

**VILLAGE OF PLEASANT PRAIRIE
PARK COMMISSION
Village Hall, Auditorium
9915 39th Avenue
Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin 53158
January 4, 2005
6:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Pleasant Prairie Park Commission was held on Tuesday, January 4, 2005, at 6:00 p.m.. Present were Michaeline Day, Glenn Christiansen, Rita Christiansen, Dino Laurenzi, Bill O'Toole, Greg Scheppler and Mike Serpe. Also present were Mike Pollocoff, Village Administrator, John Steinbrink, Jr., Terry Cooper and Judith Baternik, Clerical Secretary.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. MINUTES - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2004**

Michaeline Day:

Thank you. In your minutes you received the meeting of December 7, 2004.

Mike Serpe:

I have something to comment on. I was quoted in there as saying a few things, and I was not at the meeting.

Michaeline Day:

There is a correction for the minutes that Mike Serpe was here but he was excused absent.

--:

Page 6.

Michaeline Day:

So if we could make those corrections. Did anybody else have any other corrections? If there's no other corrections, can I have a motion to accept?

--:

So moved.

Mike Serpe:

Second.

Michaeline Day:

All in favor?

Voices:

Aye.

Michaeline Day:

Approved.

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Review the Request For Proposals of a Master Park Plan (M. Pollocoff).

Mike Pollocoff:

What we need to do tonight is a little bit of table work. As I looked at preparing the RFP for the master park plan and looking at the SEWRPC model, one of the things I need some policy direction on is identifying those areas that we have acquired as open spaced lands right now that we want to either maintain as open space or put that into active recreation. The comprehensive land use plan identifies those areas where we want to do that as the Village develops and people subdivide and dedicate land to the Village what's going to be open space and what's going to be recreation. But the Village has acquired large tracts of land that we may want to take a look at. As I say, if we gather around the table, look at how those land uses would dovetail in with the existing master plan. And I'd carve areas of open space to be recreation sites, your typical park with playground or various amenities, or what do we want to leave as open space. And that will help us structure the RFP, so when the consultants bring their response back to us, it will narrow the scope of work rather than having them go through all the open space and say, okay, this should all stay open space or this should all be active recreation. I think we'd be paying for a lot of work that we don't necessarily want to pay for. Now, in some areas we just may toss it up and say you give us a proposal to the consultant.

So, if we could gather around the map and it shouldn't take too long. We'll go over this site by site. It may be best for you to just kind of get up there with us and keep a note on what park sites we're looking at. This map here is the comprehensive map

(Inaudible)

. . . where it says neighborhood park, that's a conservancy area, a lot of lands that are just green are those lands where we may want to take a look at to make it all open space? Do we carve that up and make it open space? Some of the hands off green area are the Chiwaukee Prairie and that's pretty much open space. We're not going to be working too

much with that, and again same thing with the Des Plaines, although there are a few marginal areas that could be suitable for some limited active park use. One would be up here by Chateau Eau Plaines there's a stand of woods where you could put a small playground set and a picnic table. Not something really big and intensive, but it would be something that neighborhood could take and make use of.

Another one that's kind of a little bit off the radar is over here by Unit W. There's a piece of land that's zoned park and rec. It's wetlands that were filled before I got here just adjacent to the old Town Club. That's an area we may want the consultant to take a look and say, hey, the wetlands are gone. The only way you're going to get the wetlands back is to haul all the fill out that's been there for who knows how long. There isn't a traditional park in that area in that north part of Carol Beach. Do we want to make that area a park? So this is kind of how the land use site lays out. The tans are low/medium residential. The yellow is the lowest density residential, and then tan is low/medium. Low/medium would be, as an example—

William O'Toole:

You have Prairie Trails. Is that Prairie Trails there?

Mike Pollocoff:

That's Prairie Ridge.

William O'Toole:

That you show as lower medium?

Mike Pollocoff:

Upper medium.

William O'Toole:

And this is low?

Mike Pollocoff:

Right.

William O'Toole:

So Chateau and River Oaks are low?

Mike Pollocoff:

Right. And the low is basically that quarter acre sized lot. And this is higher. Even though these lots are about the same size as Chateau, you've got multi family. So the density is not determined just by the size of the lots there. It's determined by all the uses

in the neighborhood.

William O'Toole:

So if we could stick with Prairie Ridge for a minute, this open space here is Village property. What is that, in your mind, suitable for right now, just open space?

Mike Pollocoff:

That's not Village property. That's neighborhood park. But that was land that the Village got V.K. to give to Unified for park and open space.

Mike Serpe:

. . . school, right?

Mike Pollocoff:

Right. And we have a dedication and easement over that land that we can use that.

Rita Christiansen:

As a park?

Mike Pollocoff:

As a park whenever school is on session or for anything the parks want to use. But we don't own it.

Michaeline Day:

So this is at Pleasant Prairie School then?

Mike Pollocoff:

Right. The blue is the school. This is where the ball fields are.

Michaeline Day:

So that's actually Unified's land then?

