

## Park and Vacant Land Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, January 8, 2024 Time: 5:30 p.m. Location: 2800 Ward Ave, La Crosse, WI 54601 **Present:** Chairperson Renee Knutson; Committee Members, Monica Redmond, Jeffrey Butler, Josh Blum (Zoom), Jean Wiggert (Zoom); Administrator Christina Peterson. **Excused:** N/A **Attendance List :** None.

- 1. Meeting called to order by Chairperson Knutson at 5:29 p.m.
- 2. <u>Approve Minutes from 11/6/2023</u>. Motion by Butler to approve minutes from 11/6/2023, second by Knutson. Motion carried unanimously.
- 3. <u>Citizen's Concerns</u>. None.
- 4. Old Business
  - a. Minutes Review
    - Nolop Estates Park Survey complete and \$1,000.00 cost split between Parks Projects and Town Legal.
    - Park Signs and Logos No further report
    - Bluffland Coalition County approved \$200k for Blufflands.
    - No updates on proposed SYB Bench or Basketball court in Wedgewood Valley.
  - b. 2024 Budget Ideas. Catalog where benches and garbage cans would go. Ice skating rink, tennis court resurfacing. Wiggert requested \$1,600.00 for Gazebo Park due to the expense of driving to pickup baskets and other expenses. Renee requested an itemized list from Wiggert for the committee to review. Josh asked about mapping of parks. Renee proposed the following for 2024: seven garbage cans (total \$8,000.00) and four benches (total \$10,000.00). The following landscape project ideas for 2024 were discussed: Nolop Estates Park, Battlestone Station Road, Disc Golf Signage, Drive-in Road green space.
  - c. Shelby Youth Ball (SYB) Field Expansion Project Update. Peterson reported that two of the fields at Hillview Complex have had the infields expanded to meet the standards length of 13U and older baseball. The third field already met the standard. The proposal to expand the outfield for the two fields has been postponed due to further review required for grading and earthwork.
- 5. New Business
  - a. Two Eagles Scouts looking for projects. Knutson explained a project idea for Battlestone Park. She suggested the town could place anchor plants on one or more of the mounds and then have the Eagle Scout plan a project to complete the mounds with other plants. Motion was made by Redmond for up to \$1500 out of the Parks Project Budget for the anchor plants, second by Blum, motion carried unanimously.

- b. Boma Road Project. Peterson informed the committee that the Town will be replacing Boma Road this year (2024) and there had been discussion about adding parking to Smythe Park during the project. The committee agreed that having 2 or 3 parking spots on the side of the road would be beneficial to the park. It was also suggested that a pathway be constructed from parking spots down to shelter. Peterson state that the parking could be paid for with project funds, but the pathway may need to be funded with park project funds. Peterson will request a cost estimate from Public Works.
- 6. <u>Chairperson/Commissioner Reports.</u> Blum asked about the parking alongside Crown Boulevard near trailhead, and if Public Works was going to remove some of the Sand. Peterson noted she had asked Public Works to do this several months back. Knutson brought up an idea for the Little Free Library Contest. Entrants would design and build a library to town standards. She suggested a \$500.00 prize for the best library. Committee feedback included a question on the demand for more libraries and a belief that this contest would get parks discussion going in the community. Discussion will continue at a future meeting.

Knutson reported that there is a leak in the roof of the Enclosed Shelter at Mormon Coulee Park. Public Works will review in Spring.

7. <u>Adjournment.</u> Motion by Redmond to adjourn at 6:50 p.m., second by Butler. Motion carried unanimously.

Next regular meeting will take place Monday, February 12, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Christina Peterson, Town Administrator