



**Parks Commission
Minutes
April 12, 2016 5:30 P.M.**

Village Hall
3930 N. Murray Avenue, Shorewood, WI 53211

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members present: Chair Ellen Eckman, Mark Schill, Sam Essak, Jaime Jacoby, Kathy Yanoff, Chris Gallagher, and Trustee Ann McKaig.

Not in attendance: Kenneth Cole

2. Consider Minutes from Meeting on February 9, 2016.

Ms. Jacoby moved to approve the February 9, 2016 minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schill. Motion approved by 6-0 vote.

3. Discuss Possible Parks Improvements for 2016 and 2017

Village Manager Chris Swartz provided a summary on the Atwater boardwalk extension construction on the south side of the beach. There is some need to improve the landscape and paths near the memorial in the middle of Atwater Park. Mr. Gallagher inquired about the traffic lights at the intersection, which may have been there previously from construction. Village staff will take a closer review of the additional traffic lights at the intersection. Mr. Essak mentioned the previous vision of the park was to open up the middle of the park for concerts and events with paths and the flagpole in a different location. Chair Eckman indicated that the popularity of the playground of the top of Atwater Park is another reason for the Parks Commission to provide more attention towards improving the green space on top. Mr. Swartz recommended for staff to conduct a further review to receive cost estimates and updated designs to assess the use of the space. Mr. Gallagher mentioned that project #4 under Atwater Park projects should be separated into two separate projects, which the rest of the commission agreed with the suggestion. The Parks Commission indicated this would be a project they would recommend to explore.

Mr. Swartz informed the commission that work is being conducted at the river bluff at Hubbard Park. Bluff restoration is one of main actions being completed at this time. The canoe launch, removing invasive plants and constructing lower trails on the bluff are other aspects incorporated in the Riparian grant. DPW just completed the steps leading residents and guests to the upper and lower parts of Hubbard Park. There is still the potential to fund steps and/or a path that leads people from the Oak Leaf Trail down to the lower parts of Hubbard Park.

The Parks Commission discussed the option of building a trail on the southern end of River Park and be incorporated with the grading project. Village staff will take a closer look at estimates and feasibility of constructing. The commission determined an interest to develop cost estimates for steps and a path from River Park down to Hubbard Park.

Ms. Yanoff expressed the importance of more shade trees at the schools and the commission to advocate for those priorities with the school district.

Mr. Burkart reminded the commission about the discussion with the County and that they have expressed the need for assistance with the restroom and maintenance facility at Estabrook Park. Tr. McKaig informed the commission that they could provide guidance to staff on if they are interested in moving forward on any County projects with Estabrook Park. Ms. Yanoff inquired if the County could have a partnership at one of the facilities to oversee and maintain the restroom facilities. Tr. McKaig mentioned that could be a potential discussion with the County to further explore. The commission is content with staff and Tr. McKaig to follow up with the County to finalize recommended project(s) for Estabrook Park.

4. Update with the Wilson Drive Community Task Force

Chair Eckman gave an update on the Wilson Drive task force. The task force talked with a traffic engineer and Public Works Director Leeann Butschlick about potential uses of the area around and at Wilson Drive. The traffic engineer mentioned the drive is too wide and unsafe to cross in its current width. A traffic study could add further value for the task force. The Parks and recreation subcommittee discussed ways to incorporate more recreational space as part of the project and more accessibility to Estabrook Park. They've been identifying all the social paths between Wilson Drive and Estabrook Park. Next meeting for the Steering Committee is tomorrow night. The work groups will meet in another two weeks. Tr. McKaig talked with Mr. Marek about ways to further improve the tunnel space at Estabrook, and that he may be a good future speaker for the Wilson Drive task force.

5. Staff Liaison Updates

1. Shorewood Today feature
2. Additional soccer field on south end of River Park – request from Kristin Yatso
3. Bike racks

6. Future Agenda Items

Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 10. If staff doesn't have an update by then, Mr. Burkart will prepare for the next meeting to be in June.

7. Adjournment.

Mr. Gallagher moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Yanoff seconded the motion. Motion approved by 6-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tyler Burkart
Assistant Village Manager