

Village of Libertyville
Board of Trustees
Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
118 W. Cook Avenue
November 6, 2012
6:00 pm
Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes from the August 7, 2012 Meeting
2. Commission Chairman Update
3. Upcoming and Recent Programming and Events
4. Marketing and Publicity
5. Butler Lake Project Update
6. Other....What if
7. Adjournment

Any individual who would like to attend this meeting but because of a disability needs some accommodation to participate should contact the ADA Coordinator at 118 West Cook Ave, Libertyville Illinois 60048 (847) 362-2430.

VILLAGE OF LIBERTYVILLE
Meeting of the
Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
Minutes: August 7, 2012

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, August 7, 2012 by Chairman Lisa Matthews. Those in attendance included Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission members included Chairman Lisa Matthews, John Fischl, Bruce Semersky and Donna Thomey. Recreation and Sports Complex staff in attendance included Director Connie Kowal, Superintendent Jim Barlow and Secretary Julie Fanning.

1) Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Committee and Advisory Commission

Chairman Lisa Matthews moved to approve the minutes from the May 1, 2012 meeting, seconded by John Fischl. Motion approved.

2) Resignation of Chair Lisa Matthews

Lisa Matthews submitted her resignation as the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Chair. Lisa will be pursuing new interests. Director Kowal thanked Lisa for her service to the Village and wished her success on her future endeavors.

3) Butler Lake Project

Resident Bill Cotey presented his proposal to offer shoreline restoration and the development of a ecology project for Libertyville High School students. Given that the shoreline by Libertyville High School is in serious need of restoration, Mr. Cotey suggests that Libertyville High School use plots of the shoreline to develop a school wide restoration project. With the restoration, Butler Lake plantings and the animal population would thrive at Butler Lake.

Additionally, with the new transit-oriented development (TOD) for Libertyville, this is an opportunity to further develop the Butler Lake Park.

4) EAB Update

Superintendent Jim Barlow noted that 65 trees have been removed. Staff is currently in the process of planning for phase one of the parkway restoration which included stump grinding. Currently one hundred and fifty residents have shown interest in the 50/50 cost share tree program. Staff will need 250 residents to be able to offer the 50/50 cost share tree program.

5) Upcoming and Recent Programming and Events

Director Kowal noted the following major events at the Libertyville Sport Complex including the Chicago Rush Event, Mundelein High School Graduation, and Mixed Martial Arts Event.

Motion to adjourn by Chairman Lisa Matthews seconded by John Fischl. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Julie Fanning, Secretary
Recreation and Sports Complex Department
Village of Libertyville

Memorandum

To: Members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
From: Connie Kowal, Director of Recreation and Sports Complex
Date: October 31, 2012
Subject: Commission Chairman Update

Director Kowal has notified Mayor Wepler as to the resignation of Commission Chairman Lisa Matthews, and the Mayor is awaiting feedback on potential candidates.

Memorandum

To: Members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
From: Connie Kowal, Director of Recreation and Sports Complex
Date: October 31, 2012
Subject: Upcoming and Recent Programming and Events

Attached are the events for the Libertyville Sports Complex and Recreation Department.

Massage	October 2
Generation Rx Program and Lunch	October 5
Birthday Bash and Lunch	October 8
Legal Advice	October 9
AARP Driving Course	October 11 & 12
Little Black Dress Luncheon and Program	October 15
R Home Care foot clinic	October 16
Massage	October 16
Scholl's community Outreach Foot Care Clinic	October 18
Movie	October 16
Lake County Forest Preserve Program	October 22
Movie	October 26
Halloween Party and Lunch	October 31
BINGO and Lunch	November 2
Ballroom Dance Lessons	November 5
Massage	November 6
Veteran's Day Lunch and Party	November 9
Birthday Bash and Lunch	November 12
AFA Memory Screening	November 13
Scholl's Foot Clinic	November 15
Thanksgiving Lunch and Party	November 19
Community Care Connections	November 20
Massage	November 20
Legal Advice	November 20
Senior Center Closed for Thanksgiving	November 21-23
Marriot Trip	November 29
<u>Recreation</u>	
Halloween Fest Event	October 31
No Dance Program Classes	November 19-24
Tree Lighting Event, 6:30pm Cook Park	November 23

Memorandum

To: Members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
From: Connie Kowal, Director of Recreation and Sports Complex
Date: October 31, 2012
Subject: Marketing and Publicity

Attached are various newspaper articles regarding the department.

