

**TOWN OF GIBRALTAR
PARKS & LANDS COMMITTEE MEETING
4097 MAIN STREET FISH CREEK WI 54212
TUESDAY, May 17th, 2011
8:00 a.m.**

Call to Order: Brian Hackbarth called the Parks and Lands Committee meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

Committee Members Present: Brian Hackbarth, Laurie Buske, Renny Lea & Jayson Merkel.
Mike Ashley arrived at 8:05
Public Present: Dave Bultman

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: It was moved by Lea and seconded by Ashley to approve the minutes as amended of the April 19th, 2011 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None at this time.

Chair Report: Hackbarth reported that the beach backfill project was completed. He thanked Jayson Merkel for overseeing that project. Sailor Sam Wall soil and mulch is going in today. Buske asked if she could plant cedar trees where the dead ones were at the beach. Hackbarth suggested putting that on the agenda for next month. Ashley asked if the sand could be screened by the playground equipment. He stated that the sand was low quality and had large rocks in it.

Sub-Committee Reports:

Invasive Species: Lea reported that they had two gatherings so far. The first meeting they did not find as much garlic mustard as anticipated. They cleaned Sunset Park while there. The second meeting coming up is on the 15th of June at Fish Creek Park. Lea stated that she wanted to be able to speak to land owners with invasive species on their property, but did not know the proper way to go about it. Buske suggested a “flower pounding” as a creative way to bring awareness to invasive species.

Gardens: Buske reported that the gardens are looking good. They have not been able to plant pots as of yet. Dave Bultman reported that the gardens at Windmill Park are coming up; however he has some questions on the grass. Also he widened the depth of the bed and is going to be building a 2 x 2 stone wall. Itsie Krause is going to supply some of the larger rocks. Hackbarth asked how much the marigolds through town cost. Buske suggested that Bultman take plants from the Fish Creek Kiosk gardens (that will be cleared out and replaced with sod). Bultman also stated that the water impounded at the back of his property is at an all time high right now.

Public Comment: Dave Bultman commented that mulch piled into a cone at the base of trees will “girdle” the roots of the tree. He suggested that a donut shape ring of space away from the base of the tree is a better practice. Hackbarth asked if maybe the garden auxiliary could be brought back to help take care of the gardens. Hackbarth thanked Dave Bultman for all of his volunteer work with the gardens.

Sailor Sam’s Wall:

Plantings: Buske reported that the corner where the utility pole and sign is looks “awful” and needs attention. Hackbarth asked if Buske wanted the curb brought around. Buske said it

was too expensive to put a curb there. Lea suggested sedum to hold the stone and gravel in place. Buske said she would like to put sedum there but would also need something to hold the gravel from coming out. Merkel commented that snow plows will hit the curb there if stones are put in and also suggested that they table this until next month. Buske would like the committee to reconsider putting something in the no-parking area by the Sailor Sam Wall for safety reasons. Hackbarth was concerned that big stones would be scooped up in the winter. Hackbarth suggested speaking with landscapers to get ideas for a natural barrier as a solution in the future.

Wall: Hackbarth suggested that the maintenance crew seal the wall sometime before fall.

Kiosk Walkway in Fish Creek Park: A new flagstone sidewalk was installed to the gazebo in Fish Creek Park. We would like to place a flagstone sidewalk to the kiosk. Hackbarth reported that he only had one bid submitted thus far. Ashley stated that he has more bids coming but all of the contractors are running behind. Hackbarth said this project should be looked at next month.

Review Signage at Fish Creek Park per DNR Proposal: Lea reported that she forgot to check into it. She will look into it for next month.

Fish Creek Park Signage: Merkel reported that he found one green arrow sign for the “Juniper trail”. He suggested to review the mapping of the trails and refresh them and to get the invasive species sign updated. Hackbarth asked how many signs where needed. Merkel thought ten signs would be enough. Ashley said his brother-in-law makes metal signs. Hackbarth asked if Ashley could get a price quote for ten metal signs. Buske suggested some flowers at the opening to the park to draw people’s attention to the entrance.

Adjourn: It was moved by Buske and seconded by Lea to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julia Maskell
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer