- Regarding the poor pool behavior on Family Night Open Swim, Bill said Dave suggested having the two pool managers who will deal with those issues.
- Discussion was held regarding the use of foul language and whether people should be given a warning or not. Peggy said other issues involved foul play, horseplay, and inappropriate behavior. She believes the managers should be adults. Tom said if you are going to have an adult manager--the very first time it happens, you come down hard and then you set the tone. Dave B. asked if we could have an auxiliary patrolman for the same price. Mary asked if we decided whether they would be given a warning or not. Kate said this was not a one-time incident and we have yet to curb it. We have talked about adding managers or an auxiliary patrolman before. Tom thinks putting some teeth in it will help and the word will get out. Meg asked if anyone has been kicked out. Dave said yes, each year there are a couple. Bill said we want the pool users to respect the staff and the rules. Tom said to make sure whoever the managers are that they have to have complete authority to do that. Pat asked if there was a way for the lifeguards to get a hold of a manager if they would see a situation developing. Dave P. said they have a bullhorn. Pat said if it is a safety issue, they act. Meg said if it is something like language or fondling, she thinks they might not want to say anything. Tom asked if the second manager will be an adult. Dave P. said we have hired Lisa Leppla to be a manager; she is in college. We have Dave Ehrbar, Dave Perout, and Dana. They need to know they have the empowerment to do something. Kate asked if we have not had two managers there. Dave P. said not the last couple of years.
- Discussion was held about parents who drop off their kids—ages 10 and older. Meg said she does not think that is a problem. Dave P. said we can't police whether the parents leave or not. Meg said the kids dropped off are at least 10-12 years old.
- Sean and Danielle arrived at this time (8 p.m.)

- Tom questioned if there would be liability issues if you are going to allow children to be dropped off. Dave said we can't expect the person at the desk to police whether the parents stay. After a brief discussion, Mary asked if when they get a pass if there is a form they sign that they will not hold us responsible.
- Danielle said there is a waiver on the form they sign.
- Bill read several excerpts from the rules and asked, what is the group's desire.
- All members agreed that rule enforcement shall be at the discretion of the managers.
- Dave P. explained that cell phones are not allowed in the locker rooms because people can take pictures with them.

The annual picture of the Recreation Board members was taken.

Locker Rooms

- Bill said he would like the committee's opinion on tile colors for the locker room floor. Tile could also be put in the lobby area, Dave's office, and behind the counter. We will probably do everything if the price is right. Pat suggested keeping the color light. Dave B. said he is interested in bidding. Peggy will get the name of her tile person to Bill; he is also a Village resident. Bill said this will go to Council and it could be going to bid by March or April. He explained it is a porcelain tile that will go over concrete. Members should email him if they have any suggestions. **Several members liked the colors *Slinky* and *Sea Otter*.**

Wiley Playground

- Bill asked members' opinions on the Wiley Park parking lot. Pat said you can't get two plow trucks coming in and out at the same time. One has to back up. Bill said we will be redoing the playground. The other one is over 20 years old. We are working with three manufacturers. He needs input. Bill said Stivo and Meg said they would be interested in helping out.

Open Discussion

- Bill reported that the Red Cross will be charging $1 for swimming classes in 2012 and $3 in 2013. This is coming from the top. We will have to pass the cost onto the user. Mary asked what happened to private lessons. Bill said we had about 90 and we were making a profit on that; we will be continuing to do that.
- Bill passed around an article about the City of Mentor renting Segways and asked member's opinion. Kate and Meg do not think we need to offer that. Mary asked if the Metroparks is okay with this. Troy said it seems like a fun activity. Sean asked what if we advertise for them in the brochure and let them do the registration, etc. There were no objections. Bill will check with the Metroparks and will contact the company to see if they want to advertise.
- Bill asked members' opinions on whether it would be a good idea to show youth or senior movies on a Saturday. Since we have a beautiful theatre he thought it might be possible. There is also a possibility of showing movies at the amphitheatre. Bill explained we would have to contact ASCAP who deals with movies and music inside and SWANK for outside movies. We will have to pay royalty fees. There were no objections.
- Peggy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dave B. seconded. The meeting concluded at 8:30 p.m.

<u>Next Meeting:</u> Wednesday, February 22, 2012, 7:00 p.m. at the Civic Center

Respectfully submitted,

Donna J. Heath,
Senior Program Coordinator