Your local source since 1981.

One Dollar | Thursday, August 30, 2012 | A WEAFFORTS company | A CHICAGO SUN-TIMES publication | libertyville-review.com



Libertyville Review

Serving Libertyville and Green Oaks



Cara (from left), Lillian 2, and Ruby Furlong, 7, enjoy the Adler Park Pool in Libertyville as summer wanes. Despite extreme warmth, pool attendance dipped slightly. | **JOE CYGANOWSKI**-For Sun-Times Media

Read the full story [Page 5]

Late-season splash



DON'T MISS OUT!

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Food

Celebrate Labor Day with meatloaf grinder [Page 49]



Cover Story

Heat didn't spell increased swim figures

BY JOHN ROSZKOWSKI | jroszkowski@ploneerlocal.com

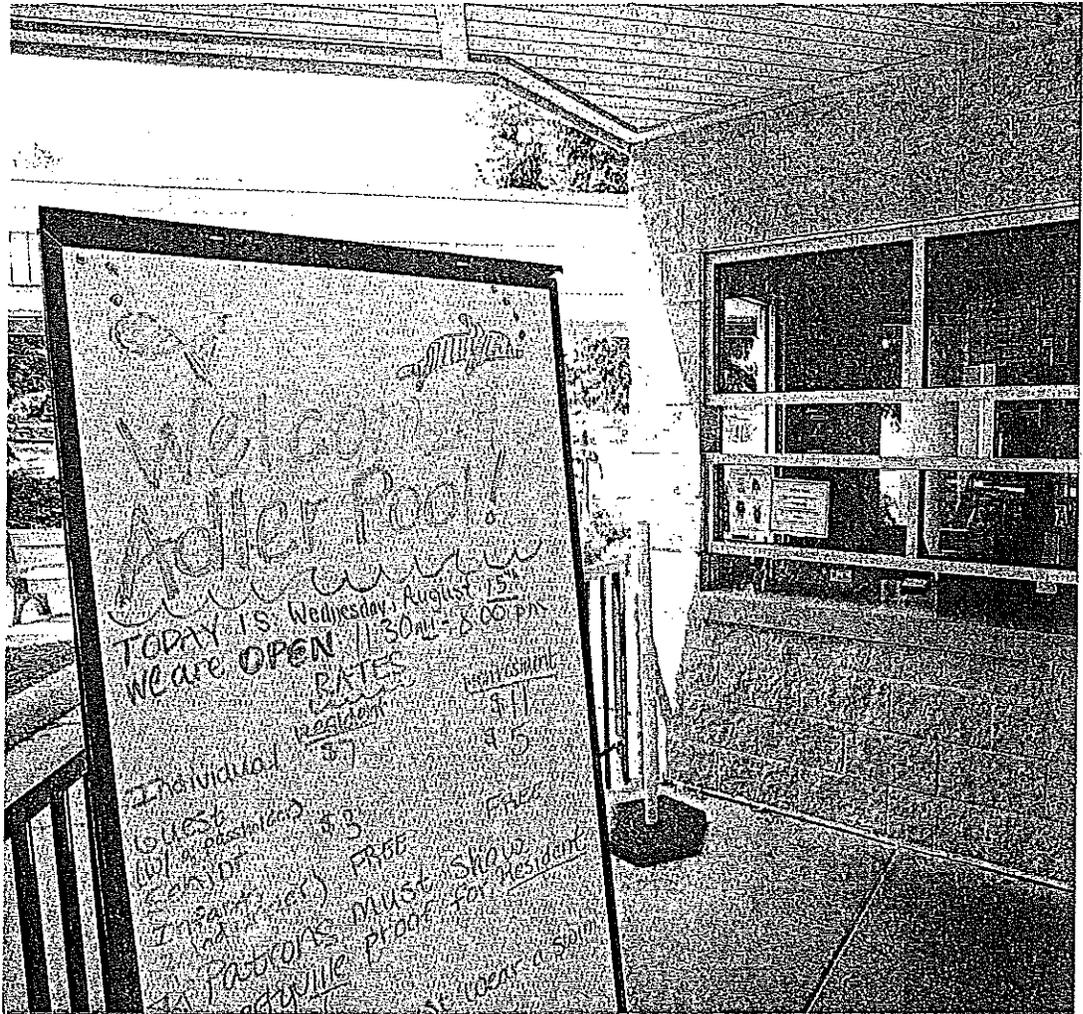
LIBERTYVILLE

Despite a warmer and drier than normal summer, attendance at Libertyville pools was actually down somewhat compared to last summer.

