

**Village of North Hudson  
Park Board Meeting  
Thursday, October 5, 2017, 6:30 p.m.  
Village Hall, 400 7<sup>th</sup> Street North  
Hudson, WI 54016**

**Call to Order: roll call**

Chair Kirk Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Answering the call were members Doug Ernie, Mona Martinez, Michelle Ortner, and Todd Wolf. A quorum was present and the meeting was duly noticed. Members John Helgeson and Howard Novotny were not present. Also in attendance were Public Works Director Patrick Moos and Recording Secretary Anne-Marie McDonald.

**Approval of minutes from July 6, 2017 Park Board Meeting**

**Motion (Martinez/Ortner) to approve the minutes of July 6, 2017 meeting as written. Motion carried.**

**Comments from the floor**

Molnann Men of 6751 210<sup>th</sup> Street N., Forest Lake, MN, 55025, spoke on behalf of the Twin Cities Jet Ski Club. Also in attendance was Cory Proell of 17104 172<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SE, Big Lake, MN, 55309, also of the jet ski club. Men stated that he and his group utilize the boat ramp at Ferry Landing Park. They take pride in keeping the beach area picked up and helping boaters and swimmers when needed. He and Proell are here to show that they care about the well-being of the park and the perception of their club. In the past, they have had issues with a North Hudson homeowner, and the club would like to have representation if there are any future issues. Men thanked the North Hudson Police Department for taking the time to hear both sides of the story and handling the situation professionally and fairly. Park Board members thanked Men and Proell for their input. Nelson suggested they review Park Board meeting minutes to keep updated on park-related activities, which are posted on the village's website.

**Superintendent's Report**

Moos reported that the Public Works department is getting a new lawn mower, so he and his crew will be able to perform mowing more efficiently and allow time for other activities. Wood chips are being laid over sand blankets in playground equipment areas, which is a better option and less messy than sand. Sand boxes will remain as they are. Wood chips will be biodegradable, so they're a better environmental solution. Nelson asked whether the mower had been purchased; Moos reported that it is to be delivered today or tomorrow. Due to other Public Works activities, there isn't much else to report regarding the parks.

The pine tree area and around the catch basin outlet of Woodcrest Park have been cleaned up.

**Mutt Mitt containers**

Mutt Mitt containers are still installed in some parks, particularly Chief Jansen Park, but they're not being used. Bags are no longer purchased for the dispensers, due to the expense and park visitors using them for other purposes. Around 20 containers have been removed from village parks or never installed, and

Moos wants to know what should be done with them. Martinez listed the boxes on a social media site and received no response. Moos checked with area municipalities to see if anyone wanted them, and he received no response.

**Motion (Ortner/Ernie) to recycle metal Mutt Mitt stands and deposit any money collected into the park fund. Motion carried.**

#### **Stump grinding at Ferry Landing Park and Webster Park**

Moos said there are several large stumps in Ferry Landing Park and Webster Park which are hard to mow around. Moos asked whether he can rent a stump grinder so the large stumps can be removed from these parks. Nelson asked Moos if there is any money in his budget for this project. Moos said there isn't a lot, but he's hoping to have enough to pay for rental of a stump grinder. Moos would like to remove the stumps so he can clean up Ferry Landing Park and lay some grass seed.

**Motion (Ernie/Martinez & Ortner) to do stump grinding in Ferry Landing and Webster Parks. Motion carried.**

#### **Grass seed (fall aeration and seeding)**

Moos would like to do aeration and over-seeding this fall. Nelson said that the village obtains grass seed from Luke Farrill, and Nelson will give Farrill's contact information to Moos. Moos will apply grass seed where he can, based on his budget. Moos will bring information to the board next month if he needs any approvals.

#### **Sandbox – replace wood with plastic sides**

Moos provided board members with recycled plastic boards as an alternative product to wood boards for sandboxes. Nelson asked for clarification regarding the price of the recycled plastic boards. \$46 is for each four foot section, and the example in the reading materials has six sections. Moos estimates a 2"x8" treated wood board costs about \$30, and the wood must be painted every year. He believes the recycled plastic is more durable than wood, and requires less maintenance. Moos would like to install a sample at Glen Oaks Park for testing, and ask for feedback about the new material. Martinez asked how much of the plastic boards would be needed; Moos suggested installing a six-sided sandbox similar to the example in the brochure he distributed to the board. Moos will check his budget to see how much money is available. Nelson asked Moos to research the cost of treated wood for comparison.

#### **Buckthorn removal at Woodcrest Park**

Moos was approached by a resident about removal of buckthorn at Woodcrest Park. Moos asked the board members what buckthorn removal attempts had been made in the past. Ernie and Ortner reported that school and volunteer groups have done cutting removal projects in the past. Nelson asked what the city of Hudson has done to eradicate buckthorn in its parks, and Moos said they brought in goats. Moos may have a connection to providing some goats for village parks. Nelson instructed Moos that if he wants to propose a solution, to bring one to the board at next month's meeting.

#### **Winter maintenance (Park update)**

Nelson instructed the board members to check their assigned parks for tasks to be completed by the Public Works department before snow falls. Any requests for tasks should be sent to Nelson or Moos.

Ortner asked whether the ice rink will be put in at Village Hall. Moos reported that, as long as the weather cooperates, an ice rink will be installed.

**Future agenda items**

Grass seed; sandbox; buckthorn removal; winter maintenance.

**Adjournment**

**Motion (Ortner/Martinez) to adjourn.** Nelson declared the meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Anne-Marie McDonald  
Recording Secretary