

TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD ("PRAB")
Minutes of January 5, 2016 Meeting

In Attendance: Steve D'Angelo, Charlene Decker, Norma Hill, Susan Lichten, Brendan Molloy, Matt Trainor, Dan Zenkel

Absent: Lisa Larsen, Frank Lattarullo, Karl Hinrichs

The Minutes of the December 1, 2015 meeting were approved.

Lisa Larsen recently underwent knee replacement surgery. In her absence, Dan Zenkel agreed to serve as Secretary of the meeting.

Board Membership & New Board Member: At the end of the 2015, Joe DiMauro resigned from the PRAB. Steve D'Angelo reported that the Town Board has appointed Brendan Malloy to the vacant PRAB position. Joe Dimauro was the Chair, and the Chair position remains open. Steve reported that the Town Board is scheduled to consider the appointment of a new Chair at its next meeting.

General Review of Department Focus for 2016 - Projects and Repairs:

Matt distributed an updated list of required repairs and proposed capital projects.

Vehicle Storage - Parks Department vehicles and equipment and Town maintenance vehicles and equipment are currently stored in separate locations. Matt reported that there is an ongoing discussion about storing all town vehicles in one place. Pursuing that initiative will have implications for the Lombardi garage. Matt explained that many of the projects on the list are on hold pending the Town Board's determination on the vehicle storage issue.

Senior Bus Vandalized - Matt reported that the new senior bus was vandalized. Damage was limited. PRAB members recommended that the Recreation Department consider installing surveillance cameras in vehicle and equipment storage areas since the cost of such cameras is modest (less than \$200/camera).

Playground Re-inspection - Matt reported that all playgrounds will be re-inspected in the spring. All playgrounds were inspected several years ago, and all of the major issues identified in that inspection report have been addressed.

Winkler Pond - The water level in the pond is the lowest it's been in years. Parks Department personnel determined that the cause is a broken intake pipe which an adjacent homeowner is responsible to repair. The pipe has not been repaired. The fire department draws water from the pond, so the repairs must be made.

Betsey Sluder Preserve - Trees are being cleaned up in this park. It was suggested that parks clean up is an excellent Eagle Scout or Boy Scout project.

Hergenhan Windows - are gradually being replaced.

Dan Zenkel suggested that the next report omit completed items.

It was agreed that the repair reports will be provided to the Board quarterly, so the next report will be provided at the Board's April meeting.

Wampus Brook Park South Update - The archeological report came back clear. The Conservation Board made a couple of minor suggestions to Adam. Kellard Engineering is working on the final plan which will be forwarded to the Planning Board before its January 25 meeting. Upon Planning Board approval, the project will be presented to the Town Board, and, once approved, will be put out for bid. Realistically, construction will begin in Fall 2016 or Winter 2017.

IBM Track - Matt has been in contact with Partac Peat, which can supply the material for the new track. He received material samples which he brought to the meeting. He is getting the names of other towns that have tracks that have been rehabilitated using this material. All agreed that it would be wise for us to view some of these projects. Matt will try and set up some visits.

Camp Update - Mindy and Mike spoke with the Superintendent of Schools who agreed that the Town can again run Camp Kickapoo at the Coman Hill School. The camp dates have yet to be set. Matt hopes to run camp from July 6 to August 12 which should allow enrollment numbers to get back to 2014 levels. Last year, camp ran from June 28 to August 7. Next year, school begins after Labor Day.

Pool Update - Matt reported that work on the operation of the pool for next summer has begun. Unlike last year, there will not be a mad scramble to open the pool. Matt reported that the Department has a good handle on the maintenance issues. The only open issue is whether the family membership age cutoff will be 18 or 21. Steve D'Angelo reported that ALE is in the process of negotiating an agreement with Key Bank that will allow the Town to continue to operate the pool.

Community Park Paving Project - Kellard will complete the striping plan within next couple of days, and the striping will be completed by spring or perhaps earlier if the weather holds.

Naming of Parks Facilities and Memorials - Dan distributed a copy of a written, parks naming policy that he found on the internet. Matt will look for other policies relating to naming parks and will also research policies relating to the acceptance of donations for smaller items like benches. He will present his findings at the next PRB meeting.

Senior Citizen / Active Older Adults Programs - Liz Thomas, Senior Recreation Leader for Senior Citizens, will join us for March PRAB meeting. Board members reiterated their support, expressed at the December meeting, for developing programs for physically active seniors. Such programs could include hiking in our many town parks and snow shoeing.

Monthly Visits by Recreation and Parks Staff for Q & A - These visits will commence in February. The intent is to allow staff to introduce themselves to the Board members and to field questions. Jen Giusti, who will manage the Town Pool, will attend the February meeting. Liz Thomas will attend the March meeting, and Parks Foreman Don Brandes will attend the April meeting.

Gazebo Wedding Request - Two New Rochelle residents, who are holding their wedding reception at Fortina Restaurant, asked to hold the ceremony at the Gazebo. After discussion, the PRAB agreed to recommend that the couple be charged \$200 to use the Gazebo and be required to post an additional, \$100 security deposit. The recommendation will go to the Town Board for approval.

Next Meeting - Scheduled for February 2.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Zenkel

Meeting Secretary