Mike Pollocoff:

Right, but they've given us an easement to be able to use it. If we didn't get that, we'd have to give the impact fee money back to V.K. As of October 1st this is the land we own. As you can see, just compare the Des Plaines, a lot more area is green than what we own. And we'll keep areas in open space through the zoning without having to acquire it, so the floodplain will stay controlled. But we do own significant pieces of land up along here. It's just that one area I was saying maybe we could take a look at that. It's right up here. It's kind of a high knob. That would be at the end of 118th and

about 83rd.

William O'Toole:

It dead ends up here.

Mike Pollocoff:

It would be to 80th. As you can see here. we've acquired more land in the ball diamonds here. I've been approached by this owner here who wants to have the Village take an option on this property to purchase it. We could probably pick the option up for a couple thousand dollars. He wants \$230,000, we have it assessed at \$155,000. We could have an appraisal done and see what the real value is and let him do an appraisal and see what that value is. I think he would sell. He could split that parcel. We could object as our plan for it to be a park and not residential.

Michaeline Day:

Where is this one?

Mike Pollocoff:

That would be that bigger parcel right here.

Michaeline Day:

Next to where Hussey's was on the other side?

Mike Pollocoff:

Next to the parking lot.

Mike Pollocoff:

You can see here right here really well.

--:

This is the north one.

Mike Pollocoff:

Right. And then this lady here has also come to us and also offered to sell as that low lying property for \$100,000. That's next to where Hussey's was. It sits really low.

--:

That doesn't include that old . . . the next door portion of it?

Mike Serpe:

What kind of use are we getting out of Carol Beach Park, for example? What are they doing with the park? Baseball?

--:

When you say Carol Beach Park you mean over by 11th?

Mike Serpe:

Yes.

--:

There's a softball field there and a playground.

Mike Serpe:

I know it's being used but I'm asking—

Mike Pollocoff:

Just by the neighborhood kids. I don't think the softball program is using it anymore.

--:

I talked to Chris ???. He's telling some teams where all the kids are from, the east end, if they want to practice there versus driving all the way down to Prairie Springs Park. So I think there might be some teams that are practicing there also.

Mike Serpe:

So when we're looking at doing something with parks, how do we want to look at those to develop this as far as what kind of use we want to see in those parks?

Mike Pollocoff:

I think where there's some higher density, I think you want something where some activity takes place. The developers, and you know this from the Plan Commission, they'll give us anything . . . but identify a good piece of property that can be made into a basketball court or a tennis court or softball.

--:

Wouldn't we be better off in those areas where we do have marked as major parks and neighborhood parks, instead of putting a neighborhood park in down here and then spending the money to upgrade the picnic tables and whatnot all, is we've got a very nice park right here that kind of takes care of this area, is maybe upgrade that, and where we don't have a neighborhood park is to focus putting that into play and use our money more

wisely that way instead of trying to gobble up pieces of property. We can't afford to do anything with it anyway because we don't have the money.

William O'Toole:

Then we just add another maintenance item to it where you have to go over and check on it. Plus I like the fact--I know that area that you're talking about that dead ends, I have friends that live not far from there, and I think people like the fact that it's just open and trees and wooded.

Mike Pollocoff:

That's one of our problems on Lake Michigan. The Village spent hundreds of thousands of dollars to protect the shoreline, and accordingly we tell people where it's protected you can go there, and the people across the street just hate it because it's being used. That's going to lead into a policy decision that I think given the tax times we're in, as we look at new developments coming in, we want to take and say, okay--we kind of looked at that over here to an extent in Prairie Trails, okay, we want you to dedicate some land for park use, but we don't want to pay for it and we don't want to take care of it, and you need to create an association and maintain it and use it which is kind of rustic. It ends up we don't have to work to maintain it, but usually then we spend time on the police side . . . park. Kind of a push/pull thing. But it's going to be hard for us to maintain a lot of parks, and I think that's why where we want these parks to be and where we want parks that are going to be active and vital parks is really--

--:

These parks that are controlled by the association or whatever, are they open to the public?

Mike Pollocoff:

No, they're private.

--:

So do they really fulfill the needs to the community?

Mike Pollocoff:

The needs of the subdivision.

--:

I think the Village needs are met by these much larger kind of regional parks.

William O'Toole:

This park here in particular has the potential since we already have a large part of land on 104th and dedicated use there to really serve all of this area right in here. If this ever

finishes developing, I think that that's prime for the development.

--:

There's already a lot of development surrounding it.
William O'Toole:

How do we look at things? I mean we have X number of existing parks, and then we have some open lands that may or may not be suitable for parks. Is that something we should look at now, or should we kind of focus on what we have, the inventory of parks that we have, and have them look at that and how those might develop as kind of part 1. And part 2 is to say here's our inventory of open land, and then take a look at that as kind of a separate thing and say, gee, this is open land down here and it might make sense to develop that for a neighborhood park or whatever. I'm not sure.

Mike Pollocoff:

We'd definitely do the first, here's our inventory of parks and what can we do to improve these? But I think the second one, what I'd like to do, is just--because the consultant will grind up money, so re-evaluating. If we can tell him in the open space areas, based on the land that we own where do we want to look at creating a more active use park? The land use plan tells us again where our major parks are going to be, but these things float. We're not going to put one right there whenever that area develops. It's going to be however that subdivision lays out. Same thing here. This park here actually is coming down like this. It's a long park, and that's how that will lay out.

