

TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD ("PRAB")
Minutes of January 7, 2020 Meeting

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

Absent: None

Minutes of the December 3, 2019 meeting were accepted and approved.

Chairman Hinrichs introduced and welcomed Jennifer Clark as a prospective new member and thanked her for her interest in joining us at this meeting.

Wampus Brook Park South: Handout distributed – ‘Specifications for Tree Care and Removal’. The Advisory Board discussed the trees along the brook and reviewed the proposal for removing and caring for the various trees on the property. Additionally, Parks staff plans to clean up the lower bank area inside the park and cut back the small dead trees, brush, and debris. Several PRAB members were surprised at the number of trees being removed along the perimeter. The trees recommended for removal were hazardous and/or invasive species. It was mentioned that before planting new trees, the tree stumps must be removed. Superintendent Orlowski recommended a site visit so that the Advisory Board could walk the property to have a better understanding of the work. An agreement was made to set up a site visit for 1/18/20, or a mutually convenient future date. The site visit would include Tom Marino of SaveATree. Some members were concerned that step one may be opening up the area too much and identifying step two needs to wait until we really see results on the care and removal of trees. Members need to share their vision for Wampus South and move forward in a collective direction. Also, discussions regarding a proposed parking lot and the number of parking spaces proposed – a final decision has not been reached. The goal is to have a visually appealing gateway into the town.

CXT Bathrooms for Community Park: Superintendent Orlowski reported that the CXT installer would like to provide input when a site plan is developed so that the sub-base of the building is done accurately. A soil test must be done for the small playground area if the location is changing to that area of the park. Following the results, a recommendation to Town Board assuming the soil conditions are acceptable.

Garden Club – Wampus Brook Park Main Bridge: Lois Mallin advised that the Garden Club has plans for the two flower beds on each end of the bridge. The group will create a proposal and present to the PRAB.

Superintendent’s Report: Superintendent Orlowski spoke about results of the pool survey that was sent to the 2019 pool membership – about 50 responses were received (handout distributed). The survey questions comprised of Use, Price, Concession, Events, Locker Rooms, Pool Decking, Kiddie Pool, and Entrance Area. Overall, people felt satisfied to excellent with the pool and its operation. Dan Zenkel suggested sending a letter to the membership - thank you for taking the time to complete the survey, here is what you said, and here is what we are going to do. The ultimate goal is for the town to finalize ownership of the pool. Councilman Hussain will get clarification and report as to where we stand at the next PRAB meeting – what’s the timeline and/or odds for ownership?

Superintendent Orlowski spoke about 2019 parks and recreation accomplishments. Accomplishments include Community Park fence repairs, Betsy Sluder and Duck Pond dam restorations, NCCC ballfield renovation, Town Hall field rebuild and repair, Winkler tennis courts, Parks Department building repair and new roof, and the Wampus Brook Park bridge replacement.

The meeting was closed and adjourned at 7:40PM.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 2/4 at 6:15PM.