

Approved: January 28, 2020

**TOWN OF GIBRALTAR
PARKS AND LANDS COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2019
MINUTES
8:00 A.M.**

Call to Order: Hackbarth called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Members Present: Hackbarth stated that a quorum of the committee was present. Members present: Brian Hackbarth, Andrea Jauquet, and John Lancaster. Tom Thurman and Bonnie Ansley via teleconference

Absent: None

Proper Notice/Adopt Agenda: Hackbarth verified the agenda had been properly noticed.

Motion: (Jauquet, Thurman) to adopt the agenda as posted. Carried.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: *Motion: (Thurman, Jauquet) to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2019 meeting, as written. Carried.*

Public Comment: Buske reported the brick walkway at the corner by Noble Square needs to be kept open. The snow machine has torn up some of the grass on either side and repairs will need to be done in spring.

Merkel stated the Town needs to look into better equipment to maintain the sidewalks, especially with the new sidewalks.

Jauquet suggested a handbook be provided to Committee members of all policies and procedures related to Parks and Lands. She would also like a list of projects and equipment.

Jauquet suggested the Parks and Lands Committee provide a recommendation to the Town Board on the Geese issue at the beach.

Committee Reports

Chair: No report

Gardens: Buske reported the gardens are frozen. She would like to inform the Committee that the early cold season may have damaged some of the new cedars and shrubs.

Lighthouse: No report

Invasive Species: Ansley reported that now is a great time to see and remove barberry.

Remove from the Table Dog Park on Airport Property: *Motion: (Thurman, Ansley) to remove from the table: Dog Park on Airport Property. Carried.*

Dog Park on Airport Property: Skare was unable to attend to provide an update and has nothing new to present. Thurman has concerns about the size of the area, proximity to the Sherman's, and the effect the fence will have on wildlife movement. He suggests limiting the size of the dog park to the south side of the volleyball courts. Hackbarth also echoed the comments and thinks the area to the south would be sufficient with consideration of possible expansion in the future. Buske also thinks the smaller size is sufficient and encourages socialization among the animals. Dick was unable to attend Ephraim's meeting last week. Sherman provided an update that the Village has questions and requests more information. The Airport Commission also has concerns about the proximity to the grass runway.

Motion: (Thurman, Jauquet) to recommend to the Town Board to limit the proposed dog park to no more than 2 acres, south of the volleyball courts. Carried.

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Review and Discuss Donation Policy: Thurman presented a draft donation policy. It was suggested to include eradication of invasive species efforts. Ansley stated, people may have concerns about how invasives are treated and removed. Also change “Town Board” approval for exceptions to just be “Town”. Thurman will update the draft donation policy for approval next month.

Fish Creek Park Playground Equipment: Approval has been received from the DNR for playground equipment in Fish Creek Park. A permit is not needed and will only need to consider local setbacks. Need to establish a budget and determine a design prior to fundraising efforts. Merkel suggested a basic design with optional phases for expansion. Buske suggested the committee consider the Civil War Encampment when choosing its location. Committee members should bring design ideas to the next meeting. Merline suggests something similar to Not Licked Yet’s versatility.

2020 Budget Review: The committee reviewed the 2020 budget.

Pay of Gardener: *Motion: (Hackbarth, Lancaster) to increase the gardeners wage to \$5500. Carried.*

2020 Picnic Table Purchase: Would like to determine locations for the recently purchased tables prior to purchasing. Will bring back in March.

Determination of Picnic Table Locations: Ansley suggested having one rectangular table down by the creek in Fish Creek Park, near the old Bonnie Brae (Brook) foundation. Buske suggested another hex table in Noble Square Park. The other rectangular table would be nice in Clark Park. *Motion: (Jauquet, Ansley) to approve the locations as discussed. Carried.*

2020 Projects/ 5 Year Plan: The committee reviewed and updated the 5-year plan. The 5-year plan is used as an outline of potential future projects. Playground equipment, Sunset Park trail and stair improvements, Clark Park water filling station, and reforestation/restoration of Fish Creek Park were added.

2020 Sign Painting and Repairs: Need to determine what signs need to be repaired and repainted. Kelly will reach out to Bruce Peissig to see if he’d be interested in submitting an estimate.

Clark Park/Old Town Hall Sidewalk Repairs: The cobblestone sidewalks in Clark Park are in need of repair. The anticipated high water levels may be another issue next summer. The Harbor Commission is monitoring the effects of the high water on the Dock and parking lot. They have discussed needing to raise the parking lot which could create ponding issues in the Park. Hackbarth will discuss with Harbor Chair, Dave Harris. Need to also consider a pad or access to the water fountain. What will happen with the stone walls?

Determination of Carry-over Funds for Sunset Park Trail Improvements: *Motion: (Hackbarth, Jauquet) to carry forward remaining funds after Mike Kahr invoice for the dimension stone at the lighthouse for Sunset Beach Trail improvements. Carried.*

Sunset Beach Trail Improvements/Restoration: Jauquet would like to move forward with the Sunset Beach trail improvement project as soon as possible. Funds were removed from the 2020 budget. Hackbarth stated it was removed to be included in future wayfinding and streetscaping projects. Jauquet will ask the Town Board to reconsider.

Purchasing Trees for Fish Creek Park: Need to begin planning for the second phase of tree cutting before the spring thaw. Thurman proposes planting 100 trees next year. Woodstock Nursery offers a 10%

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discount if purchased prior to Dec. 31. Buske provided a list of trees that are native and suitable for providing shade and habitat. Trees to be purchased: 25 Ohio Buckeye, 25 River Birch, 25 Swamp Oak, and 25 Sugar Maple. Ansley would like to confirm these trees are native to Door County.

Need to determine who will be planting. Will the school kids be interested again this year?

Motion: (Hackbarth, Jauquet) to purchase trees as proposed by Thurman using donation funds. Carried, Ansley opposed.

2020 Invasive Species Control: Ansley doesn't mind continuing with Invasive Species, but would like to focus her attention on other Lighthouse projects. Lancaster agreed to assist with invasive species control.

Chambers Island Lighthouse

a. Creation of a Friends Group: Hackbarth reported he spent time several years ago in creating a Friends group. Transportation to and on the island has been an issue. The marina at the Island is not owned by the Town and is owned by the Chambers Island Association. Ansley would like to obtain information on how to create a Friends group and will connect with Hackbarth on what he did several years ago. Dave Harris will also be a good resource.

Adjourn: *Motion: (Jauquet, Lancaster) to adjourn at 10:16 AM. Carried*

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Murre
Deputy Clerk