

**TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD ("PRAB")
Minutes of October 11, 2022 Meeting**

In Attendance: Karl Hinrichs, Norma Hill, Jennifer Clark, Brendan Molloy, Brian Baranaskas, Matt Trainor, Lisa Larsen, Matt Milim

Absent: Jeff Scott, Sharon Weiss

Minutes: Minutes of the September 6th meeting were accepted and approved.

OLD BUSINESS - UPDATES

Playground Replacement Project: The playground at Lombardi Park and the smaller playground at IBM Community Park are almost completed - just waiting for engineered wood fiber to be delivered this week. Playground equipment installation at Winkler Park started today - it was delayed due to rain - and then the North White Plains Community Center playground will be last. Superintendent Trainor expects that all four playgrounds will be fully open beginning of November.

Hergenhan Building: The fire alarm system has been replaced.

IBM Community Park - Art Show and Field Conditions: The track field was in better condition after the art show than in previous years - we will still aerate and seed. Superintendent Trainor doesn't know if staffing levels will be enough to accomplish all jobs. With one vacant position, two new hires bring the total from six to seven. The real test will be late February or early March - that's when we will see if a team of seven are sufficient to perform all needed work. Councilman Milim would like Superintendent Trainor to speak with Town Board at budget meeting. Matt Trainor needs to justify the need for another body - manpower alone will not improve field conditions. Seven are budgeted for, he will discuss what can be done if he had eight. A lot of experience was lost through retirement.

Lombardi Park Old Recreation Building: The building take-down has been put off since Superintendent Trainor located replacement parts for the current boiler in the amount of \$1,500. Member Clark feels the building is unsafe and shows negligence on the part of the town. Superintendent Trainor had concerns that the heating system was not going to last through the winter - the water system is housed in the building. Councilman Milim will raise the issue with Town Board in three weeks after budget work sessions have completed. He will suggest that Town Board give the PRAB an answer or set up a work session with PRAB members to discuss.

North White Plains Community Center: The same company who installed the fire alarm system at Hergenhan will be installing a new system, as well as adding sensors and strobes. Construction is not yet completed. The current gym floor will remain and not be replaced. It will be sanded, buffed, painted, etc... and pickleball lines will be added. The gym is not air conditioned, there is only heat, and a multi-surface flooring that was being considered will only expand and contract.

Pool: Councilman Milim reported that there are hurdles and the process may take four to six months, but with talks with the Attorney General and the support by ALE and Chris Yaroscak, that the town will likely own the pool. Town Board is okay with doing some capital project work before the town owns the pool - perhaps replacing the pool deck and resurfacing the inside of the pool. A pool cover will be added to the expenditures if in fact the resurfacing gets done. Councilman Milim also said that it is extremely important to have a concession vendor - we must break the cycle.

Recreation Programs: Fall programs have started and are well attended; revenue has come in over budget.

Department Staff: With the retirement of Mimi Flanagan and the resignation of Paula Widell-Pugliese, there are two open positions within the department. We have a candidate in mind and are working with civil service. There is not a viable list because the test hasn't been given in seven years.

Wampus Brook Park Lighting: A proposal with a few revisions to complete a partial survey of Wampus Brook Park is on the 10/12 Town Board agenda.

Wampus Brook Park North Bridge: Bridge replacement will be done in-house over the next few months and we will make sure work does not conflict with Frosty Day which is Sunday 11/27.

Wampus Brook Park South: The grading plan and permits have been updated - work will begin in the spring – as a joint effort between Parks and Highway departments.

Beautification Committee Mushrooms: The mushrooms cannot stand on their own. Member Molloy had the brilliant idea to photo shop them within different parts of Wampus Brook Park. Superintendent Trainor will do this and send an email with photos attached to the PRAB. Councilman Milim reminded that we will take the Beautification Committee's advice on mushroom replacement, but that the PRAB has the final decision.

FUTURE PROJECTS - DISCUSSION ON FEASIBILITY OF FUTURE PROJECTS

Chairman Hinrichs feels it makes sense for PRAB members to break into teams - TBD - of one, two, or three, to become experts on a specific topic.

- Improving Fields - Jennifer Clark, Brian Baranaskas
- Bicycle Paths - Jeff Scott
- Walking / Hiking Trails - Jeff Scott
- Improve Pool - Brendan Molloy
- Dog Park -
- Wampus Brook Park South - Norma Hill, Karl Hinrichs

Next Meeting: Tuesday 11/1

The meeting adjourned at 8:10PM.