

**TOWN OF WESTPORT
PARK COMMITTEE MEETING**

Kennedy Administration Building
Community Meeting Room
5387 Mary Lake Road
Waunakee, WI 53597

Minutes— June 2, 2021 6:00 p.m.

Present: Terry Enge, Amy Freidig, Mick Holm, Michelle Wing

Absent: Dave O'Malley

April 2021 minutes approved by a motion from Holm, 2nd Freidig

The committee members expressed their regret at the passing of Sheldon Schall. Schall served on the Park Committee for twenty years and was a great source of knowledge and experience whose opinion was greatly valued. The committee would like to recognize his service in some way at some point, if desired by the family.

Tree Plan: Freidig provided an update that she has been working with Barry to plant 7 trees this year in the Town Center parks - between tennis court parking lot and practice field, 4 in NW corner of game fields where trees are dying. She has recommended trees that can handle wet conditions and Barry is pricing it out. For 2022, Steeplechase has 2 ash trees that will likely need to come down and Mary Lake has 1 large ash. Trees have been treated but it is likely a better use of Town's resources to take down and replant. Freidig noted there are also dying trees in front of the Town pond.

Town Center Park and Shelter Area: Committee once again discussed providing more shade on west side of shelter. Enge has suggested removing concrete to plant trees. Freidig is concerned about tree health in those conditions. Wing suggested trees would not be a good shade solution, perhaps should consider another way to add shade if needed, such as sail-type shade coverings at Middleton splash pad and will investigate options and pricing range. Is shelter and park underutilized? If so, is shade the issue? Redesigning sand area #1 on current CORP plan for this park. The sand area is highly prone to weeds and in general looks bad (diggers and ride-ons are older equipment). One idea is to install a natural play area with boulders, stumps, etc. (see CamRock County Park in Cambridge for example). Who is likely to use park? Freidig will reach out to soccer registrar to try to poll soccer families on what they'd like to see and Wing will reach out to Mary Lake Families.

Trail Mapping and Website: Bob Anderson mentioned to Wing that the Town staff has hired a company to walk and photograph trails due to a need for updated paper maps at the Town Hall. Committee would like information about this, also an oversight in what is being done. Parks

page on the Town website needs updates in photos and descriptions. This would be a good winter project to work out with Town staff.

Kennedy Land Trail Connection: Enge and Holm met with Tom Kennedy to walk wooded area on Kennedy land to discuss Kennedys considering allowing trail connection from Kennedy Rd. to Montondon Park and trail area in Waunakee. Kennedys allow some hunting in woods, so that is an objection they have. Holm will follow up with Kennedy.

Jackson Landing: Old boardwalk going out to overlook is really deteriorating and reaching a point where it may become unsafe. Securing a grant to replace should be a priority (perhaps accessibility grants are available?). Jim Stephenson should be involved in any Jackson Landing planning. Wing will contact to see if he would be interested in joining an upcoming meeting.

Memorial Policy: If residents would like to contribute a memorial bench or tree to park lands, members suggested working out a memorial policy to provide consistency. Freidig will begin drafting a potential policy for future committee review.

Committee Membership: Dave O'Malley has been unable to attend meetings due to circumstances that will likely continue. Committee requests town board consider adding an additional member, so we have a full committee. Debbie Miller, who has been helping Terry with trails and who attended April meeting, may be interested in joining.

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m. on a motion from Wing, 2nd Holm. Next meeting will be Wednesday, July 7 at the Town Hall.

Minutes submitted by Michelle Wing