Through Aug. 23, combined attendance at Adler Park Pool and Riverside Pool was about 31,000 for the summer season, according to Connie Kowal, director of recreation and the sports complex for Libertyville. That compares to about 32,000 through the same period last year.

Kowal said while it would seem like the hot, dry temperatures would mean increased pool attendance, some of the extremely hot days with temperatures in the 90s and 100s may have dampened pool attendance.

"This summer was perhaps one of the hottest summers we've had in this area for a long time," he said. "It may be hard to believe, but the 100-degree days didn't necessarily translate into increased attendance at the pool. Even though we had



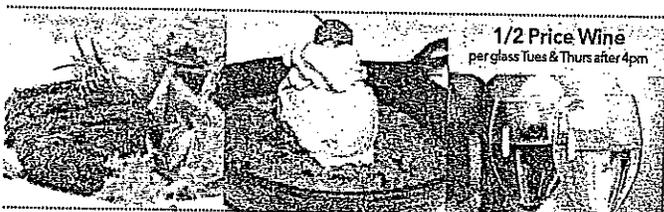
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Cate Lundy runs through the wall of water at the Adler Park Pool, Libertyville. | JOE CYGANOWSKI-For Sun Times Media

Pool

Continued from page 5

a wetter summer last year in terms of rain, we didn't have the 100-degree days last year."

Even so, Kowal said overall attendance numbers were pretty much in line with a normal pool season. "We were only down about 20 people a day for the summer, which is still pretty good," he said.

Kowal said he didn't have pool revenue numbers for the season yet, but noted that revenue can be somewhat different from attendance numbers because it depends on the percentage of pool users who have purchased season passes versus daily pass users. Overall, he expects pool revenues will more than cover expenses.

"In general, this pool season we have had a really good summer," he said. "We got a lot of positive responses from our guests. Safety is always our priority. We had a safe, fun summer."

The weekday pool season ended at Adler Park on Aug. 17, although the pool still was open the weekends of Aug. 18-19 and Aug. 25-26. Adler pool also will be open for three days over Memorial Day weekend. Riverside Pool closed for the season on Aug. 19. □



Danielle Goldenberg performs a chemical check as the pool opens. At the Adler Park Pool, | JOE CYGANOWSKI-For Sun Times Media

3

Libertyville looks to capitalize on rec facilities

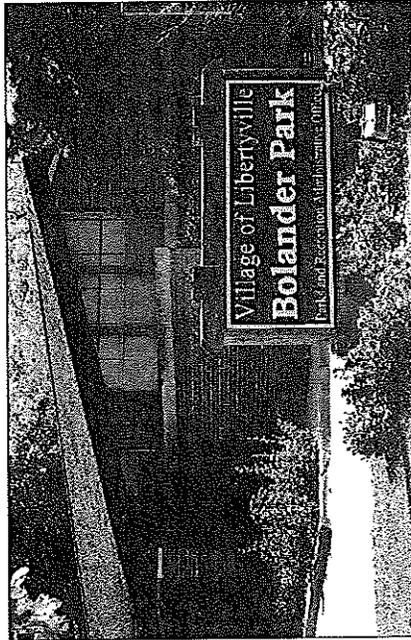
BY MICK ZAWISLAK
mzawislak@dailyherald.com

Interested in owning a park in Libertyville? How about having your company's name in lights on the signature Sports Complex? Both are possibilities as the village tries to maximize resources and generate revenue.

In separate but related actions, village officials recently decided to shed an underutilized facility and directed staff to seek takers for naming rights on what could become the biggest "billboard" in town. Both reflect a long-standing and continuing push on the village's part to squeeze what it can from its recreational offerings.

