

**Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes – DRAFT**  
**October 20, 2016**

**1. Call to Order.**

Chair Kolk called the October 20, 2016 meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Committee to order at 7:01 p.m. in the new Lewis Park Shelter on Highland Drive McFarland, Wisconsin.

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

Members Absent: Greg Smith

Staff Present: Public Works Director Allan Coville and Community Development Director Pauline Bonness

Others Present: Bill Kaether (6204 Forest Ridge Court) and Eric Miller (Waunakee)

**2. Public Comments**

Eric Miller spoke about his concerns regarding the new lighting over the hockey rink area. Eric believes the lighting will not be bright enough for the hockey rink and requested the Committee evaluate improving the lights. Eric was told that the hockey rink area will probably not be flooded this year due to new grass not being established. Staff will talk to lighting experts and evaluate the brightness of the lights to determine if a different type of lighting is needed.

**3. Review and possible approval of draft minutes of the Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources Committee meeting of September 15, 2016.**

The committee reviewed the minutes with minor corrections. The committee did not make a motion on the minutes.

**4. a.) Discussion and possible approval on request for a recognition plaque on the Egner Park basketball court.**

Representative: Bill Kaether

Bill Kaether, represented his request to place a stationary plaque (paid by him) for the basketball court at Egner Park. Bill would like to call the court “Chedd Court – Home of the 8 Foots” in recognition of his son who spearheaded the use of the court by local youth.

After much discussion, Chair Kolk told Mr. Kaether that the Committee was going to be reviewing a draft policy for naming or renaming of parklands, features and recreational facilities under the jurisdiction of the Village of McFarland. Chair Kolk told Mr. Kaether

that the Village would notify him of their decision regarding his request to name the court.

**b.) Discussion on landscaping, storm water and lighting at Lewis Park.**

Kate Barrett had requested this item be placed on the agenda. Kate expressed her concerns about some of the landscaping and storm water items in the park. Director Coville stated that the committee reviewed the park drawings prior to the construction of the park shelter which included landscaping. Some of the landscaping was not included in the final project due to monetary concerns. The committee is including a request for money in the 2017 budget for the planting of native plants by the shelter and also inclusion of a rain garden at the discharge end of the detention pond. Staff will work to have drawings for next park meeting to review proposed plantings and placement of the plantings.

**c.) Discussion on operation of Lewis Park Shelter.**

Director Coville passed out a draft “Lewis Park Shelter Operation” guide. The committee reviewed it and recommended the following guidelines for the new shelter:

- 1) Outside family bathrooms be opened from 7:00 am till 9:00 pm throughout the year.
- 2) The shelter itself be opened during the winter time from 7:00 am till 9:00 pm but not the kitchen area. The kitchen area would only be opened in the event someone rented the facility.
- 3) Jacob Tisue was going to talk to the Hockey Association to see if they would be interested in manning the kitchen area to provide snacks and use that as a fund raiser for the organization.
- 4) Summer time operation was tabled to be discussed at a later date.

This recommendation will be passed to the Village Board for final approval.

**d.) Discussion on the Jaeger Park dock replacement.**

Director Coville explained that the condition of the Jaeger Park dock was brought to the attention of the Public Works Department by Jacob Schkirkie. After review of the dock, staff recommends adding \$15,000 to the 2017 budget for the replacement of the dock.

**e.) Discussion on park review/improvement request form.**

Village Clerk Cassandra Suettinger, created a draft “Park Improvement /Maintenance/ Review Request” form which would be used if a resident had a specific request for a park. The committee thought this was a good idea and suggested minor changes to the form. Director Coville will work with Clerk Suettinger to make the changes then the form will be used for future requests. Thank you Clerk Suettinger.

**f.) Discussion on policy/ordinance for naming and recognition of Village Parks and facilities.**

Chair Kolk worked with Village Clerk Suettinger to develop a draft policy which was explained by Kolk to the committee. Kolk requested the committee members review the policy and submit comments to either himself, Clerk Suettinger or Director Coville by Monday October 31, 2016.

**g.) Discussion and final review of budget requests for 2017.**

Director Coville reviewed the 2017 capital item budget sheets that were discussed at the last Parks Meeting. The committee provided input to those items that could be pushed to 2018 if the Village Board did not fund all the projects.

**5. Public Works Director update.**

Beings the meeting was running long Director Coville did not provide an update.

**6. Adjournment.**

Motion by Utter, Second by Barrett, to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Allan Coville, Director Public Works