

Village of Cottage Grove

PARKS, RECREATION and FORESTRY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes for Thursday, July 22, 2021

- 1. Call to order virtual Zoom meeting.** The meeting was called to order by Heidi Murphy at 5:00 pm.
- 2. Roll call and confirm that the meeting was properly posted.**

It was determined that a quorum was present, and that the agenda had been properly posted. Committee members present for the meeting were Heidi Murphy (chair), Penny Aguilera, Amy Brice, Jay Kiefer and Kevin Laufenberg. Staff present were Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director Sean Brusegar and Utility Clerk Kristen Krause. Five members of the public were also in attendance.
- 3. Public appearance: Public's opportunity to speak about any subject that is not a specific agenda item.**

None.
- 4. Discuss and consider a skate park and pump track at Bakken Park.**

Bekki Timmons spoke on behalf of some young men that are interested in helping to get a skate park and pump track put in at Bakken Park. Brusegar had worked with these kids to find a design that they liked. Skatepark designer Spohn Ranch provided some free renderings for the skate park and pump track which Brusegar presented to the committee. The cost estimate to put in the skate park and pump track is \$500,000. Brusegar explained that the skate park and pump track is currently in the Financial Management Plan (FMP) for 2-3 years from now, but that this group of young men would like to see it go in sooner. Timmons noted that there are no pump tracks in the area at this time, however there are skate parks in surrounding communities. Fundraising by the group of young men, possible grants and partnering with foundations were discussed as possibilities for helping fund the amenities. Committee members also discussed shifting items in the FMP in order to bring the skate park and pump track in sooner. Kiefer suggested looking at what items/projects will bring more opportunities for community members while looking at changing the timing of projects in the plan. Murphy recommended Brusegar consult with Strand to look for possible cost savings in the project. Brusegar will obtain more information and bring it to the meeting next month. **Motion** by Laufenberg, seconded by Aguilera, to table this item until next month. Motion carried with a unanimous voice vote of 5-0-0.
- 5. Discuss and consider replacing the damaged electrical line that services the open-air pavilion at Fireman's Park.**

Erik Severson of the Fire Department was present to discuss the need to replace the aging and dangerous electrical line that runs along the third base line to the old timers' tent/open-air pavilion. Severson stated that the Fire Department pays the electrical bill for this service. Brusegar will also look to see if the Village pays for a portion of the electrical service.

Brusegar received a cost estimate of \$7,860.00 to replace this electrical line. Discussion was had on who utilizes the area where the electricity is run and what entities could possibly contribute to paying for the repairs. Committee members would like Brusegar to get a few more quotes and also check to see if any other groups that use the area (i.e. school district, Home Talent) would be able to contribute. **Motion** by Laufenberg, seconded by Kiefer, to table this item until next month. Motion carried with a unanimous voice vote of 5-0-0.

6. Discuss the landscape plan for the Miracle Field area.

Brusegar gave the committee a look at the updated Miracle Field landscape plan. The Miracle Field group is selling trees that will be placed around the field to provide shade. They changed the number of trees to three from five to help reduce foliage near the splashpad. Committee members liked the updated landscape plan.

7. Discuss updating the forestry ordinance.

Murphy stated that the Ordinance Review Committee will look over the forestry ordinance and the proposed updates next week. If there are no changes, it will advance to the Village Board for approval.

8. Update on Continental Properties plans.

Brusegar reported that there is no new update at this time.

9. Westlawn 1-acre Red Hawk Park playground update.

The equipment is scheduled to be installed next Wednesday and Thursday, July 28-29. Concrete work and the poured-in-place surface will be completed soon after the equipment is installed.

10. Director's Report.

In Recreation, upcoming programs include the Ultimate Frisbee Camp August 9-13 for ages 8-14, Battledarts mobile nerf war on August 14 for ages 7-15, and a Kubb Tournament on August 21. Session 3 of tennis lessons will begin next Monday, July 26. This year has seen great enrollment in tennis. Recreation Supervisor Trista Taylor has also heard positive feedback on the staff from Premier Tennis and she will be looking to work with them again next summer. Another bonus with tennis is at the end of each tennis session, Premier Tennis invites all communities and their participants to a free tournament in Janesville. Playground Camp continues to go well with visits by EMS and the Fire Department. The camp will end on August 6. Taylor and Program Coordinator Sam Frederickson will be attending a Flag Football meeting in a few weeks, as we begin to shift towards Fall programming. Football practices are slated to begin in mid-August.

The new Fall/Winter program guide is complete and will go out in the free issue of the Herald-Independent newspaper on August 5. Registration for fall and winter programs will officially open then.

In Parks, staff continue to conduct maintenance and testing of the splashpad in the mornings and afternoons. Staff are also busy prepping ball diamonds, spraying weeds at parks and on Village properties, power washing tables at the parks to prepare for the painting of the tables,

planning for the painting of park shelters and taking measurements and prepping all park signs for the updated Village logo. Due to a few incidents of graffiti, we have also had to clean and paint at our park shelters. The new Little Free Library at Willow Run Park was recently installed next to the playground and sidewalk.

In Forestry, there has been a lot of storm damage to clean up by both the Village Forester and Public Works staff. We are currently working with the school district to take down the broken/damaged scrub trees at Northlawn Park. Village Forester James Rothman is also keeping busy applying EAB treatments.

Brusegar was recently contacted by a local Girl Scout who will be installing a pet waste receptacle on the south side of the intersection at CTH BB and Sandpiper Trail. The Girl Scout troop will be responsible for stocking the bags and the Village will be responsible for emptying the receptacle.

11. Approve the minutes of the June 24, 2021 Parks, Recreation and Forestry Committee meeting.

Motion by Laufenberg, seconded by Aguilera, to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion carried with a unanimous voice vote of 5-0-0.

12. Future Agenda Items

- Update on Red Hawk Park playground equipment selections.
- Update on Continental Properties plans.
- Discuss skate park and pump track at Bakken Park.
- Discuss replacement/updates at Fireman's Park hamburger/concession stand.
- Update on forestry ordinance.
- The next regular PRFC meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, August 26, 2021 at 5:00 pm and will be a virtual Zoom meeting.**

13. Adjournment.

Motion by Murphy, seconded by Aguilera, to adjourn the meeting at 5:59 pm. Motion carried with a voice vote of 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted by Kristen Krause, Utility Clerk.

Approved on: 8/26/21

These minutes represent the general subject matter discussed in this meeting but do not reflect a verbatim discussion of the subjects and conversations that took place.