

**VILLAGE OF PLEASANT PRAIRIE  
PARK COMMISSION  
Village Hall Auditorium  
9915 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin 53158  
November 1, 2016  
6:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Pleasant Prairie Park Commission was held on Tuesday, November 1, 2016, 6:00 p.m. Present were Michealene Day, Cindy Schwab, Jim Bandura (Alternate #1), Brock Williamson, Dan Klemack and Dave Klimisch. William Mills and Kris Keckler were excused. Also present were Michael Pollocoff, Village Administrator; John Steinbrink, Jr., Public Works Director; and Ruth Mack-Stoner, Executive Secretary. Two citizens were present.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. MINUTES OF MEETINGS - OCTOBER 4, 2016**

Michealene Day:

You had in your minutes for October 4, 2016. If there's no additions or corrections to the October 4th meeting can I have a motion to accept?

Jim Bandura:

So moved.

Dave Klimisch:

Second.

**Jim Bandura moved to approve the Park Commission Meeting minutes of the October 4, 2016 meeting presented in their written form: Seconded by Dave Klimisch. Motion carried 6-0.**

- 4. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Michealene Day:

Is there anyone in the audience that would like to make comments?

## 5. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

Madam Chair and members of the committee, I do have a couple things to report on this evening. A lot of activity going on I'd like to make you aware of in the next couple weeks. The first thing is we're very fortunate to this weekend open up our first tennis court. Actually four tennis courts, two of them in Village Green Park on Cooper Road and 97th and Village Green demonstration area. And the other one in Pleasant Prairie Park, 104th and Bain Station Road.

Those dates and times are going to be this Saturday which is going to be November 5th. And we're going to open up the Village Green Park, do a quick ceremony there at nine, and then a ceremony over at ten at the Pleasant Prairie Park. So it's going to be very brief, just kind of welcome everyone. We invited all the HOAs in the area and we put out some press releases. We're hoping to have some people. So there's two tennis courts and a basketball court at each of the parks. And it's really a nice amenity. RecPlex is planning to have some programming with them.

And actually included with the tennis courts we striped for pickleball. I'll be honest I never knew what pickleball was until we said we were going to have tennis courts, and there's this pickleball group. I don't know how nationally affiliated they are, but they contacted me, and they gave us some input on how to stripe them and different stuff. So we took their ideas and suggestions, and they plan on having some pickleball demonstrations. So if anyone would like to play pickleball or tennis or basketball they're all going to be available this Saturday at those set times.

The second thing that we have is this Sunday, the next day, November 6th at 1:30 we are going to have our Veterans Day ceremony. And so that will include our annual ceremony plus a light lunch at 1:30 at Prairie Springs Park at our veterans over by the south ballfields.

And then the last thing that we have that's going on is we have two parks over at the Village Green Center that we're looking at going to have our first public shred at. If you guys remember a few months ago, earlier in the spring or summer, we contracted with Ayres and Associates, put this plan together, and then collect some public input. Well, our public input is going to be on November 9th, this Wednesday, a week from Wednesday coming up here at the Village Hall from five to six to get some input. So you're all invited and encouraged to show up for that. So we're very excited for that. So a lot of stuff going on. We still have some planning for parks, we have some new parks that we plan on dedicating improvements and then our Veterans Day ceremony. So very excited for all that and hope to see all of you there. That's all I have.

Michealene Day:

Thank you.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Consider resolution recommending to the Village Board the naming of the park land currently referred to as Unit W Park to Frank Gesualdo Park.**

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

Madam Chair and members of the Commission, and this actually goes back a little bit so I'll give you a little bit of history on it. On January 6, 2015, the Park Commission passed a resolution, it was Resolution #15-01, accepting the donation of 13.44 acres of land north of 90th Street at the end of 5th Avenue from the owners, Frank and Ralph Gesualdo expressing appreciation of their donation.

This land is generally described as open space, woodland and wetland with a portion of the land located within the a primary environmental corridor. Further, the land is identified as being in the Neighborhood Park and Open Space designation as a future neighborhood park known as the Carol Beach Unit W Neighborhood Park. So that's the way that it's currently named within our Park and Open Space Plan.

The final transfer of land is expected to be completed next month in December. Frank and Ralph Gesualdo are requesting that this park be named Frank Gesualdo Park in honor of their father. Village staff requests that the Park Commission approve a recommendation to the Village Board of Trustees to name the park land currently known as Unit W Park to Frank Gesualdo Park. And that's the resolution that's in front of you this evening.

