

TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD ("PRAB")
Minutes of February 4, 2020 Meeting

In Attendance: Karl Hinrichs, Brendan Molloy, Norma Hill, Jennifer Clark, Saleem Hussain, Todd Orlowski, Jennifer Giusti, Lisa Larsen

Absent: Lois Mallin, Dan Zenkel

Minutes of the January 7, 2020 meeting were accepted and approved.

Chairman Hinrichs officially welcomed Jennifer Clark as a PRAB new member.

Wampus Brook Park South: Superintendent Orlowski conducted a site walk with Tom of SaveATree, some members of the PRAB, as well as some other town officials. Councilman Hussain found the site visit very informative and recommended doing more visits to all our parks. Four additional trees deemed hazardous were marked and Asplundh Tree Expert Company cut three of the four. Superintendent Orlowski suggested consulting with Tom of SaveATree and have him mark the trees along the roadside that have to be removed. The Parks staff can do the work, and the tree company contracted by the Town can take down the more difficult trees that Parks does not have the equipment. There will still be a significant number of trees left along the brook. The objective is to thin out the area. The park's open space has many tree stumps – grass will not grow if the stumps are not removed properly. Discussion continued about improvements to the park including whether parking is necessary. Some PRAB members expressed concern for parking used for town overflow and not for patrons of the park. The PRAB continues to finalize a vision for Wampus South before addressing it with the Town Board.

CXT Bathrooms for Community Park: Superintendent Orlowski reported that he received a phone call from the installer that the building was built and ready for delivery on Veterans Day. That was a surprise based on previous communications with the company. Discussion ensued regarding location and placement of the building. Various locations included the original site, a portion of the parking lot, the small playground area, and behind Backstop #1. Some PRAB members are opposed to removing the small playground; others are not in favor of the original location due to distance from the fields. Councilman Hussain asked if there is any benefit to putting in a restroom trailer to evaluate its use. Chairman Hinrichs responded that a portable trailer is a world of difference from a permanent structure. He would be willing to have a temporary trailer, but only if it is placed closer to Backstop #1. Knowing the potential costs for developing each site is important. Councilman Hussain asked for a cost comparison for all three sites, and Karl Hinrichs would like to have a site walk with Joe Cermele of Kellard Sessions.

Pool Update: Councilman Hussain continues his research on the purchase of the pool and is interested in making a fact sheet of what we know about the process and timeline of taking over the complex. He is planning to talk with former Councilman, Steve D'Angelo, who will be in town next week. Also, he plans to reach out to members of the Budget and Finance Committee, and possibly Chris Yarosak from ALE. PRAB members want to know what the next step is to actually purchasing the pool and close the deal. There are necessary improvements and a plan needs to be developed. Council member Hussain said there are risks and the Board needs to be able to comfortably invest in the pool.

The meeting was closed and adjourned at 8:20PM.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 3/3 at 6:15PM.