

**Village of North Hudson
Park Board Meeting
Thursday, December 5, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
Village Hall, 400 7th 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, John Helgeson, Mona Martinez, Michelle Ortner, and Todd Wolf. A quorum was present and the meeting was duly noticed. It was noted that board member Frank Halvorson was absent. Also in attendance were Public Works Director Patrick Moos and Recording Secretary Anne-Marie McDonald.

Approval of minutes from May 2, 2019, August 1, 2019, and October 3, 2019 Park Board Meetings
Motion (Martinez/Ortner & Helgeson) to approve the minutes of May 2, 2019, August 1, 2019, and October 3, 2019 meetings as written. Motion carried.

Comments from the floor

Village resident Diane Zais, of 629 Cherry Circle North, introduced herself as the co-facilitator of the North Hudson Neighborhood Watch. Zais invited the committee and village residents to join its Facebook group and email list to receive information regarding crime events in the village, safety tips, and being safe in your community. Meetings take place several times throughout the year. North Hudson Neighborhood Watch co-sponsored the Bike Safety Event this past June with the North Hudson Police Department, and drew about 100 participants. The event included bike safety activities, giveaway of bike helmets, door prizes, and concessions, and was a fun community event. Zais said the group would like to have another event in 2020. Her desire is to partner with the village Park Board for information sharing and future events. She said now is the time to promote the community in our beautiful village. Zais said she would like to have an ice skating event at the village rink. Neighborhood Watch would like to partner with the Park Board on such an event, and provide any assistance they can. Nelson said he would like to have skates available for those who do not have skates of their own. Nelson wants to select a date in January, 2020. Martinez and Moos said they have skates which can be lent for the event.

Nelson said Neighborhood Watch members attended one of the Movie in the Park events this past summer. Zais said they would like to participate in future activities.

The name of the Facebook group is North Hudson Neighborhood Watch.

Pepper Fest land donation

Nelson provided an update to the board: The fence near the house on the donated property has been moved. Pepper Fest now owns the property and is in the process of being donated to the village. The desire is to raze the building and replace with a village facility in the next two years. The house is currently occupied. A Pepper Fest representative will report to the Park Board when plans are solidified.

Brown's Beach retaining wall

Martinez provided board members with copies of the grant application she and Ortner are developing. She asked for assistance from the board regarding a description of the projects they desire to have completed at Brown's Beach, as well as what maintenance and upkeep will be required. After input from the board, Martinez will meet with Village Administrator Melissa Luedke to complete the grant application. Nelson asked board members to send their feedback to him, and Nelson will forward to Martinez and Ortner.

Wolf asked how much grant money is being requested. Martinez couldn't recall what the proposed dollar amount would be. Martinez said the application deadline is May 1, 2020. Nelson said he isn't sure whether the updates at Brown's Beach must be ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant. Ortner said she isn't sure how to include ADA requirements in the grant application. Ernie explained that if changes are made to the park, ADA accessibility is required. Martinez said the application has questions regarding topography and vegetation at the proposed project site. The board discussed installing a power lift for accessibility purposes, but Moos cautioned against any solution that included a requirement for electricity. Then the question becomes what type of improvement would be accessible. Nelson asked Moos to think about a design for a ramp.

Ernie asked what the total estimated cost for the project is. Frank Halvorson received an estimate of \$51,000 without a ramp.

Movie in the Park

Moos and Nelson are investigating purchase of movie equipment so it doesn't have to be borrowed and moved back and forth. Nelson would like to have three movie nights in 2020, two on Wednesday evenings and one on Saturday. Nelson would like to send post cards to village residents with the 2020 movie dates. Nelson would like to purchase the movie equipment so future Park Board members are encouraged to continue the event.

Pickle Ball Court at Sommers Landing Park

Nelson is working with Village President Stan Weekin to identify funds to put in a pickle ball court in a village park. He said development money from the apartment complex behind Kwik Trip could be used for this purpose. Pickle ball is the fastest-growing sport in the United States. Cost estimates and fundraising opportunities to follow. Nelson's goal is to implement in 2020.

Wolf brought up the issue of drainage problems in Sommers Landing Park. Nelson said the court could be constructed in any village park; he used Sommers Landing as an example.

Placement of permanent ground lighting for flag at Chief Jansen Park

Moos would like to install an in-ground light for the American flag at Chief Jansen Park. The solar light he installed previously doesn't work well. An in-ground light will require a power line trenched to the flag pole. Moos feels the flag should be illuminated, especially since more homes are being constructed in the neighborhood and the flag pole is visible to more people. Nelson asked Moos to get a cost estimate for discussion at the next Park Board meeting.

Glen Oaks Park repair of basketball court

Nelson said one of his goals in 2020 is to repair the basketball court at Glen Oaks Park. The court surface isn't level, and the hoop is broken. In spite of the court's condition, it gets lots of use. Moos said the village Public Works department can do the preparation work, and have the pavement put in by St. Croix County. Moos asked if the basketball court could be used for pickle ball as well. Discussion among board members concluded that is a possibility. Several board members observed the Sommers Landing Park basketball court is used quite often.

Chair update

Nelson will ask residents for suggested updates to village parks on the North Hudson Facebook page.

Superintendent's Report

Moos reported the Monarch Garden in Woodcrest Park grew very well this year. He recognized the work of the St. Croix Correctional Center (SCCC) work crew led by Sgt. John Rosenthal, who planted the garden and returned to do maintenance and replanting work. A second smaller garden planted in Glen Oaks Park will be updated in 2020. Moos wants to install a border of pavers and a bench near the garden in Woodcrest Park.

Nelson asked Moos whether the SCCC work crew should be utilized more next year. Moos said he would like to, and he will try to get on the crew's schedule for 2020.

Ortner asked Moos where the sand in the sandboxes came from. She has heard comments from moms saying the sand is turning the kids' socks orange. Moos said he got the sand from his usual source and had not heard any similar comments. Ortner has not observed this issue herself. Nelson asked Moos to investigate issues with the sand reported by other customers of the quarry.

Ortner asked what can be done about the Rotary bench – should it be replaced, repainted, or cleaned. Moos is working with a village resident who is a Rotary member. The bench itself is in good condition – it can be cleaned. She said the signs for village parks should be replaced or painted. Nelson suggested discussing park sign replacement at next month's board meeting.

Park Board committee future goals

Brown's Beach retaining wall; pickle ball court; flag light at Chief Jansen Park; Glen Oaks basketball court repair; community ice skate day; ideas for SCCC crew in 2020; update village park signs; Movie in the Park; Pepper Fest land donation; buckthorn eradication.

Future agenda items

Adjournment

Motion (Ortner/Martinez) to adjourn. Motion carried. Nelson declared the meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Anne-Marie McDonald
Recording Secretary