

PARK COMMISSION MEETING

November 15, 2023

Minutes

Attending: Harry Pulliam, Mark Pernitz, Kelly Ruschman, Chris Narveson, Jason Neton, Mona Sue French, Rose Pertzborn

Absent: Dana Emmerton

Also Attending: Tim Schleeper, Town engineer/planner; Jasmine Wyatt; Frank Grenzow; Shahnaz Shahidain; Madeline Kuhn (remote); Christina Schoenwetter (remote)

1. Call to Order. Meeting was called to order by Chair Pulliam at 6:04 pm.

2. Proof of Posting. Narveson attested to proof of posting.

3. Public Comments. None.

4. Introduce Shahnaz Shahidain and Members of Green County Leaders Community Orchard Project Team, introduce Prairie Enthusiast and Town Resident Frank Grenzow, and Update on Work of Community Orchard Project Team. An update and discussion took place regarding the planned community orchard. The Town will need to decide on the location of the town garage, potential town hall, residential lots and other uses before a location of the community garden can be determined. The orchard committee will prepare a budget and site needs such as a water source and accessibility. An 8 foot fence will be needed to keep out deer. The committee envisions an approximate 1.25 acre site for the orchard.

5. Introduce Tim Schleeper of Vierbicher. Vierbicher offers planning services, such as preparing a master plan for the park, in addition to engineering services. Vierbicher will prepare a proposal to provide a master plan for the park. Vierbicher is already doing planning for the town garage.

6. Introduce Jasmine Wyant of Upper Sugar River Watershed Association. Wyatt is a reclamation ecologist. A lot was accomplished at the invasives workshop which took place recently at the park property. Wyatt proposes that the town and the Upper Sugar River Watershed Association enter into a partnership arrangement by a Memorandum of Understanding which would allow the sharing of resources and pooling of volunteers. She will put one together for our consideration.

7. Discuss Recommendations from The Prairie Enthusiasts Regarding Oak Knoll at Town Park and Discuss Seeding of Town Land with Native Grasses. A discussion took place regarding an approximately 1.2 acre remnant prairie in the northwest corner of the park property. Grenzow indicated that if the prairie needed to be burned the Prairie Enthusiasts could supply the volunteers. Grenzow stated that there are sources for funding of prairie seed. A discussion also took place regarding seeding of the land with native grasses. Narveson reported that the board favored seeding with pasture mix and then adding prairie seeds. A suggestion was made to explore having Elliot Buol continue farming the land while converting a portion of crop land to prairie each year. A Seed Committee consisting of Kelly Ruschman, Rose Pertzborn, Jason Neton, Troy Pauli and Mona Sue French was created to look into and prepare a plan for seeding the land with native grasses, what areas to plant and a budget.

8. Review Draft Materials to Update Impact Fees Needs Assessment and Amendment of Chapter 80. After discussion, Motion by Pernitz, second by French to recommend that the Town

board increase the Park impact fees to \$1,050 as proposed by the Town planner; Motion approved.

After discussion, Motion by Pernitz, second by Neton to recommend that the Town board increase the Highway/Transportation impact fees to \$250 as proposed by the Town planner; Motion approved.

9. Continued Discussion re: Fall Tree Sale—Species and Sizes; Planting Accessories;

Mailer. After discussion, it was decided to offer the following trees: burr oak, white pine, red maple, lilac, american beech and sycamore. Trees will be priced at \$4.50/each; tubes at \$5.00/each; and root dip at \$5.00/each. Motion by Pernitz, second by Ruschman to authorize up to \$700 for the cost of the mailer for the tree sale; Motion approved. Neton will include language in the mailer that if residents want to join a town listserv, they should reply to friendsofnewglarusparks@gmail.com.

10. Update Regarding Pickleball Courts. French reported that both Middleton and Verona now have pickleball courts and that they are very popular.

11. Schedule Next Meeting, December 20, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

12. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn by Narveson, second by Pernitz; Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Approved: January 17, 2024

Minutes prepared by Pernitz