

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

In Attendance: Susan Lichten, Karl Hinrichs, Frank Lattarullo, Norma Hill, Charlene Decker, Matt Trainor, Lisa Larsen, Don Brandes

Absent: Brendan Molloy, Dan Zenkel, Stephen D'Angelo

The Minutes of the March 1, 2016 meeting were accepted and approved.

Update on Current Capital Projects - IBM 1 Backstop, IBM Parking Lot and Clove Road Dugouts

The backstop is completed; we are just waiting for netting. The parking lot is completed and striped; the owners of the Bubble love it. Two quotes for dugouts are in, we are awaiting a third; we expect the project to be in the \$15,000 area.

Update on Wampus Brook Park South

Town Board has approved to go out to bid; bid documents will be out in two weeks. Construction is expected to begin late spring and completion by late summer.

Update on Spring / Summer Maintenance

See *Introduction of Don Brandes, Parks Foreman* below; the light winter helped get a jump start on spring and summer maintenance.

Camp and Pool 2016 Updates

The schools have approved our camp dates of Tuesday, July 5th through Friday, August 12th. Registration is ongoing and Matt Trainor will provide enrollment numbers in the coming months.

Continued Discussion on Naming of Facilities and Memorials in Parks and Review of Draft Documents

Two handouts, one from Matt Trainor and one from Dan Zenkel, were distributed and discussed; a decision was made to focus on the Dan Zenkel version. Matt Trainor will make the edits discussed and will redistribute the document at the May meeting.

Introduction of Don Brandes, Parks Foreman

Don Brandes has 38 years in the field and the advantage with Don is that he has knowledge on the parks side of things, as well as the recreation side, having worked in both fields over the course of his 38 years. He has five more full-time staff, plus will hire some seasonal help for the spring and summer months. Don distributed a handout listing all of the parks and areas with the acreage of all the areas maintained by the parks department.

The parks staff keeps busy during the winter months. There are four major areas with buildings to maintain - Hergenhan Recreation Center, Community Center in North White Plains, IBM Community Park, Lombardi Park. If the winter is mild, we do tree pruning, inside projects and general catching up. If

it is a snowy winter, there are seven miles of sidewalks to maintain in addition to the building parking lot areas, as well as assisting the Highway Department with snow removal.

Currently, pre-season prep starts now; the parks department is lining the fields and getting them ready for play and getting the playgrounds ready for spring. After Mother's Day, we shift to doing work for the Beautification Committee. Next, it's getting the pool ready and then doing work to get the summer camps up and running. Everything wraps up in July and then we start with the fall turf maintenance program. We no longer use pesticides - we have the same rules as the schools do. Wampus Brook Park undergoes a major cleanup twice a year, prior to Folderol and prior to Frosty Day.

The Parks Department staff does most of the small equipment maintenance; vehicles go to the Highway Department for maintenance. Presently, machines have to be transported by trailer back and forth to North White Plains for use there.

If there was an unlimited budget...there is a critical need for seasonal help from the end of March to the end of May. Don will lose sleep...if there is damage from a big storm; safety is first concern - there shouldn't be any hazards. Maintenance is proactive, not reactive.

Armonk Baseball League Proposal for Renovation of Town Hall Field

Handout distributed - ABL proposes to upgrade Town Hall Field to improve the safety and playing for the Town's youngest Little League baseball players. These improvements include installing a new chain link fencing around the field; replacing the existing backstop fencing; constructing enclosed dugouts; installing concrete pads to support replacement dugouts and bleachers; and the addition of new foul ball protective netting using newly installed supports/concrete footings. The anticipated cost of improvements is \$75,000, a portion of which ABL proposes to help fund if ABL knows in advance that the field will be around for many years to come. Matt Trainor will discuss this with Administrator Joan Goldberg and the timing of the project is expected to commence as soon as funding from the Town can be made available.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at 6:15 PM.