

**Village of Spring Lake
Parks & Recreation Board Meeting
January 5, 2015
7:00 p.m. Village Hall (EOC Room)
Minutes**

I. Call to Order

Roll Call: Claire Groenevelt, Bob McCulloch, Steve Nauta, Erik Poel, Curt Brower and Lee Schuitema

Absent: Michele Yassenak and Bill Core

Also present: Chris Burns (Village Manager), Roger Belknap (DPW Director) & Maryann Fonkert (Deputy Clerk).

- II. Approval of the Agenda:** Motion by **Brower**, seconded by **Schuitema**, to approve the agenda as presented.

Yes: 5 No: 0

- III. Approval of the Minutes** – Motion by **Brower**, seconded by **Groenevelt**, to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2014 and December 1, 2014 regular meetings. The minutes of the December 1, 2014 meeting included the addition of the following words to IV. New Business, #1: The Board also agreed that each member would create a prioritized list of Capital Improvements, to send via email, to Pam Blough prior to the January 5, 2015 meeting.

Yes: 5 No: 0

IV. New Business

- 1. Parks & Recreation 5 Community Master Plan** - Consultant Pam Blough was not able to make it to the meeting so this discussion has been postponed.
- 2. Dog Park** - Diane Schindlbeck, Pet Director for Clock Timeless Pets and Deborah Rewitzer, owner of Fur Crazy Pet Salon, were in attendance and presented to the Board their idea to add a fenced area for small dogs inside of the existing dog park. Ms. Schindlbeck and Ms. Rewitzer have obtained a quote for the addition and have also raised money to pay for it.

Ms. Schindlbeck and Ms. Rewitzer also shared with the Board their experiences with chairing last year's Heritage Festival Dog Walk, which rose close to \$1000, and guest bartending at Old Boy's which raised another \$400 to go towards Dog Park improvements. Ms. Schindlbeck and Ms. Rewitzer said that they are users of the dog park and have a lot of contacts, because of the businesses they are in, and would like to volunteer to be liaisons between dog park users and the Parks

Board. Ms. Schindlbeck and Ms. Rewitzer said they would also like to help get the advertizing signage going, along with fundraising for future needs and wants for the dog park such as agility equipment.

Manager **Burns** asked if there was a reason that the small dog area could not be added to the outside of the larger fenced area rather than take away from the existing park. Ms. Schindlbeck said they would love to be able to do that but proposed to have the area inside thinking that it would be more acceptable to the Board.

Ms. Schindlbeck and Ms. Rewitzer along with the **Board**, DPW Director **Belknap** and Manager **Burns**, discussed different ideas of where the small dog, dog park could be located on the outside of the existing fence and what obstacles they would have to work around.

Ms. Schindlbeck and Ms. Rewitzer said they would get a new quote for the fenced area on the outside and bring it back to the **Board** in February so the **Board** could make a recommendation to Council at the February or March meeting.

Manager **Burns** asked **Brower** if, since the dog park was his son's Eagle Scout project, they would be upset if the dog park was altered. **Brower** said no, his son's were done with their part of the project and would be fine with any changes.

Brower asked about the lack of dog park signage and acknowledging the contributors and supporters. **Burns** said she would ask Michele Yasenak or Michelle Allard about the signage and where that stood.

3. **Tanglefoot Park - Belknap** updated the Board on the bathroom renovations reporting that the new showers were in place but the floor epoxy would have to wait until the frost was out of the ground.

Schuitema asked why the new cement pads were not the same shape as previous one. **Belknap** said that would be a question for Wally **Stuhlmann** when he returns in the spring.

4. **Central Park - Belknap** reported that there was good and bad news for the ice rink. **Belknap** said that the ice rink was open on Saturday and it was great skating but the rain and temperature rise on Saturday evening and Sunday turned the rink to slush that refroze so now it was too bumpy to skate. **Belknap** said they would have to scoop out the bumpy ice and flood the rink again. **Belknap** said they had had great volunteers to help lay out the liner. **Belknap** also reminded everyone that Snow Jam was Saturday, February 21, 2015.

5. **Mill Point Park - Belknap** reported that the boat launch dock had been refurbished to match the color scheme of the newly refurbished kiosk and that all the boards on the dock had been replaced.

Belknap also told the board that he would be contacting URS with the findings of Edgewater Resources report of design flaws in the docks that caused their premature wearing and see what they would do to fix the damage.

Schuitema asked why the lights at Mill Point Park were out. **Belknap** said they think that a stake was driven through a line causing the outage and they had to find and correct this issue. **Schuitema** also mentioned that the lighting on the boardwalk near Old Boy's was out. **Belknap** said he would check into that.

7. **Lakeside Beach - Belknap** explained to the Board that they were planning on bringing sand in this spring to fill in where it had been eroding away over time. **Belknap** said they were also checking the budget for money to re-roof the restroom building.

V. Tree Board Meeting

1. **Tree City Nomination - Belknap** explained to the Board that each year the Village applies for Tree City USA status and that this year, due to removing all the diseased emerald ash trees, the ratio of tree planting verses removing and trimming did not look very favorable. **Belknap** said he would be sending a cover letter along with the application to explain why the Village had removed more trees than planted and hoped the Village would be able to retain its Tree City USA status.
2. **Tree Projects - Belknap** reported that they had accepted the low bid from Dale's Tree Service of \$450 to remove the overgrown trees behind the Post Office and were very happy with the results. **Belknap** also said that the tree removal at Central Park was on hold in hopes that the amount of snow would not be as great as last year and they would not have to remove the tree in order to make more room for piling snow. **Belknap** said the cost for that would be \$300.
3. **Tree Donation by Mrs. Sharon Rathbun - Belknap** told the Board that they had missed the window of opportunity to transplant the spruce tree for now and would have to wait until spring.

VI. Adjournment:

Motion by **Groenevelt**, seconded by **Brower**, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Bob McCulloch, Chairperson

Maryann Fonkert, Deputy Clerk