

**Village of Bensenville  
Village Board Room  
12 South Center Street  
Bensenville, Illinois 60106  
Counties of DuPage and Cook**

**MINUTES OF THE RECREATION AND COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE  
April 10, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairwoman Ridder called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Upon roll call by Deputy Village Clerk, Corey Williamsen, the following Board Members were present:

Chairwoman Ridder, Chairman Jarecki, President Soto,  
Bartlett, O'Connell, Wesseler

Absent: Peconio

A quorum was present.

Staff Present: Caracci, Cassady, DiSanto, Kosman,  
Thorsen, Viger, Williamsen

**Approval of  
Minutes:**

The February 21, 2012 Recreation and Community Building Minutes were presented.

**Motion:** Trustee Wesseler made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Chairman Jarecki seconded the motion.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Liberty Fest  
Logistics:**

Director of Special Events, Gary Thorsen, presented to the Committee results from the annual Liberty Fest Committee Meeting held on March 29, 2012. Village Staff asked all Civic Organizations to submit a proposal to operate the beer tent at this year's Liberty Fest. Mr. Thorsen stated the only organization to make a proposal was the American Legions. Mr. Thorsen stated the Liberty Fest Committee preferred to have a private business operate the beer tent. Mr. Thorsen stated there was no decision made at the Liberty Fest Committee Meeting and that he was seeking direction from the Committee.

Trustee Wessler stated that if a private business operates the beer tent, they will keep all profits. Trustee Wessler stated if the beer tent is operated by a Civic Organization, the profits are reinvested in the Community. Trustee Wessler suggested allowing the American Legions to operate the beer tent at this year's Liberty Fest.

Chairwoman Ridder asked if there were any issues at last year's Liberty Fest with the Civic Groups over serving or not properly checking IDs. Chief Kosman stated there were no issues last year.

Chairwoman Ridder asked if the Village will still have Police presence at the event. Chief Kosman stated there will be no changes to the Police Department's involvement at Liberty Fest.

President Soto asked Chief Kosman to review the requirements for serving and selling alcohol within the Village.

Michelle Milewski from the Bensenville Chamber of Commerce and a member on the Liberty Fest Committee stated the Committee met after the event last year and reviewed complaints that were made. Ms. Milewski stated the consensus of the complaints were in regards to the operation of the beer tent and the Committee had discussed allowing a private business to operate the beer tent during Liberty Fest 2012.

Allen Devitt residing at 16W603 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. and a member of the Chamber of Commerce and also a member of the Lions stated he worked the beer tent last year and experienced lots of issues & suggested allowing a private business the chance to operate the beer tent this year. Mr. Devitt stated the Lions group worked over 400 hours at the event last year and made a profit of fifty eight cents per hour. Mr. Devitt asked if the decision being made was for 2012 only. President Soto stated the discussion was for the operation of the beer tent for 2012 only.

Mark Richter from the American Legions gave a brief history presentation of the American Legions and stated their intentions of operating the beer tent in 2012.

President Soto asked if the American Legions would be willing to donate a small portion of the profit to the other Civic Organizations. Mr. Richter stated the American Legions was open to the idea and would discuss among the Civic Groups if they were allowed to operate the beer tent.

Allen Devitt residing at 16W603 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. and a member of the Chamber of Commerce and also a member of the Lions stated he came across a newspaper article regarding a fundraiser helping fund the Parade Committee in another town. Mr. Devitt gave the article to Village Manager, Michael Cassady, for staff review.

Mr. Thorsen asked if the American Legions plans to provide a tent and seating the event. Mr. Richer stated they would be seeking help from the Village due to the costs of the rentals.

President Soto asked if the private business would be able to provide a tent and chair for the event. A member from the private business stated they were in a similar situation as the American Legions and would seek help from the Village.

Michelle Milewski from the Bensenville Chamber of Commerce and a member on the Liberty Fest Committee stated the donation should go to the Parade Committee rather than the Civic Organizations due to the financial loss the Committee has assumed in the last three years.

President Soto stated the consensus was to allow the American Legions to operate the beer tent this year and have them meet with the Liberty Fest Committee to determine a fair amount to donate back.

Motion:

Chairwoman Ridder made a motion to allow the American Legion operation of the beer tent at Liberty Fest 2012. Trustee O'Connell seconded the motion.

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ROLL CALL: AYES: Chairwoman Ridder, Chairman Jarecki, President Soto, Bartlett, O'Connell, Wesseler

NAYS: None

All were in favor. Motion carried.

**As Submitted:** There were no items submitted.

**Informational Items:** There were no informational items.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Jarecki made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee O'Connell seconded the motion.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

Chairwoman Ridder adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Corey Williamsen  
Deputy Village Clerk

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Bensenville this 12th day, February 2013