"It all comes down to what's the best use of village dollars, particularly the Bolander building," said village Trustee Drew Cullum, who chairs the board's parks and recreation committee. At the Sports Complex, the directive is to find a corporate entity willing to do more than sponsor events or pay for banners inside.

"My job will be to go out and start pursuing those companies big and small that might be interested," said Connie Kowal, director of the village's recreation



Libertyville officials have declared the main building and property at Bolander Park along Winchester Road as surplus property and have offered them for sale.

department and Sports Complex.

Naming rights for the Sports Complex add a deeper dimension to Kowal's roster of potential advertising offerings.

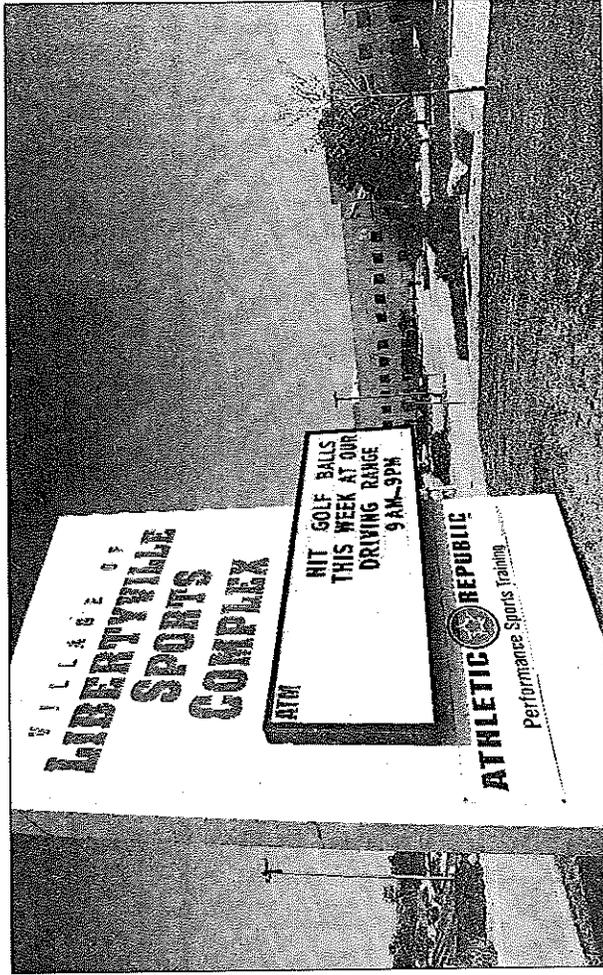
"That's a big, big bit of inventory versus, I just want to sponsor the daddy-daughter dance," he said.

In the first move, the village board declared the 5-plus acre Bolander Park and the parks department headquarters building at 625 W. Winchester Road as surplus property and determined that selling it would be in the best interest of the village. Only four staff members

work there and the building, a sprawling ranch-style former office of the Bolander construction company, will need \$300,000 in repairs over the next few years.

The village intends to hire a real estate professional to market the property. It is zoned for institutional use but is considered best suited for a multifamily residential development, because of its location within walking distance of the Metra commuter station and the downtown area.

"There's a pretty significant demand in the community for those multi-family uses," said Heather Rowe, the village's economic



Naming rights for the Libertyville Sports Complex at Route 45 and Peterson Road in Libertyville are now available.

development coordinator. "We have some smaller ones in the works but there's definitely a need for more."

The property has been appraised at \$1.725 million or \$7.50 per square foot. One of the conditions is that it not be sold for less than 80 percent of that value, or \$1.38 million. The village bought the property in 1997 for \$1.4 million.

About three miles north and west at Route 45 and Peterson Road, the Libertyville Sports

Complex recently celebrated its 10th anniversary.

Revenue covers overhead but not the debt due on bonds used to build it. Debt payments are set to increase from about \$1 million per year to \$1.8 million annually. So the village has been looking for options.

Though not actively marketed recently, the golf learning center, which includes a heated driving range, has been for sale for years. So has

a 27-hole mini-golf course that was closed several years ago. This year, it was leased to a businessman who renovated and reopened the facility.

