

**Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting  
September 14, 2020**

Committee: Caledonia Trustee Tom Weatherston, Caledonia Trustee Lee Wishau, Residents: Josh Sopczak, Mark Leskowitz, Christian De Jong, Michael Lambrecht.

Absent: Amber Yocco

Staff/Others: Development Director Peter Wagner, and Finance Director Kathy Kasper.

**1. Call the meeting to order**

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Weatherston

**2. Approval of Minutes**

LWishau move to approve

M Lambrecht second

Voice vote carries

LWishau moves to place item 10 (proposed budget) to top of agenda.

**10. Discussion on 2021 Budget**

Kathy Kasper will present the budget to the Village Board on Monday, a chance for the committee to review. Difficult to project revenues. Joint park and Caledonia Parks budgets staying separate to use funds within Joint Park professional services line item for legal services. Could be provided by Village in future. Property tax numbers are up, more is being used to cover operational costs. CIP is draft only. Estimates provided to address Chapla park revetment due to high lake water impact (erosion). Projected cost is \$150k. More discussion necessary.

Some further discussion about individual line items.

**3. Public Comment (2 minutes/person)**

No comments presented.

**4. Maintenance Report from Tom Lazcano.**

Work continues on the outstanding maintenance items.

- Gorney park fields have been repaired. Pier work initiated but much needs to be done. There has been a struggle getting the work done.
- Dead trees have been cut down, R Solberg and highway dept are cleaning them up.
- Crawford park dugout roofs have been removed, no immediate plan to replace.
- Crawford shelter has been repaired.
- Maple park dead trees have been removed.
- Outdated information contained in park kiosks and signage has been removed.
- T Weatherston asked about split rail status. Fence has been taken down at Gorney, still need to do Linwood and others.

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- C DeJong asked about the status of the maintenance list that L Wishau presented at the June 23 2020 meeting. Wishau requested that the status of each item on the list be reviewed/updated by staff and presented at the next meeting.

**5. Southern Lakes Blue Devils Football Club.**

P Wagner was approached about a semi-pro team looking to use Gorney park for their games. The football rep was not present at the 9/14/20 meeting. P Wagner will follow up to see if he is interested in this or next year. Potential revenue source for that park. What improvements to the park would be needed is not known.

M Lambrecht motion to table. J Sopczak, second. Motion carried

**6. Follow Up on Parks Clean Up and Volunteers**

J Sopczak reports park cleanup for Chapla scheduled for Saturday Sept 19 from 1-3pm. Joint park Biergarten will be out to provide N/A refreshments. 10-20 people expected, PPE supplied. Citizen initiated event.

L Wishau suggests that each park should have a team leader or “Captain”, J Sopczak says he will work to put that together. Wishau reported that all volunteers must complete both volunteer waivers prior to participating in park “clean up” events. Josh has some of them now and will be sure to get the meaning participant waivers prior to the Sept 19 event.

**7. Discussion on Community Gardens.**

A Yocco requested this as an agenda item but is not in attendance. Raised bed gardening within our parks for community use

C DeJong moves to table, J Sopczak second. Motion passes

**8. Discussion on Biking/Walking/Dog trail.**

L Wishau presents his plan with map, to be done in phases. Proposed trail is like one of the trails as outlined in the Open Space plan.

M Lambrecht moves to bring to board for review, J Sopczak second. Motion passes

**9. Discussion on Joint Park Operations**

T Weatherston discussed the status. Joint Park was offered to the County, they are not interested in taking on this park in 2021. County will review again prior to 2022 budget development.

Tom’s impression is that the county probably will not assume control of the Joint Park.

Caledonia offered to take authority but not ownership of the park and Village Board passed that proposal. Comments at the board meeting include the need for a professional manager and updated software to handle reservations. Fees structure needed for the different events and amenities. P Wagner mentions that having a boilerplate contract and automated rental agreements takes the onus off the CPR.

**11. Discussion on 2021 Rental Rates for Park Use**

P Wagner shared the first draft of sports fees and policies document. C DeJong asked how many lighted diamonds we have - there is 1 at the joint park.

P Wagner will bring a second draft with updated numbers for fee structure. Software will be updated to reflect hourly availability.

**12. New Business**

Add an agenda item to have park “captains” established for each major park in the system

**13. Adjournment**

M Lambrecht moves to adjourn, Wishau seconds. Motion carries. 6:36PM