

**TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE  
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD ("PRAB")  
Minutes of December 7, 2021 Meeting**

**In Attendance:** Karl Hinrichs, Norma Hill, Jennifer Clark, Sharon Weiss, Matt Trainor, Jennifer Giusti, Lisa Larsen, Matt Milim, Brian Baranaskas

**Absent:** Brendan Molloy, Saleem Hussain

**Minutes** of the November meeting accepted and approved - all in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS - GENERAL UPDATES**

**Replacing of Playgrounds:** Superintendent Trainor has received enough input and information from the community to move forward with a purchase order. We would like to spread the wealth across all four playgrounds including making IBM Community Park fully ADA compliant. A price sheet was distributed showing original costs for equipment and its installation, as well as costs for both with revisions and with / without PIP. Revisions include updates to swings and musical components, with price increases of the revisions and with / without PIP. Including PIP increases the price substantially - we can always do the playground install, use wood fiber, and do PIP at a later time. It was noted that bugs and ticks hide in wood fiber, which is not an issue with PIP.

Superintendent Trainor and Chairman Hinrichs will finalize options and forward on to Town Board for their feedback on the increased costs - the only question is whether or not to include the additional cost of PIP. They will ask to use recreation subdivision fees for increased pricing. Timing for playground install appears to be spring or summer of 2022 given current supply chain issues.

Matt Milim asked if anyone has consulted with Geri Mariano regarding ADA? Superintendent Trainor said that all playgrounds are ADA compliant by lowest standards. IBM Community Park will be specifically built for those with physical and neurological disabilities. Town residents can use any apparatus at any playground: the question is just to what degree.

**Lombardi Park Pavilion:** Superintendent Trainor got contractors to commit to a site meeting this week. Many contractors can work with concrete through the winter season – now in the process of getting quotes.

**Old Building at Lombardi Park:** Superintendent Trainor met again with specialist engineers. They have an overall concept with the building and surrounding area. The proposed building will keep the appearance integrity of the current building. The water supply for the entire park is housed in the basement of the building. It might make sense to install a new structure to supply the water source and/or move the water system to a different area. The heating system in the building is in need of replacement.

**Parks Staffing:** An offer to fill the open Park Groundskeeper position was extended to Richard Ware. Richard has accepted and his start date will be Monday 12/20.

**Lighting Proposal for Wampus Brook Park:** Superintendent Trainor has a proposal to move forward - engineering costs of \$20k. We will strive to keep the integrity of the park. Members Norma Hill and Jennifer Clark like and recommend the style of the lamp posts outside of Tazza as a suggestion. A lot may have to do with LED lightbulbs, but that is the responsibility of the engineers to determine based on specs. Member Clark wants to know the history of the current lamp posts and would like to see them auctioned off to raise money. She would like this idea to be an agenda item for the January 12, 2022 Town Board meeting.

**Beautification Committee - Wampus Park North Donation:** The Committee gave Superintendent Trainor a list of the items to order - 2 picnic tables and 2 mushrooms. He will choose the best location for items' placement based on electric and irrigation. The PRAB had agreed to keep items in line with nature. Member Norma Hill voiced great concern saying we can spend \$600k on five kids parks, there is no need to turn Wampus Brook Park into a kids' park. She finds plastic tables and plastic mushrooms distasteful - objection noted. Superintendent Trainor doesn't feel it's appropriate to renege now after the PRAB giving the Beautification Committee their blessing at last month's meeting.

**Wampus Park South:** Chairman Hinrichs inquired about permits status. Superintendent Trainor wants to finish other projects first and revisit this permit project again in the spring. Superintendent Trainor also said that Town Planner Adam Kaufman is not concerned with permits expiring and will update Chairman Hinrichs.

Small Bridge - Wampus Park North: Superintendent Trainor said it will take Parks staff six weeks to tackle the bridge from start to finish due to staffing issues - some park staff members have been reassigned.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Tennis/Basketball Courts Resurfacing in Spring 2022:** Superintendent Trainor reported that Town Board was skittish with RFP for courts resurfacing pre Covid-19 pandemic. He has the specs and old bid numbers. Pickleball lines will be added to the tennis courts, marked off in yellow. Matt Milim wants to know the cost for resurfacing Lombardi - \$32k. Mr. Milim also mentioned that the small exit area from the basketball court floods. He is wondering if we can put gravel there, or pitch it, or make a path - a very simple and quick job for the parks staff to handle.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45PM.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday 1/4