Mike Serpe:

Just a question, Mike. You mentioned there's nothing really down here and this is pretty high density. We couldn't even afford to purchase property down here even if we sold off some of our holdings that we're never going to use. I don't know if that could be developed or not.

Mike Pollocoff:

The problem here from a Conservancy standpoint is we can't develop it.

Mike Serpe:

We can't touch it.

William O'Toole:

We couldn't touch any of this if we wanted to.

Mike Serpe:

Over here we could.

Mike Pollocoff:

I think we could make a case that we've got that one area that's filled that we could probably do something. It's not going to be a park of this quality over here. But this isn't a bad park over here. It's not close, and maybe the alternative is to find some trail to get people from one place to the other.

William O'Toole:

That's the other thing that I think we talked about before that a lot of people would like. I mean is it conceivable that you could have an interconnecting trail system through the Village given the way our roads lay out and whatnot. I'd be interested in some evaluation of that concept, because we have so many, or a few existing trails, right?

Mike Pollocoff:

Right.

William O'Toole:

But, like, for instance I know we've talked about how do we get these people in this density area over here to RecPlex and all that? Is it really conceivable that we could have a trail that would go where people could ride their bikes? I don't know.

Rita Christiansen:

Where is the bike trail?

Mike Pollocoff:

The Kenosha County Bike Trail is right here. The green line. Kenosha County wants us to take that over. They want to unload that on the Village, and maybe as part of our master plan we end up saying, yeah.

Rita Christiansen:

Now, what would be the pluses and minuses? Do they have trouble with maintenance? Is it expensive?

Mike Pollocoff:

It's not bad maintenance.

Mike Serpe:

You're already patrolling it police wise. You're already doing that.

Mike Pollocoff:

It's mowing it every week.

--:

Keeping the trees off the path.
Mike Pollocoff:

Putting limestone down whenever

Glenn Christiansen:

Do we know if there's any parks in this area in Kenosha that—

Mike Pollocoff:

You've got Anderson Park.

Glenn Christiansen:

You've got Anderson here. Do we really need?

Mike Serpe:

That's pretty far away, though.

Mike Pollocoff:

This is Anderson.

William O'Toole:

Yes, because the trail comes up.

Mike Serpe:

And, believe me, people down here are talking pretty heavy. They want something down there. That would be the closest thing and the most probably affordable thing

William O'Toole:

Is there a neighborhood association down here that we could deed that to and say here's the property, develop it into a park?

Mike Pollocoff:

Oh, yeah, there's the Unit W Association, and we could try that. But their outlook has been we pay big taxes so you do it.

William O'Toole:

You have the same problem out here.

Michaeline Day:

But if they claim big taxes they also have to realize that one advantage of selling them, here's the property and you do it yourself, is that it becomes yours. So Mickey Day and her rug rats can't come running down there and play right by the lake on their property.

Mike Pollocoff:

That's what we said when there was a road right of way they wanted to vacate. They couldn't vacate it but they wanted to improve it. I said that's fine, we'll improve it, but if people go down there and use it who aren't in your neighborhood you've got to say welcome.

Michaeline Day:

So decide what you want. Do you want some privacy or do you want—

--:

Public or private.

Michaeline Day:

Because anyone from Kenosha or any of this area in here that they might think is scum could play in that park. Not that they're scum, but I'm just saying if they're thinking that they're kind of uppity—

William O'Toole:

I know a lot of people down here that I see over there.

Mike Pollocoff:

That's the closest park. One thing is the consultant in my book when we give him the zoning he could say that we should try and acquire and for them . . . property.

Michaeline Day:

That would be my thought.

Mike Pollocoff:

Get a . . . grant, attach it to our property and that would be one larger park.

Mike Serpe:

Let me ask you this. Some of these parcels that we have here that are identified as R's, we're not going to develop those as parks. Are they developable as parcels to be built on any of them?

Mike Pollocoff:

You've probably got that one little one over by you.

Mike Serpe:

That will happen when this opens up.

Mike Pollocoff:

This land over here we've identified for a fire station in that park, but there's still some buildable land here. There's actually buildable land down here, but it kind of runs contrary to the Chiwaukee Prairie.

Mike Serpe:

So what I'm just suggesting is if it ever comes to that we can possibly sell off some of these that we're never going to develop anyway and use that money to purchase the necessary property that we think should be the next big step for whatever neighborhood.

William O'Toole:

But the counter to that would be why not just keep it as open space, green space?

Mike Serpe:

True. But if you're looking for dollars to purchase a property in a certain neighborhood, especially down here, that's going to be very difficult because of the price of land.

--:

. . . what you're selling is the conflict . . .

Michaeline Day:

What property is that you're talking about of condemning and taking.

Rita Christiansen:

Right on the . . . the former club . . . it has a swimming pool in it and everything at one time.

Mike Pollocoff:

And the piece we own is right in front of it.

Rita Christiansen:

And that's right on the corner. That would be ideal, wouldn't it for this?

Michaeline Day:

Where is it in relation to?

Mike Pollocoff:

It's right here. There's a street that doesn't show very well on that.

