**Village of Somers Parks Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**17th May 2016**

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

**Call to Order:**  5:48 pm

**Attendance:**

**Committee:** Tom Maurer, Sherri Heinisch, Gordon Lake, Michael Gorman

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

**Citizens:** Ron Grimes

**Minutes Approval: 02/11/16:**  Mike/Gordon

**Board Liaison Report/Election of Committee Vice Chair – Joe:**

The Committee passed both the Ball Diamond Resolution and the Budget Carryover Resolution last meeting. However, the Budget Carryover was not approved by the Village Board. Joe will present the Budget Carryover every year in future. Currently there is $39,880.44 in unrestricted funds in the Parks Fund, with impact fees used up. The Lake Michigan Fund, which would fund the Neumiller Project as well and the Pike River Project, has a $20,936.02 balance. Vice Chair was not elected nor discussed.

**Recreation Liaison Report – Kevin Griffin:**

Joe spoke on behalf of Kevin Griffin, who was not in attendance. The Major League Baseball Grant was applied for in replacing the 40-year-old ball diamond lighting, and we should be hearing from them within weeks. The MLB grant is a 50/50 matching grant that would render our responsibility $65,000. However, we should be able to reduce our responsibility due to WE Energy and Focus on Energy credits. The top of the line LED lights should last us 40 years.

The 68 participants in last season’s Basketball program helped to make this the most successful program to date, with much positive response from the community. There are 400 children signed up so far for our most successful rec sport, Softball. Registration remains open thru May 20th. In pursuant of Winter Golf Clinics, Joe has been in contact with local golfers, the Golf Academy, and plans to connect with George Capoun. Joe is also negotiating with Troy Fabiano and Red Star for the Soccer Program, and will present to the Village Board for approval.

Follow-up discussion included Mike wanting to see a playground in the Country Charms Park, which he had requested in years past. Mike will make a recommendation on playground equipment for the park and bring his recommendations to next meeting. Tom pointed out that the Steve Mills subdivision on Hwy 31 does not include in budget funding for a park for the residents’ children to play in; Jerry will get details on that as he believes that a clubhouse, swimming pool and park are all planned.

**Public Works Report – Jerry Smith:**

Wal-Mart donated three skids of mulch for Village Hall Rain Garden; Yutka Fence donated chain link fence for north ball diamond dug-outs, and Tree Solutions donated time and materials to remove dead ash trees and grind stumps. Each of these generous donors will be acknowledged with a plaque with their logo, and the plaques will be mounted on the fences. Regarding the ball diamond lighting: While we wait for the MLB grants and Energy credits, which won’t be approved in time for the start of this season, the burned out bulbs in the ball diamond will still need to be replaced. Public Works will mulch 12 yds of mulch around Valley View Park playground equipment.

**Old Business:**

1. **Valley View Swing-set cost – Jerry :**  The manufacturer recommendations for toddler swings are an 8-ft hanging height per manufacturer guidelines. Liability is covered by the manufacturer. Jerry will evaluate each park as to its conditions of and need for playground equipment and present at next meeting. Tom commented that he had contacted the State as to playground equipment laws and found none existed.
2. **Sign Ball Diamond Resolution**
3. **Financing and Payment Plan – Joe -**  Joe and Tom will sign the Resolution and file with Clerk—Treasurer Tim Kitzman
4. **Sign Budget Carryover Resolution –**
5. **Update on Process for tracking transfer of funds to general fund – Joe –**

Village Board did not approve Budget Carryover Resolution nor tracking funds transfer.

1. **Website update -**  Not addressed

**New Business:**

1. **Pike River Restoration – Dave Giordano –** Tabled
2. **Pike River Advisory Resolution -** Tabled
3. **Soccer and Golf Programs –** **Kevin Griffin -**  Addressed in Rec Liaison Report above
4. **Soccer Program Lease Agreement Advisory Resolution -** Tabled
5. **Memorial Park –**
6. **Removal of PVC pipes and goal posts -** Per Troy Fabiano the soccer goal posts are not needed, they use mobile goal posts.
7. **Parking - Tom -**  The immediate concern is the number of cars parking in every spot,

including the neighbors’ condo parking lot; that if there were an emergency situation, the EMT would have a difficult time gaining access to the person in need, and exiting expediently from the crowd. In the short term we could put up an additional gravel parking lot, but in the long term a solid surface parking lot would be needed, and there are storm-sewer considerations that must be dealt with per Jerry.

1. **Business Cards for Kevin Griffin –** Kevin is our Recreational Director. He is independent,

but works for us and brings in business. Somers logo cannot appear on his cards. Motion to

approve up to and not more than $20.00. Mike/Sherri

**Open Discussion:**

**Citizens’ Comments:**

Ron Grimes stressed the importance of appropriating new development impact fees to the Parks

Committee and other factions of the Village as designated by state statutes

**Committee Chairman/Members’ Comments::**

* Tom agreed that the impact fees should be appropriated accordingly and not automatically

deposited into the General Fund. Committee members were all in agreement.

* Landscape plan to develop this year or next year, for all parks, starting with Village/Town Hall, with Tom leading.. Sherri proposed a Gardening Subcommittee can be formed for gardening maintenance
* Gitzlaff property was discussed. Potential new lease or development. Will discuss in more

detail at next meeting

**Next meeting is:**  Tuesday, June 14 at 6pm

**Adjournment** 7:50 pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Sherri Heinisch

Secretary - Village of Somers Parks Committee