**Somers Parks Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**20th June 2016**

**Somers Village and Town Hall 7511-12th Street, Somers, WI**

**Call to Order:** 5:35 pm

**Attendance:**

**Committee:**  Tom Maurer, Sherri Heinisch, Greg Retzlaff, Steven Maurer, Tyson Froh, Gordon Lake

**Liaisons and Guests:** Joe Cardinali, Jerry Smith

**Citizens:** None in attendance

**Minutes Approval 05/17/16:** Greg/Gordon

**Board Liaison Report – Joe:**

Somers Newsletter was sent to residents. Community Picnic is in planning stages. Fire Association is hosting an after-parade picnic at the pavilion to promote the pavilion for general public use.

**Recreation Report – Joe:**

Softball registrants posted at 377 this year. Last year 353 registered for the program. There was a large jump in t-ball registration. The slight increase in participation fees coupled with t-ball as a feeder to the higher levels of softball puts the Rec program in a very positive position. Soccer, although not a full-scale program for this year, is offering soccer clubs and camps.

**Chairman’s Report – Tom:**

Tom will meet with Village Board Chairman regarding conflicting information concerning impact fees. There is to be a policy change regarding impact fees per Joe.

**Public Works Report – Jerry:**

Ball diamond lights 100% working. Temporized to get us through this season, and next season maybe. Time and materials may be expensed under Public Works. Per Joe, we will know in about a month if we are awarded grants for replacing the light fixtures for next year. There may be other means also to support the expense, such as rebates and grants from other sources such as WE Energies, that will be pursued.

The Bear development near Sam’s Club includes a playground, work-out room and swimming pool for the residents there.

**Old Business:**

1. **Park inventory and equipment needs update – Jerry:**

Jerry presented a detailed report complete with pictures of each park and it’s amenities. Notes:

1. Somers Memorial: Restrooms at Somers Memorial are seasonal.
2. Country Charms: Parking at Country Charms is a cul-de-sac. This is a

walk-to park for the residents..

1. Trail at 7th Place Overlook is unimproved
2. Fabiano Memorial playground equipment is toddler size with no infant swings.
3. Valley View swing frame is 8-ft and will accept an infant swing

The 8-ft swing-set frame height is within guidelines for an infant swing. The cost of each swing is $150. Country Charms is not ideal for a swing-set as the ground slopes. The cost of a swing-set is approximately $2000. Sherri suggested that rather than a swing-set at Country Charms, perhaps a sitting area that includes a picnic table and something to draw wildlife such as birdfeeders, bluebird houses and garden or a butterfly garden. Tom added that a martin house would be an interesting addition. Joe will look at CIP funds for all park improvements. There is approx. $39,000 in CIP funds and $937 left in the Parks fund.

1. **PVC Pipe removal at Memorial Park – Jerry:**

Four PVC soccer goals removed, leaving the larger field goals in place.

**New Business:**

1. **Purchase of grill for Memorial Park pavilion – Joe:**

Joe consulted new Parks Director Matt Collins regarding appropriate grills for Memorial Park. Pricing was obtained for grills that are the same as those in the Petrifying Springs Park with grill grates of 15” x 20” with a heavy duty 3/16’ steel plating box. Two of these grills would cost $540, which includes scrapers and other accessories, and shipping and handling charges. The cost for a single grill would be up to $318. A dump bucket of concrete for hot coals will be needed and can be easily added per Jerry. Motion to approve purchase of two grills totaling $540 for Memorial Park by Greg, seconded by Sherri.

**2. Somers Day Community Picnic – Joe:**

Tentative date is August 13th. Joe is working with local businesses to make

the picnic a success. Somers House is providing burgers and hot dogs; the brats and hot beef are coming from Tina’s Additionally, there will be a beer tent, and kids area that includes face painting. A DJ is enlisted for music. The event should run from 2 til 10 pm.. The revenue will be shared 50/50 between the sponsors and the Rec Dept. Contact Joe with ideas. Volunteers are needed.

1. **W-I-S-E event at Draeger hall – Joe:**

This safety initiative event to promote safe driving is scheduled for this Saturday

1. **Ideas for future community events/activities – Joe:**

Gordon suggested adult volleyball, but per Joe there is not an interest in this area right now. Gordon also suggested fireworks on a small scale as done in the past, however the more recent housing development in the area would prohibit fireworks; Gordon’s suggestion of a Melvin Gordon appearance at some of our events is likely to be pursued.

**Citizens’ Comments:** None presented

**Committee Members’ Comments:**

There was discussion regarding appointing a Vice-Chair to the Committee. As the Committee meets only infrequently, it was unanimously decided that a Vice-Chair is not necessary, as a meeting can be rescheduled if the Chair is unable to attend a scheduled meeting.

**Next meeting:** TBD

**Adjournment:** 6:39 pm Gordon/Tyson

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sherri Heinisch

Secretary, Somers Parks Committee