--:

Who owns that? It's not . . . is it?

Mike Pollocoff:

Yup. He keeps coming in. He wants to put in

William O'Toole:

Did they tear the building down?

Mike Pollocoff:

Yes.

Rita Christiansen:

It would be nice to have basketball courts down there.

Mike Pollocoff:

If you just had a swing set. I mean it depends how much land we have. But if there was tennis courts and all that stuff, that would have stayed up there and been maintained.

Mike Serpe:

What's this here, Mike?

Mike Pollocoff:

That's the marina.

William O'Toole:

So the Town Club and the land we own down there would be a site you want a master

plan input?

Mike Pollocoff:

Yeah, look at this and lay out–

William O'Toole:

And tell us what you think for that area of the Village?

Mike Pollocoff:

Yes. I think the other area that we own that we need to take a look at and give him some direction on is Momper's Woods. Momper's Woods is wooded on both sides heavily, and there's an open field in the middle. I don't know that you can do a lot in there, but you might be able to have a field in there.

William O'Toole:

How many acres is that?

--:

Forty acres?

Mike Pollocoff:

Yeah, you see the recreational use in there and it follows the woods.

William O'Toole:

We could have our own little Hawthorne Woods right there.

Mike Pollocoff:

That was something that Jean laid out at one point with Nitto Denko. That they'd donate some money for a nature center.

Rita Christiansen:

That's what we talked about, and then having like shelters with picnic tables underneath them and maybe having trails or something. Keep it kind of low key, because it's such a beautiful piece of property. It would be beautiful even to have weddings out there. It is gorgeous.

William O'Toole:

That's what they do at Hawthorne. I was at a wedding at Hawthorne.

Mike Serpe:

If we're going to have any parkland of any size and for any use, it's got to have picnic facilities. I think those are the most popular.

Rita Christiansen:

That's what I said, shelters with picnic tables underneath them, something family.

Mike Serpe:

A pavilion. And you've got have a small baseball diamond I guess and a little tot park in it and that's really about it.

Mike Pollocoff:

I'm not talking on this one here anything like we have over there. It would be just for somebody having a picnic.

Rita Christiansen:

Exactly, like people reserve their picnics for the year or whatever.

William O'Toole:

Like family reunions.

Mike Pollocoff:

This site has some big environmental problems, a lot of garbage and trash in that area.

William O'Toole:

We have that flexibility here for picnics. Are we booked solid?

John Steinbrink:

The pavilions are booked more than anything. I think we have a lot of open space with the regular picnic area as open as it is, but there's a big demand for having a shelter, so having more pavilions.

Rita Christiansen:

Maybe just a tot lot type of swing set thing there and just having the shelters with picnic tables would work better. Like I said, that area is absolutely beautiful.

--:

You could put a very impressive trail through the woods there.

Rita Christiansen:

And maybe you could get the Boy Scouts to come in like we did at the big park and do some kind of-

John Steinbrink:

We actually have a lot of Eagle Scouts that are looking for projects.

Rita Christiansen:

Exactly. That would be a perfect project to mark the trail.

John Steinbrink:

We could identify a dozen projects for Eagle Scouts or community service programs.

William O'Toole:

Once we develop it we have to maintain it.

Rita Christiansen:

That might be a thought. It gives them something to have, too. You could have a little nature center and they would do basically all the research.

John Steinbrink:

One of the Eagle Scouts actually made that little archery range and they did some other stuff back in the woods.

Rita Christiansen:

A lot of times they have examples of what the flowers are.

John Steinbrink:

Exactly, kind of ID them.

William O'Toole:

So what do we need to do, Mike? Do we need to make a motion?

Mike Pollocoff:

No, just some input. If we want to take a look at making this a nature site or nature center?

William O'Toole:

I'd be interested to hear how they think it could be developed.

Mike Pollocoff:

And over her combining the Town Club property and our property?

Rita Christiansen:

Right.

William O'Toole:

Then I think they need to wrap that one, too.

Mike Pollocoff:

I think on this one here, the question if we want them to look at extending this park over to 108th, so we'd have to provide for the acquisition of a couple houses. So you'd have this park--one of the problems with this park, as you all know, is it's not visible from the road. We're beating that problem to death here, but it's not the case over here.

William O'Toole:

You take your life in your own hands when you try to cut through those properties onto the back of the park, believe me.

Mike Serpe:

What kind of time frame are you talking, Mike, five years or ten years?

Mike Pollocoff:

For the park?

Mike Serpe:

To kind of evolve what we're looking at here.

Mike Pollocoff:

You mean the development?

Mike Serpe:

Yes.

Mike Pollocoff:

I think just a few years.

Mike Serpe:

Some of that we can do quickly, but this?

Mike Pollocoff:

Oh, this here I think would be five to seven years probably. Grant money is really drying up. Probably over there five to seven years. We could do some incremental work to grade that out. It would just be an open space.

Rita Christiansen:

Couldn't we get corporate sponsors if we built shelters to get their names on the buildings or something?

Mike Pollocoff:

We can try. One of the problems is RecPlex just sucks up corporate money.

Rita Christiansen:

But the people that live down there want it over there, so a balance.

