

PARK COMMISSION MEETING
December 20, 2023
Minutes

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

Excused: Chris Narveson

Absent: Dana Emmerton

Also attending: Tim Schleeper, Town engineer/planner; Damion Babler, Green County Leaders; Shahnaz Shahidain; Frank Grenzow

1. **Call to Order.** Meeting was called to order by Pulliam at 6:04 pm
2. **Approve Minutes from October 18, 2023.** Motion by Pernitz, second by French to approve minutes of October 18, 2023.
3. **Public Comments.** none.
4. **Update on Work of Community Orchard Project Team.** Babler and Shahidain provided an update on the Green County Leaders work on the community orchard. Plan is to plant 100 fruit trees and 25 berries on approximately 1.25 acres. Project will need to pause until the park master plan identifies a site for the community garden.
5. **Restoration Committee Report Regarding Grasses for Seeding of Town Land.**
Ruschman reported that the committee has met and is proposing a phased restoration approach. Grasses will be planted in between crops to prevent erosion. Committee will put together a proposal/plan to present to the Town board on how to manage the land. January 4 was identified as a potential time for a special Parks meeting to review the proposal and possibly recommend it to the Town board.
6. **Discuss Recommendations from The Prairie Enthusiasts Regarding Oak Knoll at Town Park.** Grenzow reported on discussions with Southern Wisconsin Land Conservancy on entering into a conservation easement to raise funds for the park, or alternatively, selling naming rights to the public for various parcels.
7. **Review Draft Park Master Plan Proposal from Vierbicher.** Schleeper, the Town planner, presented 2 concepts on potential locations of the town garage and residential lots on the Town park property. Option A, with the garage located near the western portion of the property, seemed to be favored by most.
Schleeper also reviewed a contract proposal from Vierbicher to assist the Town in preparing the park master plan. **Motion** by Pernitz, second by Neton to recommend that the Town board approve the Vierbicher proposal and that the costs be paid with the approximately \$24,000 in remaining impact fees. Motion approved.
8. **Continue 2024 Budget Discussion.** **Motion** by Pernitz, second by Ruschman to amend the 2023 budget to include payment of \$3,700 for preparation of Nelson Knowles grant application. Motion approved.
9. **Update on Progress to Define State Highway 39 Trail Segment, Easements, etc.**
Schleeper reported that the archaeological survey had been completed and nothing was found that would adversely affect the project.
10. **Discuss Cost for DOT Prairie Mix to Cover 2.0 Acres of Land at Blue Bird Ridge**

Conservancy. No discussion as Narveson was unable to attend.

11. Discuss Purchase of “Posted, No Trespassing” Signage for Town Park. Signage for the park will be discussed at a future meeting.

12. Updates for Fall Tree Sale. This will be discussed at the January meeting.

13. Schedule Next Meeting, special meeting tentatively scheduled for January 4, 2024, at 6:00 PM

14. Adjourn. Motion by Pernitz, second by Ruschman to adjourn at 8:59 pm. Motion approved

Approved: January 4, 2024

Minutes prepared by Pernitz.