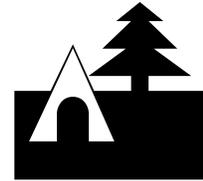


MINUTES – HULL PARK’S COMMISSION
Thursday, Sept. 28, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.



TOWN OF HULL MUNICIPAL BUILDING

4550 WOJCIK MEMORIAL DRIVE, STEVENS POINT, WI 54482

1) CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of the Hull Park’s Commission was called to order on Thursday, Sept. 28, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. by Parks Chairperson Dave Wilz at the Hull Municipal Building, 4550 Wojcik Memorial Drive, Stevens Point, WI 54482.

Present: Chair: Dave Wilz, Committee Members: Carmen Coey, Maurice Stoltz, Mike O’Keefe, Jim Mendyke, Katrina Hittner, Parks Secretary: Patty Amman, Hull Road Foreman: Pete Kaminski, Park’s Maintenance – Grant Larson.

Excused: Brian Hicks

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 13, 2017 HULL PARK’S MEETING. *Motion made by Maurice Stoltz to approve the minutes of the 7-13-17 Hull Park’s Commission meeting. Seconded by Jim Mendyke. Motion passed with voice vote.*

3) CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS. AGENDA ITEMS ARE FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: NONE.

4) ANNOUNCEMENTS; CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS.

- This is the last Hull Park’s Commission meeting for this year (2017).
- Dave Wilz introduced Grant Larson who takes care of the parks maintenance and mowing.
- Another survey response (#13) was included in the information packet mailed out to commission members.
- A copy of the KII Mobility letter was also included in the mail packet. Dave Wilz went to that event where they used the area along the park’s baseball diamond with tents set up

for beverages and played ball in the diamond. Had a great time and it went well. A good outreach.

- A letter will be going out soon regarding a potential public informational hearing on the tentative Well 11 agreement with the City and local wells in the nearby area.
- Work for the 2018 budget for the Town has started.

5) HULL PARK'S ON-SITE VISITS.

- On-site visits were made to Jordan Acres, Somerset and Plover Heights Conservancy parks.
- Some general comments were made about trees that had come down during the storm and made for more openings in the parks. There are still a few leaning jack pine trees in Jordan Acres that could be removed.
- Somerset Park main entrance is along Sunny Crest but there is a short trail that goes from the back of the ball diamond in the park connecting out to Somerset Road. The X-Way (a type of teeter-totter) could use a wash, maybe high-pressure hose down. Baseball diamond use if first-come, first serve.
- An idea of putting a picnic table in the Plover Heights Conservancy was suggested. It would need to be chained in place. There is an open space without so many trees right along the Plover River in the conservancy. Discussion about the possible need to trim tall trees in the Conservancy which may be inhibiting the use of solar panels on a nearby neighborhood home to the north. Jim Mendyke knows the family in the home and will inquire about this with them. Although there are some trails that jut off the Conservancy, those trails go towards the Boy Scout's property to the south and are still pretty far away from the Green Circle.
- Next time we do park visits, we'll do Meadow Manor, The Pipe and the Red Bridge area. Suggested we do this early in the season as the area of The Pipe has a lot of mosquitoes and flies as it goes into the summer.

6) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – TREE GRANTS.

- Dave Wilz said there are two grants available. The ATC (American Transmission Co.) which is due tomorrow (9/29/17) but the application doesn't take long to fill out. That would be a grant in the form of money. We usually apply for it every year and so far have gotten money only one year (got \$500) but we keep trying. Pete asked how much money he should apply for. The most would be \$5,000. Pete will fill out the application. The members encouraged to ask for \$5,000.

- The grant through the DNR is a 50/50 grant. The last time we got that grant, Hull spent \$10,000 and got \$20,000 worth of trees. Discussion in the group about if we should apply for this again. Jim Mendyke was willing to volunteer time to it again and felt it was worth the effort. Katrina willing to help too. Pete felt if we're going to do this, he would like to see more maple trees planted which seem to grow better. Birch and Aspin have only about a 20-year life span.
- Dave asked Pete to contact Don Kissinger and ask him to send out the paperwork. If Pete needs help with filling it out, he should let Dave know and Dave W. will assist.
- Between the trees that came down in recent storms and trees that didn't grow from the last planting, there is now more open space for additional trees.
- Pete thought last time we planted about 65 trees. Dave would like to see us do at least that many again.

A motion was made by Maurice Stoltz to approve Pete Kaminski contacting Don Kissinger of the DNR regarding tree grant and also to complete the ATC grant application. Motion seconded by Katrina Hittner. Motion passed.

7) PARK INSPECTION ASSIGNMENTS FOR SPRING 2018.

- Every year we assign parks to the members to go out in the spring and inspect a park(s), filling out an inspection sheet for Pete and Grant to review and take care of items needed attention in the parks.
- With two new Hull Park's Commission members, Dave Wilz was able to re-assign some of the parks he has been inspecting to other commission members.

Park assignments were given out as follows:

- Maurice Stoltz, - Treder's Woodland and Sorenson parks
- Jim Mendyke - Eastwood Park
- Katrina Hittner – Meadow Manor Park, The Pipe, Red Bridge area (it is private land but we do pick up garbage there and plow up to a certain point)
- Brian Hicks – Jordan Acres
- Mike O'Keefe – Somerset Park
- Dave Wilz – Pleasant View West
- Pete Kaminski – Plover Heights Conservancy
- Carmen Coey – Pleasant View East and Conifer Acres (the woodland area of it belongs to Hull, the only part Hull is responsible for; the playground portion belongs to the City of Stevens Point).

