

Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources Committee Meeting Minutes August 26, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL. Meeting was called to order at 6:44 p.m. via Zoom by Village Trustee and Chair Carrie Nelson. Roll call: Nelson, trustee Justin Rupert, Dan Kolk, Sarah Kuba, TJ Jerke, Tanya Lancaster, Katharine Pease, Darrell Waldera, David Wilson. Members absent: John Feldner.

Staff present: Matt Schuenke, Village Administrator; Jim Hessling, Public Works Director, Sayer Larson, Parks Superintendent, and Phil McDade, Public Works staff. Also, Blake Theisen of Parkitecture + Planning consultants.

2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES. Gina Newell, 6027 Overlook Dr., requested that brush at the Urso Dog Park be cut back to avoid potential lost dogs and help with mosquito abatement.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

a. Discussion and action regarding the minutes from the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Committee meeting held on July 22, 2021. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Rupert, to approve the minutes. Motion approved 6-0-3 with Jerke, Lancaster and Waldera abstaining.

4. BUSINESS.

a. Discussion and follow-up from the Public Information Meeting held regarding the draft master plans for William McFarland and Community Parks. Committee members discussed with Theisen and Schuenke the draft master plans for each park, and reviewed the comments made at the public hearing on the plans held prior to the meeting. Committee members discussed spacing around various elements planned for William McFarland Park, improvements to the skate park as well as its location and size, and linking the bike path to other bike paths in the village and county.

b. Discussion regarding the draft and development of a Park System Capital Improvement Plan. Schuenke said the village's available money for park projects has notably increased due to the collection of park impact fees from new housing and business development in recent years. He said potential projects that could be finished in 2021 include the disc golf course at Urso-Schuetz Park and the aquatics facility feasibility study. Schuenke also said that two projects that could be done in 2022 include: mass grading at the Community Park to prepare for soccer field development; and construction of an eight-court pickleball facility at William McFarland Park.

c. Discussion regarding a plan for goose abatement. Larson said the goose population this spring and summer had noticeably increased at both Jaeger and McDaniel Park, with upwards of 140 geese at McDaniel at some points. The committee discussed options such as: oiling eggs to prevent live births; disruptive lights and noise; and physically removing the geese and then killing them. Waldera said the last option would likely result in community opposition. Kolk said the increase geese population negates improvements the village has made in recent years to McDaniel Park, as their presence inhibits full use of the park.

d. Presentation of the Parks Superintendent's monthly report. Larson discussed brush management at the dog park and the use of native plants in village parks and open spaces through the Sustain Dane program.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

a. Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

6. ADJOURNMENT. Rupert motioned, Pease seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 9-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.