William O'Toole:

What I think is this was about a five year project to get it where it needed to be. And I think as long as people know there is a master plan and it's going to be implemented in stages, people are pretty cool with that.

Rita Christiansen:

They're following it, yes.

Mike Pollocoff:

That's one of the master plans. Like, say that park over there, tell us what we need, acquire for more land, what it's going to take to improve it, give us a cost breakdown for the improvements, and those will inflate over time. But we've got a list of budget . . . so as we budget each year, one year we put in the playground swing set. Or another year we put in the shelter or what have you.

Rita Christiansen:

Because that area is pretty open down there, too. You'd need a shelter down there.

William O'Toole:

But to the point of the association is if we do it, it's going to take us five to seven years to develop. If the association bought it, they may be able to develop it in two years or less.

Rita Christiansen:

The problem is you're cutting off the rest of the community for use, and that's part of the problem.

William O'Toole:

I don't think you're going to get somebody from here driving over there to use it anyway.

Mike Pollocoff:

But you might get somebody from over here.

--:

I think you probably would because what do they have for a park there?

Mike Pollocoff:

They just have prairie.

--:

I was just saying those are some of the things. If it takes five to seven years and the association can develop it in two years.

Glenn Christiansen:

That's the tough part. You really do need to take time to figure out where do you need to have parks and what kind of parks spread all across the map, and the tough part is, the most critical ingredient is the parcels of land. The money, right, but if you don't have the land you can't develop on it. Of course, you need money to acquire the land.

Mike Pollocoff:

That's one of the things I want the Park Commission to get involved in again and add another step to the development review process. We used to bring in subdivision plans. Right now the staff is just doing it over here in the Village Green. We're making them dedicate this chunk of land and put in a softball field and a bike path. This is one path that kind of comes through here, this old WEPCo abandoned right of way, find a way to bridge and get across.

Rita Christiansen:

Or, go down over to Momper's woods.

John Steinbrink:

We have a transportation plan that we're working on. Actually Bob Martin is going to head that up. A portion of the transportation plan is the bike path and bicycle plan. I

actually brought it last meeting. I didn't bring it last meeting. I didn't bring it this meeting, but it kind of ties everything together and it's in draft form. We've been bi-weekly working on it with staff and I'll be sure to bring it next meeting to review it.

William O'Toole:

As part of this master plan to have that overlay.

John Steinbrink:

Exactly. We're actually using this as kind of our base based on populations.

Mike Pollocoff:

For funding the parks you're better to put them in your transportation plan than to put them in your park plan.

Mike Serpe:

If you think about it, there's not a safe passage east of Green Bay Road to the west. There's no safe passage for bicycling or even walking.

William O'Toole:

This is the same problem here, Mike. I mean it's hard to bike from the Chateau or River Oaks area, River Road, any of those areas to over here.

Mike Serpe:

I realize that, but this is real high speed over here.

Rita Christiansen:

This is, too. You take your life in your hands.

Mike Serpe:

You're talking six lanes of traffic. I'm talking the width of the road, speed of the road, there's just no safe passage. That's something to be taken into consideration.

Glen Christiansen:

Maybe that's another question. Are we better off spending our money making this the hub and make it accessible by bike from various neighborhoods?

William O'Toole:

I think through the trail system there might be kind of spokes off of that from trails.

Rita Christiansen:

I think it's important that we service other parts of the Village. And by doing that, although this is the focus and, again, like the spoke, we need to be able to service other people.

Mike Pollocoff:

This is our population, the demographic.

Mike Serpe:

If we develop something like this, and ultimately I think we will, what would be the uses? What would be the use by the public let's say, for example, the trail system? Would it be developed as a trail system at X number of thousands of dollars for a couple kids a day that are going to use it? Or, are we going to spend a thousand dollars for a lot of kids every day using this thing? You have to anticipate the use. I mean if it's going to look good and not be used, then what's the point.

William O'Toole:

I agree. We have to have history of usage on this trail that would help us and give us some indication of whether or not the bike trail system is a good transportation alternative.

Glen Christiansen:

And remember, too, this is just a trail to go from here and back again.

William O'Toole:

Doesn't this go down into Illinois?

Mike Serpe:

It goes into Illinois, yes.

Glen Christiansen:

But let's say you put a trail along here down to the park, you will probably get people who just want to go someplace to go from one point to the other and back again for a place to go, what that's being used for, but you will probably get people who will want to use that as an alternative to go from up here down to here. So a trail like this would probably get increased use. There's a destination.

John Steinbrink:

One of the things that we were looking at as part of the transportation plan, especially the bike part, it's something that we haven't addressed so far tonight, we down and we mapped out where all of the school sites are. And the school sites also become the destination for kids to go from subdivision A to school and come back. So we tied in I

believe it was Lake Andrea, Sterling, Tremper and the bike path, and then where all of the remote sites might be throughout the Village, and we kind of tried tying in using school as a destination for kids to ride their bike to school and back on the path. Then all of a sudden you're not riding A to B to ride. You're actually riding your bike to school on the path every day. So we kind of used the schools and the parks.

Mike Pollocoff:

Kind of a unison . . . traffic on the streets.

Glen Christiansen:

And that counts towards some grant money.

