

## December 11, 2018 Park Commission Meeting

Present: Scott Warner (President), Ed Willing (Vice-President), Kathy Burton (Secretary), Jay Benkowski (Trustee Liaison), Earl Bednar (Commissioner), and Jim Arehart (Commissioner)

Also present: Randall Solberg (Supervisor), Tom Lazcano (Caledonia Public Works Director), Deb Tarnow (Key Engineering Group), and Jeremy Hinds (Key Engineering Group)

- 1) Call to Order- The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M..
- 2) Public Comments- none
- 3) Approval of Minutes- \*\*Trustee Benkowski made a motion to approve the November 13th, and November 16th minutes as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Bednar. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4) Crawford Park Plan- Tom Lazcano informed the Commission that the current contract was being reviewed by the Village's attorney.

Trustee Benkowski stressed the importance of frugality and would like Key Engineering to work with Village staff to find cost savings. Deb Tarnow noted the strict timeframe in the RFP and was concerned that there might be delays waiting for and comingling staff information. She also worried about liability issues as well.

Tom Lazcano talked about the memorial trees in the park and the stormwater survey. Deb Tarnow said that the survey will have to be redone according to the actual plan. She also stressed that the faster we get to the final plan the better it would be for cost savings.

There was lengthy discussion/debate regarding: a sledding hill, dog park, soccer fields, band shell, skating pond, additional play spaces, shelters, access to the park, and parking. Deb felt that parking within the park should be addressed to keep the park ADA compliant. She also felt that with the current size of the park, that it should have at least two access points. Vice-President Willing asked to keep the possibility of future expansion of the park in mind as we go forward. President Warner stressed that whatever ideas are implemented that the park remain a cohesive park. Trustee Benkowski emphasized family gathering and structured recreational play spaces.

Jeremy Hinds wondered how the information regarding community interests will be gathered? There was brief discussion regarding surveys and the use of Facebook and the Village website. Secretary Burton suggested that the recently approved Park Plan also be used as a tool; as it contains need assessments and community comments (obtained from the public hearing).

Jeremy Hinds informed the Commission that we may qualify for DNR Stewardship Grant money as well as some lakeshore grant money (because the Klema Ditch drains into the lake). He said that he would also look to see what other grants may be available. He did worry that the schedule may be drawn out due to the DNR grant cycle but recommended that the Commission move forward with the current proposal and monitor it along the way.

In the end, there was agreement that there was a need for: centralized parking, additional shelters, central bathrooms, and additional access points.

- 5) Supervisor/Maintenance Update- n/a

6) Communications and Announcements- Supervisor Solberg handed out informational packets for the Commissioners to read regarding the Nicholson Wildlife Refuge.

7) Adjournment- \*\* Vice- President Willing made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Bednar. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M..

Respectfully Submitted By: Kathy Burton