

VILLAGE OF MCFARLAND

Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes

Tuesday, March 3, 2026 - 6:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL.

Trustee Fessler called the regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee to order at 6:30 PM in the Community Room. This meeting was also held via Zoom webinar.

Members present: Trustee Fessler, Trustee Leamy, Anita Iwanski, Sarah Kuba, Tanya Lancaster, Lori Wisnicky

Members not present: Anna Bartz

Staff Present: Village Administrator Matt Schuenke, Public Works Director Lee Igl, Parks Superintendent Sayer Larson, and Assistant to the Public Works Director Aimee Irwin

2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

- a. *This is an opportunity for attendees to provide public comment on matters that are not on the agenda. Attendees desiring to provide public comment on specific items on the agenda may do so at the time that agenda item is brought up. Zoom attendees wishing to speak should type their name, address, and the relevant agenda item in the Q&A feature within the online meeting platform. Zoom attendees may also register in support or opposition of an item through the Q&A feature. In person attendees should fill out a public comment form and turn into the meeting chairperson. When you are called upon to speak, state your name, address, and provide your public comment. Please adhere to the 3-minute time limit. Written comments will not be read into the record during the meeting but may be sent to public.works@mcfarland.wi.us to be included with the agenda materials.*

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

- a. *Motion to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2026, Parks & Recreation Committee meeting.*

Motion by Kuba, seconded by Trustee Leamy, to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2026, Parks & Recreation Committee meeting. Motion carries 6 - 0 - 0.

4. BUSINESS.

- a. *Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding a proposal from Parkitecture for Cedar Ridge Playground design services*

Igl provided an overview of the proposal for Cedar Ridge Park playground replacement, which would include creating a conceptual plan along with committee and public involvement.

- Iwanski asked for clarification regarding the need for Parkitecture services versus replacing the playground. Igl explained that Parkitecture will help provide the specialized support to review options including the location of the playground within the park.
- Iwanski asked if the intent would be to replace the existing playground with a

similar playground set. Igl explained that staff would like to gain public input from the neighborhood to see what the desire would be at this park.

- Iwanski asked if the village has and would involve Parkitecture and include public input for future, similar improvements. Igl explained that public input is important to gauge what is desired for now and the future. Igl added that involving Parkitecture allows the village to utilize their specialized knowledge of current industry trends as well as other local community parks.

Motion by Trustee Leamy, seconded by Wisnicky, to recommend approval to the Village Board regarding a proposal from Parkitecture for Cedar Ridge Playground design services in the amount of \$15,908. Motion carries 6 - 0 - 0.

b. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding a proposal from Parkitecture for Arnold Larson Park conceptual site plan

Igl provided an overview of the previous conceptual site plan for Arnold Larson Park and the desire to engage Parkitecture's services to update the plan.

- Trustee Leamy asked for clarification if the committee's recommendation was to hold off on Arnold Larson Park following Community Park approval. Igl responded that this was likely why the plan from 2020 was not approved by the committee.
- Iwanski asked when funds were included in the budget for design and build. Irwin responded that the project is included in the long-term capital improvement plan with design in 2031 and build in 2032.
- Trustee Leamy asked if complaints had been received about the park. Igl responded that some events have chosen other sites due to the lack of amenities.

Committee members discussed the need for a conceptual site plan update and whether to move forward with this at this time.

Schuenke explained that one goal of this plan would be to aid in capital improvement planning that will occur later this year.

- Lancaster asked if the plans from the Plan Commission could be reviewed related to the park. Schuenke explained those plans were not advanced.

Blake Theisen of Parkitecture provided insight regarding additional proposal options that could be presented, including the estimate of removing the 3-D rendering from the proposal.

Motion by Trustee Leamy, seconded by Lancaster, to recommend staff to provide an updated proposal from Parkitecture for design services for bathrooms and electricity planning within the scope of the current plan. Motion by Trustee Leamy, seconded by Lancaster to withdraw the motion.

Motion by Trustee Fessler, seconded by Trustee Leamy to recommend approval to the Village Board regarding the proposal from Parkitecture with changes as noted during

the meeting. Motion carries 6-0-0.

c. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding a proposal from Parkitecture for William McFarland Park site plan update

Igl provided an overview of the proposal from Parkitecture to update the master plan from 2019 for William McFarland Park. Igl explained that the plan includes inviting youth baseball next month to share their future needs.

- Trustee Fessler asked why the enclosed proposal was cheaper than Arnold Larson. Blake Thiesen explained that the proposed cost is less due to not including 3-D renderings.
- Trustee Leamy asked how much is included within the budget for this plan update. Trustee Fessler responded that about \$100,000 is included in the budget for plan and design. Schuenke added that these funds are borrowed. Therefore, these would be adjusted to meet the proposed fee amount.

Motion by Trustee Leamy, seconded by Kuba, to recommend approval to the Village Board regarding a proposal from Parkitecture for William McFarland Park site plan update in the amount of \$13,764. Motion carries 6 - 0 - 0.

d. Discussion regarding a playground replacement at Cedar Ridge Park

Blake Thiesen of Parkitecture explained the goal of the Cedar Ridge Park replacement is not to flip the entire park but to focus on the existing area of the playground. Thiesen reminded the committee that the gas line that runs through the park.

Committee members discussed various ideas and suggestions for the playground. Suggestions included changing the location of the current playground area to the northwest corner. Committee members recommended gaining neighborhood input if the playground area is moved.

e. Review and discussion regarding the Arnold Larson Park conceptual site plan

Blake Thiese of Parkitecture said that one of the goals of the plan, based on the discussion during the proposal business item, would be bathroom options and obtaining updated cost estimates for the existing plan.

Committee members discussed ideas and suggestions for the park. Trustee Fessler expressed interest in evaluating if a precast restroom, similar to the one installed at Highland Oaks Park, would be a good fit at Arnold Larson Park.

f. Review and discussion regarding the William McFarland Park Master Plan

Blake Thiesen of Parkitecture presented the previous Master Plan for William McFarland Park to the committee. Thiesen explained that the first step would include updating the plan to existing conditions, then the focus would be on gaining public input about future needs or suggestions.

- Iwanski asked if there is a placeholder for a playground within the plan. Thiesen responded that a spot is planned at the park for a playground.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

a. Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by Trustee Leamy, seconded by Wisnicky, to adjourn at 8:12 PM.

Pursuant to law, written notice of this meeting was given to the public and posted on the public bulletin board in accordance with Open Meetings Law.

Respectfully submitted,
Aimee Irwin
Assistant to the Public Works Director