The main attraction, however, always has been the cavernous indoor sports complex. "I think we feel there is a pretty good value. If you've ever noticed, it's an unmarked building," Cullum said. "There's just an enormous amount of car traffic that goes by there."

PHOTOS BY PAUL VALADE/pvalade@dailyherald.com

Soccer star Wambach misses mark on media relations



**PATRICIA BABCOCK
MCGRAW'S**

WOMEN'S WATCH

The next time I'd like an audience with gold medal soccer star Abby Wambach, I guess I'll need to go door-to-door in my neighborhood beforehand and seek donations.

A group of tween girls from the Arlington Aces soccer club did just that prior to meeting Wambach last Saturday at the Libertyville Sports Complex. They were there to participate in a fundraiser for Soccer for Success, an initiative sponsored by Illinois Youth Soccer that has been providing free soccer programs in Chicago's underserved urban communities since 1994.

The Aces raised an

astounding \$4,800. How much of that money went to Soccer for Success versus Wambach, I'm not sure. But as one of the top donors, the Aces were treated to a private training session with Wambach that included spirited drills and plenty of Olympic-sized tips.

"(Wambach) has always been my idol, ever since I've been watching her," said 11-year-old Aces player Katie Glowinski of Cary. "I need to practice a lot to get perfect like her."

"Well, no one is completely perfect.

I tried for the last four days to get a phone interview with Wambach to ask about her experience in Libertyville, and to also preview the national team's exhibition game against Germany today (5:30 p.m.) at Toyota Park.

She was too busy to talk on the day of the clinic, which was understandable. And I was unavailable to talk with her as she drove to the airport later that afternoon to leave town. One of the event organizers suggested that as a possible window for an interview, since Wambach would be a captive audience in the car. But he



COURTESY OF VINCE ZANZUGCHI/Libertyville Sports Complex
Team USA women's soccer star Abby Wambach poses with Libertyville youth soccer player Stella Bechtold during the IYSA Soccer for Success event at the Libertyville Sports Complex last Saturday.

assured me that we'd be able to make something else work in the coming days since we had an entire week before my deadline for today's column.

That same organizer kept working on my behalf each day this week to hammer out an interview time with Wambach. He left word multiple times with Wambach's agent, and I believe with Wambach herself. We never heard from Wambach, or her agent

I don't respect male athletes when they hide in the training room before or after games instead of sitting by their lockers and talking with the media, as is expected of them by most professional teams and leagues. I also don't respect them when they act disinterested during interviews or are even combative with reporters. But sadly, they can get away with that behavior occasionally. The media will keep coming back, and so will the fans.

Female athletes can't afford to be so dismissive with the media. Female athletes need coverage, they need publicity. I wish this weren't the case, but in most markets, they need the media to help make and keep them relevant.

I'm always amazed, for instance, by WNBA players and coaches (and thankfully there aren't many of them) who act like it's a chore to talk with the media. Don't they know that in a male-dominated sports world that is already oversaturated, they need us way more than we need them?

Wambach could use a refresher on that. Thankfully, she's totally up

to snuff on the rest of her job as an ambassador for her sport. She did a great job with the kids at the Libertyville Sports Complex. There were more than 100 there last weekend.

"We all watched Abby in the Olympics. Our whole team watched (the gold-medal game against Japan) together," said 11-year-old Aces player Kayla Llewellyn of Island Lake. "I really like how Abby plays physical and she always keeps running and she never stops trying. She's really good and she was funnier than I thought she'd be."

In addition to all the soccer, Wambach had lunch with the kids and their parents and also signed autographs and answered questions.

"I thought it was really fun. We learned a bunch of national team things that we can do in our own soccer games," said 11-year-old Aces player Gabriella Tenuta of Arlington Heights. "We learned how to header the ball in the goal from across (the field). We never knew how to do that until today. We learned a lot of snuff and had a lot of fun."

pbabcock@dailyherald.com

Halloween Fest 2012

TUESDAY October 30, 5:30-7:30 pm

Family Fun geared for kids 10 and under

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Spooky Climbing Mountain • Pumpkin Patch
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[newssun](#)

Soccer icon a huge hit with kids in Libertyville

News-Sun staff report

Last Modified: Oct 17, 2012 03:02AM

Abby Wambach is one of the three most-recognizable names in the world of women's professional soccer — American goalie Hope Solo and Brazilian superstar Marta being the others.

