

Friends of Glen Ellyn Parks Foundation Meeting  
January 12, 2022  
185 Spring Avenue  
7:30 p.m.  
Minutes

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

**II. Foundation Roll Call**

Executive Director Harris called the Foundation meeting to order and those present responded: Foundation President Jonathan Huard, Foundation member Tim Clark. Commissioner Kathy Cornell, Commissioner Paul Bischoff and guests Kim Thomas, Meagan Yeh, Jackie Reeves, Tom Melms, Consultant at Eileen Mullin-Gasteier, Glen Ellyn Park District Executive Director Dave Harris, Glen Ellyn Park District Project Manager Nate Troia

**III. Introduction of Guests**

Harris welcomed our guests and expressed appreciation for their attendance and potential interest in joining the Foundation. He then asked that each guest provide a summary of the background. Yeh is resident of Glen Ellyn. She and her husband have three sons that attend local schools and are active in many Park District programs. Reeves is a Glen Ellyn resident, serves as the site supervisor for Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center Churchill School site. Her family also participates in many Park District programs and activities. Melms is a long time Glen Ellyn resident. Has two sons, one in college and one at GBW. His youngest plays soccer currently for Midwest. Thomas is a Glen Ellyn resident, works at Glen bard West High School. Has twin boys who are seniors at GBW. They play football and utilize ASFC quite extensively

**IV. Old Business**

**A. Fête Update**

Eileen Mullin- Gasteier, Fête Director, Glen Ellyn Park District provided a summary of her and her team's efforts regarding Fête related events. Eileen is a professional fundraiser that resides in Glen Ellyn. Her recent local efforts include working with the Glen Ellyn Public Library a few years back on a large fundraising event. The Park District then engaged her services to coordinate 100 -year Park District anniversary celebration at the conclusion of 2019. The event, Fall Fête, would serve as a recognition of the anniversary while also raising awareness and funds for the District's scholarship program. The results were outstanding as attendance was over 200 and over \$60,000 was raised. Based on the success, the intention was to stage the event the following year. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, the 2020 Fall Fête was postponed. In 2021, as the pandemic appeared to be under control, Fall Fête, was planned for November 2021. In addition, Mullin- Gasteier recommended staging several smaller events ("sign-up parties") which would assist and support the larger event while also raising further awareness and funds. Several of these were staged including Paddle Tennis Tournament, Holiday light tour and Two Hound Red Concert. All sold out! Unfortunately, the 2021 Fall Fête event again had to be postponed. It now has been rescheduled for April 2022 and renamed Fête. Mullin-Gasteier will continue to work on the large event along with the related signup parties. Mullin-Gasteier and her team are working to coordinate 2022 schedule of events while focusing on Fête in April.

Additionally, Mullin-Gasteier offered her insight and assistance for the Foundation and was excited to see some potential new members. Finally, she also offered to meet and discuss further her ideas and answer any related question

#### **B. Community Outreach and Education**

Tim Clark provided an update on effort to communicate to the various local schools regarding the Park District scholarship opportunities. Clark had some interaction with a few school counselors. Additionally, he is still working to facilitate getting information possible within the Kiwanis weekend snack packs. In addition to the physical challenge of adding the fliers, there is some concern on the effectiveness.

#### **C. Lake Ellyn Park North Shoreline Improvement Project**

Park District Project Manager Nathan Troia apprised the Foundation on the Lake Ellyn North Shoreline improvement project. Consistent with the 20102 Lake Ellyn Park master plan, the area between the Boathouse and the small, remote fishing pier will be improved. A “lake” walk along the shoreline will be added. This will include a wide pedestrian walkway, constructed with permeable pavers, lighting, benches, landscape and bioswales. The protective lake wall will be replaced within that area as well. The project is expected to be completed in late spring/early summer. The connection to the Foundation is the project is being funded through an anonymous donation (\$500,000+) made possible because of the 501© 3 Friends of Glen Ellyn Foundation.

#### **D. Financial Aid update**

58 families have received assistance

\$19,981 in recreational programming

In addition, 28 pool passes were provided as was six (6) Akerman Sports and Fitness membership

23 Lakers/Midwest players received financial assistance with a value of \$25,000+

#### **V. Other Matters**

Director Harris thanked all for their attendance and participation. For the guests, please consider joining as the Foundation is seeking community participation with the goal of educating the community on the need and availability of Park District financial assistance while also fundraising. The commitment is minimal. Any questions or suggestions, please reach out to Harris and/or committee members. Mullin-Gasteier also is available for further conversation.

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 16 at 7:30pm. It will be held at Spring Recreation Center with also an opportunity to attend remotely.

#### **VI. New Business**

##### **A. Approval of 10-27-21 Minutes**

President Huard moved, seconded by Clark to approve the minutes from the October 27, 2021, Foundation meeting and all voted ayes.

##### **B. Appointment of Foundation Secretary**

As Secretary Dikker will be moving out of state, the Foundation nominated Harris to assume that position. Clark moved, seconded by President Huard and all voted aye

**VII. Adjourn**

The Foundation meeting adjourned at approximately 8:40 p.m.