So currently in the Park and Open Space Plan it's called Unit W Park. The owners were very generous to donate that land to us which we'd been hoping to acquire at some point in time. And the one request is that they do name it after their father, Frank Gesualdo Park, and I think it's very appropriate and fitting. And I can answer any questions that you may have.

Michealene Day:

Open it to the floor. Any questions?

Brock Williamson:

It just shows you're going to do a mulch trail over there? That's the long-term plan?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

Yes, correct. It is a passive park. We're not looking to having any active --

Brock Williamson:

Structures.

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

Active recreation. Yeah, it's not even calling for a playground or anything like that. It's just a natural area passive park if you want to walk. And eventually we'll cut a trail through there. But a very natural place. It's really the intention of what we have in the Park and Open Space Plan, and what the Gesualdo family would like to keep it at for this time. So staff recommendation is to honor their wishes and keep it consistent with the Park and Open Space Plan. And if there is a time later where the family wants to make some changes or something happens, that's for later. But right now passive park is our plan.

Dan Klemack:

Access to the park is off of 5th Avenue?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

Access off the park is off of 5th Avenue, you are correct.

Dan Klemack:

Okay, is there parking over there, too, or just on the street?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

There's a little bit of parking right now. Right now it's kind of barricaded off at the park entrance. We would remove those barricades and have a little bit of parking in that area. One of the improvements that we made just for security is putting a streetlight up down the road as our funding allows.

Dave Klimisch:

And what's the acreage that is being donated?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

It's thirteen and a half acres. And so it's a large parcel. I've walked it back years ago, and it's a beautiful piece of property. The Village is very fortunate to actually take ownership of this property.

Dave Klimisch:

I think it's fabulous that the citizens considered donating something like this for the Village. It will be here forever, and it will be in a natural state. So as time goes by things get built up so it's nice that you are able to dedicate something like this forever.

Michealene Day:

Any other questions?

Brock Williamson:

Is that pond spring fed, or is it a waterway going through there? How is that?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

I'm not sure if it's spring fed or not. There is some natural drainage that goes there. So it's kind of an un-engineered retention wet basin. Probably a little bit more of a wetland area than anything else.

Dan Klemack:

Is there access to that pond?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

There's no real defined trails, mulch improved. I mean you can definitely traverse most of the area and find the pond. But as far as having really nice, improved trails that's something that the future budgets would have to allow. If there's an Eagle Scout project down the road or any sort of civic or volunteer group that would want to do something, we would obviously direct them in here to make some improvements, put some benches, maybe a small shelter, something like that.

Cindy Schwab:

The other thing, so on 7th Avenue there there's a lot of phragmites coming in. So I think that's another thing right now in the area there is no phragmites. But making sure that as a Village that you try and keep it from coming into the park. I mean on 7th right there it's taken over everything. Just currently [inaudible] so just something to think about in the future to keep an eye on it. Because that would really destroy that area right there. They've donated it and it's really a beautiful habitat. And we wouldn't want it wrecked by phragmites.

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

Yeah, one of the struggles that we do have in many of our open spaces is the phragmites and other invasives. And maybe we can look for some grants to alleviate some of those pressures coming in from the outside.

Cindy Schwab:

That would be great.

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

That's a great idea. Thank you.

Michealene Day:

Okay, the question before the Board then is do we concur and change the name from Park W, and if so can we have a motion to do so?

Dave Klimisch:

So moved.

Jim Bandura:

Second.

Michealene Day:

Any other questions?

Mike Pollocoff:

Mr. DeBartolo, do you want to make any comments to the Commission?

Tony DeBartolo:

For all who don't remember that was the old Town Club. Remember the old Town Club that was there? So it was all developed at one time with the tennis courts and pool. We did the phase one, everything's been done, it's a clean site. So at one point in time we were going to develop it. We were going to get maybe ten lots in there and condo-ize it. I'm going back into the early '90s. And obviously as time has changed the best interest was just to have the Village take it over as a donation. That's it.

Michealene Day:

Thank you so much. We have a motion and seconded. All in favor?

**Dave Klimisch moved to approve a recommendation to the Village Board naming the park land currently referred to as Unit W Park to Frank Gesualdo Park: Seconded by Jim Bandura. Motion carried 6-0.**

Michealene Day:

Motion carries. Thank you so much. And thank you for your generous donation. Thank you so much.

**7. PARK COMMISSION COMMENTS**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Michealene Day:

I need a motion to adjourn.

Jim Bandura:

So moved.

Dave Klimisch:

Second.

**Jim Bandura moved to adjourn the meeting: Seconded by Dave Klimisch. Motion carried 6-0.**

Michealene Day:

Motion carries. Thank you very much.