But last Saturday at the Libertyville Sports Complex, it was very clear that when it comes to young soccer players, Abby rules.

Wambach — a high-scoring forward on the U.S. National Team, was in Libertyville supporting a fund-raising promotion for Illinois Youth Soccer.

The fund-raiser was called "Soccer For Success" and it involved young players in Illinois getting \$250 in pledges for the program.

Those who did that attended Saturday's special event in Libertyville and got to meet Wambach, have lunch with her, have their picture taken with the star, and then get the picture autographed.

The 64 youngsters who raised the most money also got to participate in a soccer clinic run by Wambach, and she even got involved in playing indoor soccer with the group.

Illinois Youth Soccer conducts its Soccer for Success Program to provide fun, high-quality sports-based youth development skill trainings and opportunities to children in Chicago's urban communities.

This program is a fun, skills and sports-based, development program that empowers children to lead a healthy lifestyle, value education and increase their social and life skills. The program is available free to all children.

"I'm thrilled to team up with the Illinois Youth Soccer Association to raise both money and awareness for Soccer for Success," Wambach said.

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Editor [Korrina Grom](#) korrina.grom@patch.com



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Update: Libertyville Patch is on Facebook! Be sure to "like us" at: <http://www.facebook.com/LibertyvillePatch>

[The Neighborhood Files](#), [Local Connections](#)

Steve 'Painless' Parker Retires from Navy After 27 Years

A special retirement ceremony, featuring the United States Navy Band Great Lakes, was held in Cook Memorial Park for the Libertyville resident.

By [Korrina Grom](#) [Email the author](#) 5:59 am

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Related Topics: [Steve Parker](#), [United States Navy](#), and [Vernon Hills Dental Center](#)

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From left: Capt. Steve Parker, Col. Michael Ouzts and retired Capt. Timothy Fitzharris stand during the singing of the national anthem. Credit: [Korrina Grom](#)

As Steve 'Painless' Parker stepped up to the microphone in [Cook Memorial Park](#) in Libertyville on a sunny Friday afternoon, he had a warning for his guests.

"There's going to be a lot of 'thank you's.' I'm going to do a lot of crying. So if you don't want to see crying, you're in the wrong place," said the Libertyville resident.

It was indeed an emotional day for Parker, as he said farewell to his 27-year military career. A special retirement ceremony was held for him Sept. 28, where family and friends—both military and civilian—gathered to say a collective "thank you" to Capt. Parker for his service.

"Make no mistake—there is some big timber falling in the Dental Corps forest today, and it is Capt. Steve 'Painless' Parker," said retired Capt. Timothy Fitzharris.

Parker, who received his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in 1985 from Louisiana State University, initially planned to enlist in the [United States Navy](#) for just three years. He traveled around the world, to places like the Philippines and Thailand, serving as a dentist. [His military career also included a stint as the head of the dental clinics at Camp Pendleton, the director of the Camp Courtney Branch Dental Clinic, the clinic director for the U.S. Naval Dental Center at Camp Foster and the commanding officer of the Navy Hospital Corps School at Great Lakes.](#)

He now runs his own dental practice, the [Vernon Hills Dental Center](#).

Parker's retirement ceremony was filled with tradition—the striking of four bells as Parker and other dignitaries arrived, and the Parading of the Colors, for example—and plenty of stories and laughs.

Retired Cmdr. Scott Jensen, who served as the master of ceremonies, spoke of Parker's leadership, calling him "a breath of fresh air" who "empowered people." He said Parker also displayed many other leadership qualities, including vigilance, fearlessness and a dash of luck.

Jensen and others also focused on Parker's friendly, positive nature.

Jensen recalled seeing Parker and thinking he must have been involved with the Louisiana State University football team in some way.

"You're the quarterback, right?" Jensen recalled asking Parker, who said "No." Jensen learned that Parker wasn't the running back or a linebacker, either.

"He says, 'No, I was a cheerleader,'" said Jensen laughed. "He was the first man cheerleader I ever met."

