



Parks Commission

Minutes

February 23, 2021 5:30 P.M.

via Teleconference
3930 N. Murray Avenue, Shorewood, WI 53211

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m.

Members present: Jenny Vulpas, Kathy Yanoff, Julie Bradisse, Enrique Figueroa, and Bonnie Pedraza

Members not present: Mark Schill and Lybra Loest

Others present: Assistant Village Manager Tyler Burkart, Trustee Arthur Ircink, Judith Winn, Linda Laarman

2. Consider Minutes from Meeting on January 12, 2021

Mr. Figueroa moved to approve the January 12, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Yanoff. Motion approved by 5-0 vote.

3. Staff Liaison Updates

Mr. Burkart mentioned that the Village Board accepted the donation from the Friends of Atwater for a foot wash station. Mr. Burkart shared some high school students are beginning to work on the next videos series, which show how neighbors can help out one another. The Fish and Feather Festival will be coordinated by the Conservation Committee. The Committee would like to know if the Parks Commission are willing to assist with the planning and events. Mr. Burkart reminded current members who want to remain as a volunteer committee member on the Parks and Public Spaces Committee to apply by the end of March. Mr. Burkart and Tr. Ircink summarized the Shorewood Little League proposal to live stream their games will be going to the Village Board for consideration on March 1. Lastly, the Farmers Market was approved again in Estabrook and Estabrook Parkway may become another active street.

4. Discuss and Consider Scoop the Poop! Shorewood Program

Ms. Winn and Ms. Laarman mentioned the Conservation Committee made a recommendation to endorse the program. Ms. Vulpas mentioned a resident expressed concern about the use of plastic bags and the resident may have found paper bags as an alternative. There was also discussion about the use of biodegradable or compostable bags, which it was mentioned the bags don't truly break down entirely or stations aren't made to configure the size of the bag dispensers. Ms. Laarman and Ms. Winn stated while plastic bags aren't ideal, addressing the dog waste issue is a larger evil than introducing more plastic bags into the community. Resident JoAnn Macken introduced the idea of using bags made of corn starch rather than plastic, which avoids the use of petroleum and greenhouse gases when produced. She inquired if the larger issue is the lack of waste containers for the public rather than introducing more plastic. Ms. Macken also expressed that 15 stations is too many stations for a pilot and we need more education related to the dog waste problem. Mr. Figueroa asked how they would measure how much dog waste would be removed. Ms. Laarman clarified they would

count the number of bags utilized. Mr. Figueroa recommended for the proposal to be clearer who would be completing the assessment work of the trial program. Mr. Burkart mentioned the Village would only commit to the stations if a person or community group commits to managing the bags for that station. This would mean the proposal would be up to 15 stations for the trial period. Mr. Figueroa moves to recommend to the Village Board to approve the one-year trial Scoop the Poop program. Ms. Pedraza seconded the motion. Motion approved by a 5-0. The recommendation will go to the Village Board for their March 15 meeting and staff will proceed with communicating with property owners who live nearby the proposed stations.

5. Discuss and Consider 2020 Annual Report and 2021 Future Initiatives

Mr. Burkart asked the Commission to identify action items for 2020 and 2021 future initiatives.

2020 action items:

- Reviewed design concepts for Triangle Park.
- Reviewed proposal to have bocce ball at Hubbard Park, which wasn't recommended by the Parks Commission.
- Made the recommendation to update the ordinance in relation to park vendor fees.
- Made a recommendation on a smoking ban for park spaces.

2021 future initiatives:

- Install foot wash station for Atwater Park
- Implement the trial period of the Scoop the Poop program.
- Evaluate planting more trees along the business corridor.
- Complete and adopt the updated Comprehensive Park Plan.
- Implement design concept for Triangle Park.

6. Discuss Next Steps of the Comprehensive Park Plan

Mr. Burkart mentioned the draft plan will be completed in the next few months, but based on the need for community engagement for the draft plan, the Parks and Public Spaces Committee will most likely complete that process prior to adoption.

7. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items.

8. Adjournment.

Mr. Figueroa moved, seconded by Ms. Bradisse to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved 5-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tyler Burkart
Assistant Village Manager