

**VILLAGE OF PLEASANT PRAIRIE  
PARKS COMMISSION  
Village Hall Auditorium  
9915 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin 53158  
Tuesday, March 4, 2008  
6:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Pleasant Prairie Parks Commission was held on Tuesday, March 4, 2008, 6:00 p.m. Present were Michaeline Day, Rita Christiansen, Glenn Christiansen, Kathleen Burns, Michael Russert, William Mills and Monica Yuhas. Also present were Michael Pollocoff, Village Administrator; John Steinbrink, Jr., Superintendent of Parks; and Ruth Mack, Clerical Secretary.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2, 2008 PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES.**

Michaeline Day:

In your packets you have the minutes from January 2, 2008. That was the last meeting that we had that we had a quorum. If you've read your minutes, if there's no additions or corrections, can I have a motion to accept those minutes?

Monica Yuhas:

I make a motion to accept January 2, 2008 minutes.

Glenn Christiansen:

I'll second.

Michaeline Day:

All in favor?

Voices:

Aye.

Michaeline Day:

Thank you.

#### **4. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Michaeline Day:

We have no citizen comments as we have no citizens. And I do believe our next item on the agenda then is do we have any Commission comments?

#### **6. PARK COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Michael Russert:

I do have one question. Last year at this time we reviewed the proposed use of Lake Andrea for the summer activity. I'm just wondering for 2008 if we'll have the same opportunity to review Lake Andrea in 2008?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

Staff is going to go through and assemble it and we'll have it on the April agenda.

Michaeline Day:

Any other Park Commission comments?

Glenn Christiansen:

I just have one question. Obviously with all the public comments and concerns of the hearing for the Planning Commission regarding to the subdivision, how soon will any of that be coming before the Park Commission? I believe it was passed by the Planning Commission, correct?

Mike Pollocoff:

Right. We could have it come—we still need to get some of the input that we received from the neighborhood meeting included back into that plan. We could probably have that, there's a chance we could have that ready at our next Park Commission meeting before it goes to the Board. We're not on a really pressing schedule on that.

Glenn Christiansen:

Understandably. I think the developer I thought I heard that they probably wouldn't be doing anything to start on the ground for at least 18 months and maybe a little longer than

that.

Mike Pollocoff:

I think that's optimistic because really what has to happen is we have to bring in the sewer from LakeView Corporate Park that kind of winds up to the treatment plan, otherwise they don't have anything to connect to. And I'm not going to run that sewer until the very last minute. So that sewer will be ready at midnight on December 31<sup>st</sup> of 2010. So that's really when they're able to do some development they're talking about.

I think that the developer, when I was visiting with him, he feels that the housing doldrums that we're in now is going to be resolved somewhere in mid 2009 or end of 2009. But he'd like to have his plans in place so when the economy does start picking up again he's ready. We'll get those comments put together. I'll talk to Jean and see when they think they're going to have that ready and we'll get it back to you guys. If it's not the next meeting it will certainly be the one after.

Glenn Christiansen:

I think there's some real neat opportunities to start working on some of the things we've been talking about for the past two years with the trails and some other points of interest, and the fact that there's a sizeable piece of land there that the Village already owns that with this potential acquisition allows some other interesting things to start planning.

William Mills:

I also have a comment/question. When we were putting together the LRP plan a couple of years ago for our parks, if I remember correctly the spring time period was an important time for going for grants for our parks. Is there any plan for us to discuss what grants we're looking to apply for for this year?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

There was a grant that just passed my office for parks. It was a safe routes to school grant, and that's something that we can address if you want at our next board meeting also.

Mike Pollocoff:

A lot of those grants are biennium grants because the State runs on a biennium budget. It would be the spring of last year and then the spring of next year. There are some that pop up in the interim. It's mostly if there's any federal pass through funds that would come through for a project.

William Mills:

That would explain because I think it was two years ago that we were working on the Parks Plan and we had a fair amount of discussion at that time about just the future plans from a grant standpoint.

Glenn Christiansen:

And I believe we just found out in the last month I think they call it a WHIP grant with the DNR if they get that grant as approved which they think is likely that they'll start doing some restoration work on the end of River Road. That was one of the things that Marty was talking about. Marty Johnson from the Department of Natural Resources would be carrying out that work. There's all those black locust trees growing up around the cul-de-sac and he says I really figure I'm going to get a phone call from somebody or somebody is going to walk out and complain why are you taking all those trees down. But that's what I started to mention earlier, John, that's probably something that needs to be addressed before they go into the field on that. What he's worried about is those things have a potential for spreading out into the field very rapidly as how aggressive they are. They're very weedy trees.

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

If I could just add one comment about the grants. The Village last year was awarded a \$36,000 grant to construct a bridge over the Des Plaines River basin just to the west of the wooded area of Prairie Springs Park. We used the grant money to purchase the material, and then we started a joint effort with a construction group of Kenosha County Unified. They've actually been performing the labor as part of one of their school projects. So they probably have about half of the bridge complete this year and they'll probably finish the other half next year. So we were able to have this bridge paid for, or at least the material was paid for by a grant from the DNR, and then the labor completed from Kenosha Unified as part of a training program. So it's been a very successful project.

Then one of the next trail projects that I'd like to do is continuing that trail to the west into the natural area as it gets a little bit more developed or as we get some burns done and some fire breaks constructed and that. So it should be a really nice area in a couple years.

Michaeline Day:

Any other comments?

