



# **Parks, Recreation & Forestry STAFF REPORT**

**MEMO DATE:** May 16, 2019

**MTG. DATE:** June 3, 2019

**TO:** Village of Cottage Grove Board of Trustees

**CC:**

**FROM:** Sean Brusegar, CPRP - Director of Parks, Recreation & Forestry

**RE:** Miracle Field Land Dedication at Bakken Park

## **BACKGROUND:**

In the fall of 2018, Bill Schultz from the Miracle League of Dane County approached the Village about the possibility of building a Miracle League field at Bakken Park. Bill did a presentation to the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Committee as well as the Village Board. Both entities seemed very interested in pursuing the opportunity. As we began to investigate the possibility, we learned that due to Bakken Park being purchased with a DNR Stewardship Grant, which promotes and funds passive recreation projects, a Miracle Field would not be considered "passive recreation". In discussion with the DNR, the Village learned that the 1.01 acres of land needed for the Miracle Field as well as 7.58 acres of land that was sold to the Wisconsin Rugby Club and needed to be "paid back" to the DNR by purchasing 7.58 acres of additional parkland, could be converted out of the Stewardship Grant Program by using the Main Street bike path project as an additional Capital Project.

The overall appraised value of both parcels is \$257,700. With the bike path costing over that amount, the Village can convert both parcels out of the Stewardship Grant Program. This opens the door for the creation of the Miracle Field. The \$560,000 needed to create the field will be fundraised by the Miracle League of Dane County. A lease can be created between the Village of Cottage Grove and the Miracle League of Dane County allowing the Miracle League to construct the facility on Village Property. The facility will be primarily programmed by the Miracle League but, the Parks and Recreation Department will have opportunities to program the facility as well.

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**Staff recommends allowing the Miracle Field of Dane County to call Bakken Park home and create a lease between the two entities.**

**On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, The Parks, Recreation & Forestry Committee voted 4-0-0 to allow the Miracle League to occupy up to 43, 968 square feet (1.01 acres) of land at Bakken Park pending Village Board approval of a mutual lease agreement.**