Fitzharris said he "never saw a guy smile so much."

"We call him the 'pied piper' of Vernon Hills," Fitzharris said, referring to Parker's dental practice. Fitzharris said he draws in patients with his personality, including his "warm, personal nature, his sense of humor and his integrity."

He told a story about a female patient who was terrified to go see a dentist until she met Parker.

"He has golden hands and a gentle spirit," said Fitzharris.

Fitzharris also spoke of Parker's faith.

"His relationship with his Redeemer is No. 1," said Fitzharris. "If anyone is aware of God's grace in his life, it's Steve Parker. I imagine most of his prayers are 'thank you's.' Steve Parker is an incredibly grateful man."

"Steve, we all here, and countless thousands you have served, say a tremendous 'thank you,'" Fitzharris added.

Presidents Say "Thank You"

Jensen pointed out that Parker received a stack of 'thank you' letters from a host of dignitaries, including President Barack Obama and former President George H.W. Bush.

"Twenty-seven years of military service does not go unrecognized," said Jensen, who then read the letter from Bush.

"You unselfishly answered the call of duty, Capt. Parker," Bush wrote in the letter. "This former Navy man salutes you."

Parker showed his gratitude by offering "thank you's" to his family—both civilian and military, including the Marines he served with over the course of his career.

"It's very important for me to have Marines here today," said Parker. "Seventeen out of the 27 years, I've served with Marines. Marines are a cut above; it's not just a job, it's a way of life."

He got choked up while speaking about the Marines' impact on his life.

"They taught me what life is all about," said Parker. "I changed what I wanted to do after meeting these men."

Parker took a few moments to read his official retirement orders. He then watched as Dental Corps students conducted a flag ceremony while Fitzharris read "Old Glory." After being handed the flag, which flew over many buildings at Great Lakes, Parker presented it to his son, Bryce.

Standing "The Watch"

"Let us remember that for 27 years, this sailor stood the watch," said Lt. James Feliz, who then recited the poem, "The Watch."

"For 27 years, he stood the watch so that we and our fellow countrymen could sleep soundly in safety because he had the watch," Feliz read. "Today, we are here to say the watch stands relieved. Relieved by those you have led, guided and trained."

Parker's retirement ceremony ended with the Piping Ashore Ceremony, led by honorary sideboys and boatswain, during which Parker was given permission to "go ashore" one last time.

Read more about Steve Parker:

- [Local Dentist Steve Parker to Retire from Navy](#)

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Amy Stilling

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8:54 am on Monday, October 1, 2012

Fabulous article. I was at Picnic Basket on Friday afternoon and drove all around the town square trying to figure out what was going on, I told my 4 year old niece that someone very important must be retiring from the services. I was right! I wish we would of had time to stop and watch.

I look forward to seeing you tomorrow Dr. Parker for my PAINLESS teeth cleaning!

Congratulations!