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Consider and approve playground equipment for Pleasant Prairie Park.**

Michaeline Day:

In your packets you were given the playground equipment, and we have looked at them in the past. John, do you want to—is there any differences or changes that when we were first looking at these?’

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

Yes, there were actually quite a few differences. The one that we had looked at originally back a few months ago was from Lee Recreation and it was a Play World System. The one that I have up on the screen now is probably around a \$40,000 playground set or a cost for it excluding labor. The Village Board approved spending \$20,000 for playground equipment. So we went through and contacted a couple of the playground manufacturers and said we need to scale these back a little bit and get as much as we can get for \$20,000.

So you can kind of see up on the Board here is the original one that we had. This is a 3D view. This is what they can give us for \$20,000 and it really isn’t that much less. There’s just a couple of different items that aren’t on there. I mean I think it still serves the purpose of that park well. I think it would serve all the kids well that are in that area.

So we have one here from Lee Recreation which is very similar to the one that we had and it’s still pretty comprehensive. Here’s a 3D look at it. They still kept with all the common themes that we had asked for, with the color schemes and not having any enclosed slides but still having a lot of other amenities with that.

And I also called up Landscape Structures at Gerber Leisure Products. The Landscape Structure is the same playground component that we currently have over at Prairie Springs Park. And so a lot of the componentry, the clamps, seats or swings, whatever you might have, the nuts and the bolts, are all the same. So we thought why not take a look at getting the type of system that we have over there now so you can really limit the amount of inventory that you would have to keep for replacing it when you do your inspections. So this is a picture of the 3D that they had.

The only change that we would have is we probably have the yellow or green poles versus the red. I called them up on kind of short notice and asked them for some different stuff, and it actually looks like a little bit heavier play system than what the original one is we were looking at.

So I guess from a staff perspective after having a budget identified from the Board and looking at different sources I really like the structure and the uniformity of what we have already with the Landscape Structures. And I believe I have some slides of some of the

individual units that are out there. It kind of shows some of the climbing equipment and the slides and the canopy and the twister slide.

The only thing that we would probably have to do is we would probably just have an ADA approach up on each of the ends and then at a later time put the solid ground around the entire playground. So it would still have ADA access from the parking lot onto a paved path onto a rubber section that gets us up into one of the climbers and down one of the slides. And then at a later date it would probably cost about another \$10,000 to go through and put the poured surface around the rest of it.

Michaeline Day:

So this Landscape Structures is pretty close to the same price of the \$20,000 and the Lee?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

I believe it was \$19,400, something like that. So they definitely came in within budget. And with that amount they had offered to send one supervisor to come down to help the construction of the playground equipment. I spoke with some of the football players over at Tremper High School and they had volunteered to come on a couple of weekends as a community service project and do some of the construction for us. I think I can get our labor costs down pretty cheap by the time we get one supervisor coming down or maybe just a couple of my staff and then a bunch of the kids for putting all the nuts and bolts together.

Kathleen Burns:

And this equipment is wearing well where it is outside Prairie Springs Park there?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

It's wearing great. It's been there since about 1996. One of the things I guess that really impresses me about Landscape Structure is just this past spring I received a warranty notice for one of our little sand excavator diggers that we have stating that they found a problem with it. It was breaking in some areas. If you want we'll send you one out for \$200 and it's probably like a \$600 unit. So any time you can have something that's been in use for 12 years now and they're still going to give you a 75 percent discount on a completely new one, no questions asked, because they feel that it might not be safe or it might break that really impressed me. So we went ahead and ordered it and paid the \$200 and now we have a brand new piece of equipment that's actually heavier than our old one. I was really impressed by the company with that.

Michaeline Day:

Any other questions? Can I have a motion then to accept the—

Michael Russert:

I have one question. Again, the placement at the park is going to be close to 104<sup>th</sup> is that right, the structure?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

If you go back to our Master Park Plan that we had adopted for Pleasant Prairie Park it's in that exact location. So where the last house is that the Village just purchased and razed we're going to turn that into that little turnout parking lot area. And then probably about maybe 100 feet west of there in that kind of treed area is where we planned on having the playground equipment. And then there will be a paved path all the way around the playground equipment that ties into the parking lot up on 104<sup>th</sup> and also to the parking lot over to the south side.

Michaeline Day:

Any other questions? Can I entertain a motion then to accept the proposal from Landscape Structures so that the Village can start the process?

Monica Yuhas:

I'll make the motion.

Glenn Christiansen:

Second.

Michaeline Day:

Any other questions, comments?

Rita Christiansen:

I have a question. John, is there some way if we do get the volunteers from Tremper to come out and assist us that they can receive some type of acknowledgment from the Village for their assistance, a picture in the paper or something?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

Sure. I planned on having our communications department out there and shooting some video and doing a press release and having something up on Channel 25 maybe.

Rita Christiansen:

And the Village paper.

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

Sure, without a doubt. Have something on the website. I mean we're definitely appreciative to everything that Tremper has done for us.

Rita Christiansen:

Oh, absolutely.

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

I think it's been a really good relationship that we're developing with them. That's a great idea.

Michaeline Day:

Kathy, did you have something?

Kathleen Burns:

That's exactly what I was going to say.

Michaeline Day:

We have a motion and a second. All in favor?

Voices:

Aye.

Michaeline Day:

Motion carries. Thank you.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Kathleen Burns:

Move we adjourn.



William Mills:

I'll second the motion.

Michaeline Day:

All in favor?

Voices:

Aye.

Michaeline Day:

Thank you very much.