Mike Pollocoff:

That's why if you put it on the transportation site you come out farther ahead.

Glen Christiansen:

If you can find a way to make it work that way there's money available.

Rita Christiansen:

Or, maybe you could dedicate one specific trail just to the function of horseback riding perhaps. I think that was your point, Mike, is try to think about the usage.

Michaeline Day:

I was just thinking even the horse clubs have got some monies, and maybe they'd even want to help. I know that we were approached years ago, remember Mike, with Lake County, all the horses and wanted the trails up this way and maybe they'd kick some money in.

Mike Serpe:

A lot of communities, and I don't know how this would work and I don't know if it's probably too late, they dedicate the curb lane, parking, and next to that parking lane is a dedicated striped bike/walking path type of thing.

Glen Christiansen:

Like on 7th Avenue kind of.

Mike Serpe:

And that's not inside the curb. That's letting cars park. You're talking about a pathway that could be used right with our existing, but some of our roads are not conducive to that.

John Steinbrink:

I think that's one of the things with the transportation plan we actually took it to the detail of going to cross-sections. Cross-section A talked about having a trail separate from the road. Cross-section B is having a trail separate from it. And then the other one is a cross-section where you just ride with traffic. So I think we had three or four different cross-sections based on where people might be going and the safety and the available right of way.

Rita Christiansen:

Based on where . . . where would you start? Where would be the easiest place to start a trail if you today could walk in and say this is where we're going to start at?

John Steinbrink:

As far as the easiest place I think it boils down to how much money you have to spend.

Rita Christiansen:

With that not even an option, just where would you even start? What neighborhood, or where do you think it's the easiest point?

Mike Pollocoff:

This is where our biggest growth is right here.

Rita Christiansen:

Is that where you would start then?

Mike Pollocoff:

Yes.

William O'Toole:

Tie off of this one.

Rita Christiansen:

That's what I was getting at, Bill, exactly. Tie off of what's existing and then work from there.

Mike Pollocoff:

What happens, like John said, is you take and make a bike path or path above the curb next to it, but when you come right next to it with this a winter state, you're almost better off making it part of the road so when they plow they plow everything, and then you're

not relying on somebody to come back to shovel a walk or drive or sidewalk or a trail.

Glen Christiansen:

Dedicate those more unusual equipment to maintain those little paths if you can knock it off

Mike Pollocoff:

And this is where we can get developers to participate at the greatest level of . . . it's not easy So for the parks we have look at Momper's Woods being a major area, probably just like seed this area for grass and a parking area.

Rita Christiansen:

And then get the Scouts involved if we can.

William O'Toole:

Does this art even include the bike paths or not?

Mike Pollocoff:

What I'm going to do is refer them--we're going to have . . . already done on the transportation plan and then pull out of there what we've identified as trails and let them take that base information and expand it and see the recommendation. We won't rebuild the wheel . . .

Glen Christiansen:

And as costs continue to go up, I think it behooves us to make this Village somewhat connectable by either bike or walk paths or whatever, and my view is the parks that we tie in ought to have a function to the bike trails in that it's a destination or rest stop or whatever you want to do to go from this point to this point to that point and that point. Get people a little bit more active instead of sedentary, they're not sitting around but they're active.

William O'Toole:

That's the neat thing about this area out here. You've got a park, park, school. So you've got destinations here, here and here.

Michaeline Day:

Close enough to be able to trail them.

William O'Toole:

You could really trail that in nicely for everybody. They could then spoke out of here if there was a trail coming out this way so they could connect that way out. Everything

would be tied in.

John Steinbrink:

When you run the gravity line and a trail over it, because you'll need that for maintenance.

Glen Christiansen:

When will that be?

John Steinbrink:

2010.

Mike Serpe:

Is this tape running?

Michaeline Day:

Yes, it is.

Glen Christiansen:

So all that water being discharged into the river from there will no longer be discharged into the river from there either.

Mike Pollocoff:

It won't be as clean as it is now. We clean that river up with that discharge.

Michaeline Day:

What's our next step then?

Mike Pollocoff:

I've got those sites there between Momper's Woods. We don't want to do anything over there. The Town Club and that site is there. Any changes in Prairie Springs?

Rita Christiansen:

I don't think so.

Mike Serpe:

We've already got the trail going through the woods.

John Steinbrink:

Any pavilions there for more rental revenue possibly?

Mike Serpe:

Are you turning people down?

John Steinbrink:

Yes.

Rita Christiansen:

Is there space on the other side where the little kids play?

Michaeline Day:

I thought we're pretty much built out.

John Steinbrink:

On the north side?

Rita Christiansen:

On the north side. Isn't there space over there to put pavilions up?

Mike Serpe:

We have a berm over there now that we took the dirt from the RecPlex.

John Steinbrink:

Just west of the new ball diamonds it's all berm there. We put a pavilion up at the ball fields.

Rita Christiansen:

Isn't it across the street from the little kids' ball fields? Isn't there a space right there?

John Steinbrink:

It's all kind of wetlands in there. I'm not sure we could do anything with that.

Rita Christiansen:

I thought we were pretty much built out there.

William O'Toole:

I would like to hear what the consultant has to say about that.