Greg & Amy Stilling

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Memorandum

To: Members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

From: Connie Kowal, Director of Recreation and Sports Complex

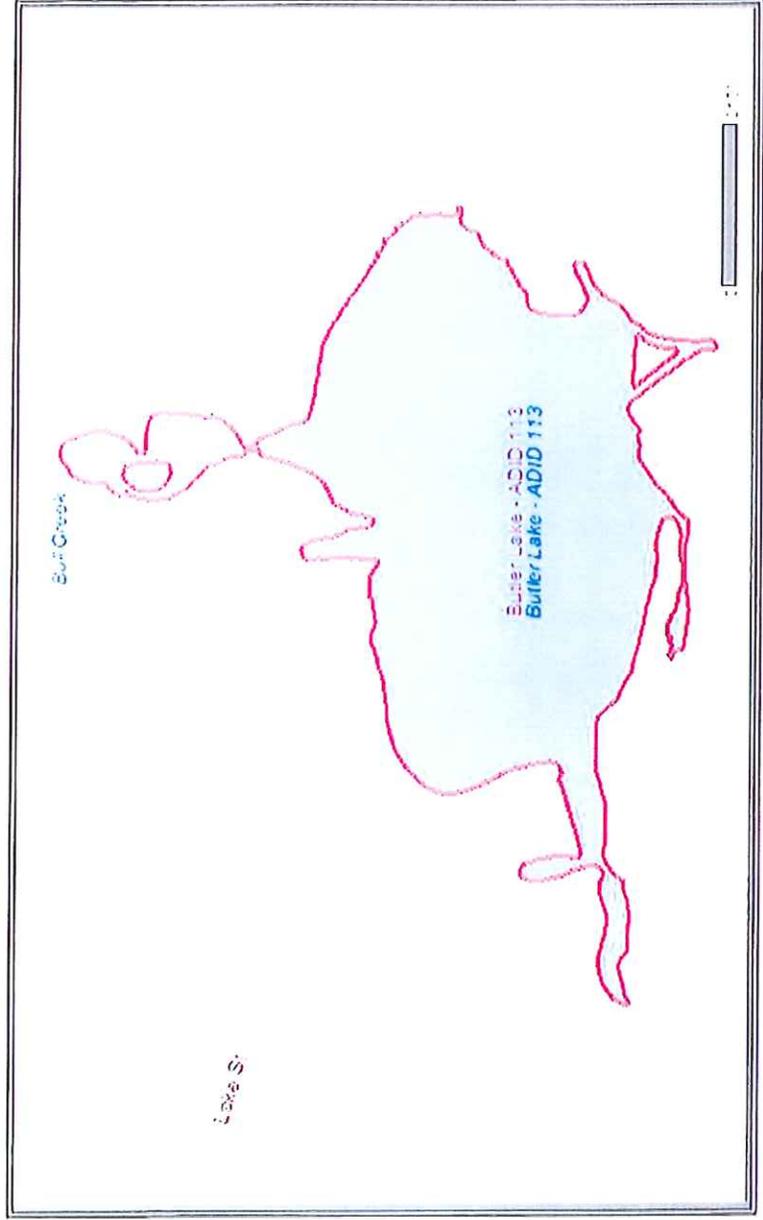
Date: October 31, 2012

Subject: Butler Lake Project Update

As a follow up to the Butler Lake Shoreline Restoration concept presented at the August 2012 Commission meeting by resident Bill Cotey, we look to discuss further and the potential next steps of this proposal for the Village or Libertyville High School to pursue.



Stewardship Plan for Butler Lake Shoreline Restoration





Butler Lake A Resource Diamond Mine

- An outdoor laboratory for the Science department at Libertyville High School and District 70
- An opportunity to teach and develop the student's and the public's understanding of our natural environment in the village
- A unique opportunity to teach and develop the lake and its habitat for the entire community's enjoyment
- Tie in to downtown activity and increase revenues for the village with new activities



The Prairie Quilt Project

- Segment plats of shoreline for each class for shoreline restoration
- 20x30 plat, running the length of the high school property line on Butler Lake
- one plat per year
- 2 week class incorporated into curriculum of ecology
- Class has opportunity to integrate plant species into high school landscape
- Buy in from Lake County Forest Preserve and Storm Water Management in 2008



Benefits of Restoration

- Student involvement will last over 15-20 years
- Students will return to see their efforts mature
- Lead students to think about green occupations in the sciences and civics.
- Shoreline plant restoration will bring new species of animals and insects
- Shoreline will help the quality of the lake and the aesthetics



Libertyville Opportunity

- Connection point with new TOD proposal and downtown increasing urban sustainability principles to downtown and the environment
- A new source of community pride tied to downtown and it's energy.
- More effective control of property with invasive species, catch and release, lake and plant management



Community Education Opportunity

Crawford building becomes an outdoor educational center for public and District 70 schools

- Biking and hiking programs
- Environmental Art Shows
- Chalk Art show
- Crawford Bike Sale
- Senior citizen programs
- Lake and Water Awareness programs
- Environmental Educational seminars
- Bird and plant tours
- District 70 ecology education programs



Village Stewardship and oversight

- Possible commission involvement
- Keep Libertyville Beautiful, Parks and Recreation, possible new commission
- Mainstreet involvement to create and generate activity tying downtown and TOD development

Memorandum

To: Members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

From: Connie Kowal, Director of Recreation and Sports Complex

Date: October 31, 2012

Subject: Other....What if

There will be open discussion regarding programming updates, ideas, and areas of focus from the Commission.