

Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources Committee
Meeting Minutes – DRAFT
August 18, 2016

1. Call to Order.

Chair Kolk called the August 18, 2016 meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room A of the McFarland Municipal Center.

Members Present: Dan Kolk, Clair Utter, Judy Sauer, Jacob Schkirkie, Chuck Rolfsmeyer, Greg Smith, Darrel Waldera, Kate Barrett, Rick Ruecking, and Jacob Tissue.

Members Absent: John Feldner

Staff Present: Assistant Public Works Director Jim Hessling.

Others Present: Roman Andrew(Troop 53), Wendy Andrew (Troop 53), Ray Andrew (Troop 53)

2. Public Comments

None

3. Review and possible approval of draft minutes of the Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources Committee meeting of July 21, 2016.

Motion by Clair Utter, second by Rick Ruecking, to approve the draft minutes of the Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources Committee meeting of July 21, 2016. Motion carries 10-0 by acclamation.

4. Presentation, discussion and possible approval of proposed Dog Park agility course.
Representative: Roman Andrew, member of Troop 53

Roman Andrew, representative of Troop 53, provided an overview of the proposal to add an agility course to the Village dog park. The goal of the agility course is to provide exercise while teaching agility at the same time. The equipment chosen was researched to be the most popular items currently at dog parks. The budget for the project is approximately \$300. The group will be selling Frisbees to help fundraise for the project. They hope to fundraise in September with installation and build dates to be in October.

The committee recommended the troop stay in contact with the local paper to provide updates as this may assist in obtaining donations for the project.

Motion by Jacob Tissue, second by Kate Barrett, to support the proposal as presented. Motion carried 10-0 by acclamation.

5. Discussion and possible approval to install a recognition plaque by the pier in McDaniel Park.

No representative was present to discuss the request. No action taken.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding the outfield lights and field alignment at Brandt Park.

No representative appeared to discuss the request. Item postponed to September meeting.

7. Preliminary discussion regarding 2017 budget items.

Assistant Public Works Director Jim Hessling provided an overview of proposed park upgrades for 2017. Items included:

McDaniels Park – extend parking lot, upgrade bathrooms, install bike racks & repair hub, new kiosk and sign, and install 2nd shelter at north end of park.

Brandt Park – New Lights and reconfigure diamonds to WIAA standards.

The Committee discussed the upgrades; however, more information will be necessary from the McFarland Softball Association regarding the proposal.

Arnold Larson Park/Bashford Street - Connect Lower Yahara trail from Arnold Larson Park along Bashford to Creamery.

The Committee discussed possible obstacles with connecting the Yahara Trail.

Discovery Garden – Development new park design for 2018 implementation.

The Committee increased the amount of the budget request to \$5000.

Apple Orchard – Create new master plan.

The Committee noted upgrade has been requested for the entire Schuetz Property Park, not just the apple orchard. The committee discussed the desire to revisit the purpose and vision for the park. The Committee noted a consultant should be brought in to assess the park.

Grandview Conservancy Trail – Boardwalk thru Grandview Conservancy. The figure is derived from adding additional funds for re-design of the plan, additional permitting associated with the Boardwalk trail.

Wm McFarland Parking Lot – Re-pave parking lot at soccer fields.

Tree Plantings – Plant trees to replenish EAB.

The Committee discussed specific areas within the Village such as Broadhead Street and Lewis Park shelter.

The Committee discussed additional projects for prioritization:

1. Phase II of Lewis Park
2. William McFarland Master plan
3. Purchase of property at the corner of Siggelkow Road and Erling Avenue and property adjacent to the ballpark on Terminal Drive for extra parking for Brandt Park. Pursuit of first rights of refusal for both properties.

4. Bird watching area for Lewis Park

The Committee will place prioritization of projects on the meeting agenda.

8. Discussion and possible recommendation regarding the Dog Park use and policy.

Discussion on creating a policy to help dog owners facilitate resolution regarding conflicts among dogs without involving the Police Department.

Item will be placed on a future agenda once there is a draft policy for review.

9. Public Works Director update.

No update given.

10. Adjournment.

Motion by Clair Utter, second by Dan Kolk to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Cassandra Suettinger, Village Clerk/Deputy Treasurer