John Steinbrink:

Like picnic area two or something like that.

William O'Toole:

The other thing is the inventory of the kind of recreational opportunities that our parks present, baseball diamond, soccer fields, tennis courts, basketball court. We have swimming in the lake and we don't have an outdoor pool but there's one right here. Just kind of an inventory of the outdoor type of activities that parks facilitate and how do we match up there.

Rita Christiansen:

John, what would you like to see if you could have something here?

John Steinbrink:

Another pavilion, a football field pavilion. Put something over there like picnic area two. Add some electricity.

Mike Serpe:

. . . build . . . over here?

John Steinbrink:

Then you need to weigh, if you spend a pavilion here or you add money down to make a playground down by Carol Beach.

Rita Christiansen:

This wouldn't be done right away because we know what the usage is here, and this could take five to seven years to build. So for short term we could do what you're asking possibly. Long term that all has to be planned out.

Michaeline Day:

Plus a pavilion would generate revenue besides, so you would be able to help pay for the pavilion. Do you think that's reasonable, Mike, to do?

Mike Pollocoff:

Yes. I think what will happen is we'll come up with a shopping list of everything that we could buy, and then everything we do here is generally going to be funded by taxes, and the Board will say . . .

William O'Toole:

I know over here most of the people I've talked to in this whole area would like to see all of this remain conservancy, don't touch it and let it alone. In fact, as you know, this showing residential on that side of the road that was deeded over to conservancy into the Village because that had been the association so that should be conservancy, because that's just woods there right now.

Michaeline Day:

The people down here would like to see it remain . . .

Glen Christiansen:

My question, Mike, is do we have anything like . . . potentially have a facility where people could come in for a reception, whether it's a wedding reception or something of that nature?

Rita Christiansen:

That's what we talked about with Momper's Woods right here.

Glen Christiansen:

But I'm saying the concept of developing something of that nature.

Mike Serpe:

The trellises and all that.

Rita Christiansen:

Again, maybe that kind of stuff we can do through the Scouts. They can build what we need.

Michaeline Day:

And that would be in this area right here.

William O'Toole:

What's the definition between a community park and a neighborhood park?

Mike Pollocoff:

A neighborhood park would be like in Rolling Meadows.

William O'Toole:

I mean what's the difference? What's inside the park?

Mike Pollocoff:

A community park will have a ball field or soccer field with playground equipment. A neighborhood park will just have . . .

Michaeline Day:

Some just have grass, right.

Mike Pollocoff:

The neighborhood park up here, Forest Park, and Becker Park those are neighborhood parks. They're not big enough to do anything else. Or Rolling Meadows is another neighborhood park.

Michaeline Day:

That gives you enough direction?

Mike Pollocoff:

Yes. So by next meeting I'll have that incorporated into a document and you can sign off on that.

Michaeline Day:

A question was given to me do we need a motion then to have you proceed as of the discussion?

Mike Pollocoff:

No, I have the understanding on Momper's Woods, the Carol Beach Park and Pleasant Prairie Ball Park as our active parks.

Michaeline Day:

Okay.

b. Consider the repeal and recreation of Ordinance 1.23 of the Village of Pleasant Prairie Municipal Code to provide for a Park Commission; and consideration of Ordinance 1.50 for the creation of a Recreation Commission (M. Pollocoff).

Mike Pollocoff:

This is something that some of the Board members and myself have been pondering for a bit. Part of it goes back to the problem we just talked about where we've got a lot of work to do. We have a lot of plans for development that have been coming into the

Village that we haven't been getting to the Plan Commission, and we need to incorporate that step into the process and have a more thorough review on that. And then we also have the biggest rec center in the country that can garner a lot of attention, too.

So the concept was to bring more people into the process, get more people involved in providing some policy recommendations to both the Village Board and in the case of the Park Commission and the Plan Commission as well in how things should be developing and go forward. The ordinances are virtually the same as what we have now with the exception of recreational activities have been gleaned out of the park one. Park activities have been gleaned out of the recreation. We've also provided for alternates to be appointed to both Commissions so that if someone is not able to attend we have somebody there to guarantee we have a quorum. On our Commissions, Plan Commission, Board of Review, Board of Appeals, we have alternates on those. Typically for those an alternate is there for every meeting. Sometimes they serve the function of stepping in when there's a conflict that someone may have, a professional conflict or a business conflict.

With the adoption of these what would happen is the Park Commission, as you sit, would indicate if you want to stay on the Park Commission or if you'd like to go on the Recreation Commission, fold over to one or the other, and then we would advertise and seek interested parties to fill the remaining slots on what's left given after that dissection has taken place. We've initially provided for meetings every other month. What the staff would be doing is we'd be meeting every month with one or the other, with either Park or Recreation. There's going to be times we're going to need that more when the RFPs come back on the park plan. That will require more than one meeting a month. We might have to do one month with a meeting every Tuesday. And then sometimes it's going to slow down where we won't need to be there at all. Same thing with recreation as a policy body for RecPlex and IcePlex.

It says in the ordinance that you're not paid, and technically you're not paid now. The money that you get is a compensation for expenses that you may incur in doing your duties, because we don't want to be providing W-2's to the Park Commission.