- The Pipe area is called that because of a culvert pipe there that has since collapsed. Although originally privately owned, it was given to the Town of Hull. Hull has the road going down to it, the narrow causeway up to the island. The island is owned by Consolidated and some private land owners. Hull has benches along the causeway that were put in as an Eagle Scout project for the Town of Hull.
- Patty will send out park inspection sheets in the spring of 2018 prior to the next Park's meeting in time for everyone to do their park inspection before the meeting and it will include a letter or memo from Dave W. indicating the process and who is doing what park.

8) REVIEW OF HULL PARK'S BUDGET VS. ACTUAL (YTD).

- No money was spent this year on the purchase of new playground equipment.
- We're over in labor costs this year because of the re-seeding of the grass in Sorenson Park. With the added rain this summer, it worked out well to do that project.

9) DISCUSS PRELIMINARY HULL PARK'S BUDGET FOR 2018.

- The 2018 Hull Park's budget plan is within \$60 of the 2017 budget.

A motion was made by Carmen Coey to accept the review of the Hull Parks budgets. Motion was seconded by Maurice Stoltz. Motion passed.

10) MAINTENANCE REPORT – PETE K.

- Grant Larson said everything that was written up on the Park Inspection sheets from the spring has been attended to. Although they put 4 or 5 truckloads of wood chips this year in early June, we could still use more. Some signs were replaced that took direct hits from recent storms. The Town of Hull sign off Hwy. 66 and Torun could use some paint but Grant hasn't gotten to it yet. Grant added one table to Sorenson Park. The mower is 8 years old but still working well. The parks are looking good.

- Pete said that although we are done mowing for the year, there is still fertilizer to be put down for the fall.

- Discussion about upgrading the Hwy. 66/Torun sign which is at least 6 feet long. This has been discussed before but did not result in any definitive decisions. There had also been in the past the idea of signs welcoming people to Hull but since Hull is so fragmented, it's very difficult to determine where to put such signs.
- Jim Mendyke and Katrina Hittner discussed the possible idea of a UW student class assignment from their fine arts department designing some signage.
- Dave Wilz talked about the 3 different ways the Park maintenance has been done over the years. In the past, there were 2 part-time workers who did the Parks. Then they retired and the full-time road crew did the work. Then it went to Grant as one part-time person doing the bulk of the routine maintenance.

A motion was made by Dave Wilz to accept the maintenance reports by Pete and Grant. Motion seconded by Jim Mendyke. Motion passed.

11) IDEAS, GOALS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR 2018 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION.

- Dave Wilz explained this came about through inquiries by new members and if we were open to new ideas. Yes, we're open to that but also want to maintain what we have in the parks. Although we're managing really well, we're not trying anything innovative or creative right now. For the past 7 or 8 years, we went through all the parks and updated or added new equipment spending around \$15,000 to \$20,000 each year. That was completed about 2 years ago. Then we spent time fixing up some of the older equipment and now we're in maintenance mode. For 8 years, it was changing every year because of new equipment added but since that is completed, where do we go from here?
- We'd like to have John Jury invited to come in, maybe next year, to talk about the Green Circle.
- Discussion about adult fitness/exercise equipment which had been discussed in the past. Research on that indicated that kind of park equipment is installed mostly in very high-traffic areas of large metro communities and usually used by the same, relatively few, people. For the cost of this equipment, it was decided to wait and see if it develops more over time. Katrina offered to look into it more as she and her family members are working on a park project in Wisconsin Rapids with a vendor out of Eau Claire.
- Pete Kaminski suggested an idea about using one park as a pilot park to test out using recycled rubber chips in place of wood chips as rubber does not decompose. This would be a more permanent solution to chips, not needing replacement. It could save a lot of money over

the long haul since it would make replacing wood chips obsolete. Dave W. asked Pete to find a supplier and the costs as well as talk with communities that are currently using the rubber chips and see what kind of preparation needs to be done to the area. Rubber chips might need a special underlayment.

- Some thoughts were discussed about some of the larger Hull parks and what could be done with the extra space in them. Two ideas suggested were a mini or practice disc golf area, and the idea of a miniature golf course. The park this might be most practical for would be Pleasant View West with its large open areas.

- Discussion about connections between Hull parks and the Green Circle. The Plover Heights Conservancy is still quite a ways from the Green Circle. Somerset Park is currently the closest to the Green Circle, less than one block north of the trail. The Green Circle is at around 33 miles of trail including some of the new loops.

- Katrina talked about maps that could be handed out showing where Hull parks are. There is a map of Hull Park locations currently on the Hull website. Maybe there could be a Green Circle map that would show some of the Hull parks. Maybe adding Hull park locations to Google Maps. Making it more user friendly with the new age of technology. GPS/Google might require an actual address in order to post to that service. Katrina will look into that. Grant L. said he is asked by people about where other Hull parks are located.

- Dave W. suggested the committee members think about new ideas over the winter, ideas that will help people to utilize Hull parks.

12) DATE OF NEXT MEETING. PARK'S MEETING THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018.

13) ADJOURNMENT. *Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. by Dave Wilz.*

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Amman
Hull Parks Commission Secretary
Town of Hull, Portage County