

PARK COMMITTEE

TOWN OF HOLLAND

May 24, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT	Chair Ben Filter, Naomi Bjergum, Karen Durnin and Doug Klenke
EXCUSED	Brian Meeter
OTHERS PRESENT	Abbey Nicewander (MRRPC), Lynn Konsela, Mike Flury and Marilyn Pedretti, Town Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Filter called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Notices were properly posted. Filter welcomed everyone and introduced himself.

MINUTES

Motion by Klenke/Bjergum to approve the minutes of January 27, 2021. **MOTION** carried.

CITIZENS CONCERNS: none given.

2021 PROJECTS

Fitness course (ninja equipment): Filter reported the equipment was installed and is well used already.

Arneson/Stephenson Park donation: Filter reported the parking lot has been installed as well as a pathway with a crosswalk directing visitors to the McGilvray Bridges. He noted the Friends of the McGilvray Bridges will be installing paths and signage.

Park inspections: Filter reported the handi-capped swings need replacement harnesses and Pedretti is working on that order. He reported the Hammes Park had some vandalism and a bushing went out on the zipline with the replacement under warranty.

Other maintenance concerns: Pedretti noted the Town crew suggested replacing the roof and siding on Shelter #1 next year.

HOLLAND ESTATES BALLFIELD

Mike Flury, W7815 Amsterdam Prairie Road, reported he is ready to move forward with his \$25,000 donation towards installing a baseball field. He provided several schematics and diagrams of possible field placement. Discussion followed concerning timeline, fencing, future parking and invoice reimbursement process.

Motion by Durnin/Bjergum to recommend putting the ballfield on the northwest corner of the park. **MOTION** carried unanimously. Motion by Klenke/Durnin to recommend paying the bill as the materials are needed. **MOTION** carried unanimously. Pedretti will draft a reimbursement process and contact County Zoning concerning any permits required.

FUTURE PROJECTS

Tobacco free parks: Filter reported that during the Comprehensive Plan update process, several citizens expressed a desire to see the Town parks tobacco free. He noted the Town has a “No Smoking” ordinance for the Town Hall that could be updated to include the parks. Discussion followed concerning signage and enforcement. Motion by Bjergum/Klenke to recommend to seek out prices of “tobacco free” metal signs for all of the parks. **MOTION** carried unanimously.

August Prairie east drainage area: Filter reviewed the information from Bill Kaiser, Federal Wildlife Service, outlining how to plan for a wildflower area in east drainage area of August Prairie. Item held over to next meeting.

Outdoor Recreation Plan: Filter introduced Abbey Nicewander from the Mississippi River Regional Planning Committee (MRRPC), who assisted with the Town's Comprehensive Plan Update. He suggested the MRRPC can provide some planning expertise in establishing an Outdoor Recreation Plan (ORP). Nicewander provided a draft ORP using the template from the County's plan. She noted the Town's current Long Range Plan is very good and suggested establishing high, medium and low priority goals. Nicewander also suggested providing pictures and narratives for each park. Discussion followed. Filter suggested one of the goals could be paving the Holland bike trail. Flury asked about the proposed trail along Old NA and Filter noted that focus for new trails will be discussed at the future ad-hoc committee on trail development. Flury, Durnin and Klenke volunteered to participate on that ad-hoc committee.

ADOPT COUNTY PLAN

Filter reported that the Town has never formally adopted the La Crosse County Outdoor Recreation Plan. He noted that adopting the plan will assist in future grant writing. Motion by Bjergum/Durnin to adopt the La Crosse County Outdoor Recreation Plan. **MOTION** carried unanimously.

FUTURE AGENDA AND NEXT MEETING

August Prairie East wildflower space, ad-hoc trail development report, Holland Estates ballfield update, draft Outdoor Recreation Plan and possible presentation by ORA.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 21st at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Bjergum/Klenke to adjourn. **MOTION** carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Pedretti
Town Clerk