Mike Serpe:

Mike, when President Steinbrink appoints the members for their respective terms, whether it be one year or two or whatever, is he just going to appoint and say, Mickey, you're going to be here for three years?

Mike Pollocoff:

I think what will happen is the people who are already appointed with stagger--we're going to work to stagger the new people in around the existing terms. So, say, Mickey if she's got two years left on her term then she'd take a two year term. She'd say on that two year term, and Jane Doe would pick up a one year term, because we want to have part of the Commission rolling over every year but not the entire Commission rolling over every year.

Michaeline Day:

I have just a question on how this would work. With the Recreation Commission, for instance, would they come to us to say they want the pavilion because they could rent it out more? That would be kind of a recreation area. Or, that Chris would want to have something at Carol Beach Park and we would need to as a park provide more stuff? I mean we would be working together and would they be coming to ask us for things to put into the park or to expand the park, or how would the duties be delegated that way, because they are kind of connected but not connected?

Mike Pollocoff:

Right. They'd have to work together just like the Plan Commission needs to work with the Park Commission on planning for open space. So the Recreation Commission would definitely have input on the park plan as it provides for outdoor recreation activities. I think the separation is really looking under their duties to ensure the quality of life of all members of the community by facilitating the acquisition, development, preservation of recreational facilities. I mean that really separates it. So once a recreation facility has been identified the staff is going to program it. The Park Commission is going to plan for the construction of it, but the actual use, if it's a recreation activity, as we do now the Park Department maintains it and then the Recreation Department utilizes it and programs it. So recreation really ends up being a user of the facilities.

William O'Toole:

From a practical standpoint, how does this work, Mike? Are we going to be given the option, for instance, Bill, do you want to stay on Parks? Yes, I don't want to be on RecPlex. Are we going to be given that option? How is that going to work practically.

Mike Pollocoff:

In talking with John he wants the existing Commissioners to pick where they want to land. If they want to stay with the Park Commission as its structured or go to the Rec Commission as it's structured. And then based on how that falls out, then we'll pick a new set. The only thing he really wants to have is a Board member on one of the Commissions, at least one member. So if you two were to stay on this one, then the Rec Commission we'd have to find another Board member to go on that or vice versa.

Michaeline Day:

In the interim, if this gets passed and we don't have enough people to fill both Commissions, would we be asked then to kind of wear two hats until we get enough people to fill in? I wouldn't mind doing that, but I'm just asking in the meantime, because you have to have a quorum and you'd sure hate to have neither one be able to do anything. Would the existing people wear two hats?

Mike Pollocoff:

The Park Commission would carry functions over until the Recreation Commission is established just as it is now.

Michaeline Day:

Does anyone have any other questions?

Mike Serpe:

This is a good direction to go. Are you looking for a vote?

Rita Christiansen:

When do you need to know the decision of what Board you want to sit on?

Mike Pollocoff:

We'd get your recommendation on approving the ordinances, and then when the Village Board would consider it January 17th, and then based on that I'd send out a letter to everybody with a respond letter telling us which one you want to be on. I guess you don't have to be on either if you don't want to, but we're assuming you're going to be on one of them. So the Commission would be created if the Board adopts the ordinance, and then the following meeting or two meetings after that the Board would fill the Commission with people who wanted to do it. So hopefully within a month after January 17th, unless we really have to go scrapping to find people who want to do this stuff, and I don't think we will, we'd have enough people to create both Commissions.

Michaeline Day:

At this point then I guess I'm entertaining a motion if someone would like to make a motion.

Mike Serpe:

I would move to adopt Ordinance 5-1.23 and send it on for approval to the Village Board. Then I would include in that motion 5-1.50 as well.

Greg Scheppler:

Second.

Michaeline Day:

Any need for further discussion?

William O'Toole:

Mike, you don't think you're going to have any problem filling? I know that on the Park Commission we have been filled over the years, but I know that some people haven't been able to be as attentive, but you don't foresee any problem here in finding people that can give the time?

Mike Pollocoff:

Just anecdotally I've had a number of people come up and say, gee, I'd really like to get involved in open space or the RecPlex or IcePlex. I think once we put it out there and advertise it hopefully they'll come through or some other people. Typically what happens is if we get a lot of people, if there's only enough to fill the positions and they're good people, we're done. But if there's more than that, John and he'll usually ask another Board member to sit down and interview them and make sure that--I think the Village is interested in making sure somebody is going to do this for the right reasons and really want to contribute and there's not a conflict of interest or not something that's going on that's not going to be healthy. They'll sit down and visit with them. And sometimes we find people that are asking to be on one Commission that would really be suitable for some other Commission we have. So it's a chance to get people involved in the Village.

Michaeline Day:

Any other questions or discussion? Call for a vote then. All in favor?

Voices:

Aye.

Michaeline Day:

Opposed? Motion carries.

6. SUCH OTHER MATTERS AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW

7. ADJOURNMENT

Michaeline Day:

Then I need a motion to adjourn.

William O'Toole:

So moved.

Dino Laurenzi:

Second.

Michaeline Day:

All in favor?

Voices:

Aye.

Michaeline Day:

Thank you very much everyone.