

**VILLAGE OF SUSSEX
PARK AND RECREATION BOARD
6:30 PM TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022
SUSSEX CIVIC CENTER – 2ND FLOOR COMMITTEE ROOM
N64W23760 MAIN STREET**

MINUTES

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Fourness at 6:31 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Chairman Bob Fourness, Nadine Coenen, Mike Waltz, Kelly Tetting, Chris Kostka, Chuck Vojtas and Trustee Ron Wells.

Members Excused: None

Staff Present: Park & Recreation Director Halie Dobbeck, Recreation Coordinator Charlotte Abt, Assistant Village Administrator Kelsey McElroy-Anderson, and Village Administrator Jeremy Smith.

Others Present: Village President Anthony LeDonne, Trustee Scott Adkins and Trustee Lee Uecker.

A quorum of the Village Board was present.

2. Consideration and action on minutes from the November 16, 2021 meeting.

Motion by Wells, seconded by Waltz to approve of the November 16, 2021 meeting minutes.

Motion carried 7-0.

3. Comments from Citizens Present

No one present wished to speak.

Motion by Fourness, seconded by Tetting to suspend the rules to move up Item 6 for and allow for public comment.

Motion carried 7-0.

4. Discussion on and Possible Action on Pickleball Facilities Open House and Voting.

Park & Recreation Director, Hallie Dobbeck, went through and reviewed the Pickleball Open House Recap and Data Summary memo with the board.

The following people present spoke:

Kathleen Vossen, N70W23954 Prides Road, Sussex, WI stated she believed Butler Park was donated as a conservancy. Wants to see Butler preserved per Mr. Butler's wishes.

Al Olmsted, N70W23957 Prides Road, Sussex, WI stated that there has been discussion of nature trails in the past, not Pickleball courts.

Jean Fero, N70W23925 Prides Road, Sussex, WI stated that she is concerned about animal waste and that Butler Park should be a nature preserve. She is concerned there may be restrictions on the land at Butler Park and does not want Pickleball courts there.

Park & Recreation Commissioner Chuck Vojtas left the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Rick Vodicka, W239 N7180 Maple Ave, Sussex, WI stated that he was not notified of any potential plans and was wondering why non-residents' opinions were being considered. Prefers the cheaper options and options at the existing park facilities.

Cheri Boldt, W239N7125 Lynn Anne Lane, Sussex, WI asked who the people were that were surveyed. Would like areas that are already set up to be considered.

Chris Stapelfeldt, N71W23920 Lynn Anne Lane, Sussex, WI stated they oppose new Pickleball courts at Butler. Would like to see them at a park with infrastructure. Concerned with where people will go to see nature. Money should be used to revamp other courts. Questioned if funds were not justified for a fence at The Grove, why are they justified for new construction.

Tom Johnson, N60W2328 Juniper Lane, stated the village should look at using other locations. Would like to know if infrastructure costs were included in costs. Would like to know if other options were excluded because of budget.

Tanya Bohacheff, N68W23939 Donna Drive, Sussex, WI stated she would rather see courts at Mapleway because of potential environmental impact at Butler Park.

Greg Winston, W239N7080 Lynn Anne Lane, Sussex, WI stated he supports natural areas remaining natural. Would like to know all-in costs for Butler Nature Preserve including building, lights and parking.

Tia Piering, N69W23478 Donna Drive, Sussex, WI stated she felt there were not enough votes to fully represent the community. Feels survey should be redone.

Kathleen Vossen, N70W23954 Prides Road, Sussex, WI stated she would like to know what would have happened in the neighborhood had not found about this meeting. Wondering about DNR impact at Butler.

Assistant Village Administrator McElroy-Anderson that the pickleball survey was advertised in the Utility bills, social media and emailed residents through the park & recreation system, Civic Rec.

McElroy-Anderson stated, in regards to exploring options; that notifying all residents at this initial phase would not have been a good use of staff time.

McElroy-Anderson stated that non-residents do participate in Village of Sussex programs. We are not able to stop them from voting. We are able to pull out those numbers to see residents vs. non-resident's responses.

McElroy-Anderson stated that the Park & Recreation Board and Village Board have both identified pickleball as a long-term need within the community.

McElroy-Anderson stated that staff explored many areas with existing facilities.

McElroy-Anderson stated that general infrastructure and all-in costs can be explored down the road.

McElroy-Anderson stated that all feasible options were investigated within the allowed budget. None were excluded because of cost.

Fourness asked how many courts we were looking to add.

Ms. Dobbeck stated that 4 courts are under consideration, which is also the preference of the Pickleball Advisory Committee.

Wells asked if there was anyway to expand at The Grove.

Mr. Smith stated no.

Fourness asked if we had considered building basketball courts.

Mr. Smith stated that was not considered because we could expand to more courts.

Waltz asked what the biggest cost prohibiting expansion at The Grove.

Mr. Smith stated that it would be cost prohibitive due to additional grading.

Coenen stated that the Pickleball Advisory Committee wanting new courts was news to her.

Waltz stated that Pickleball players did not choose to provide comment which may indicate that they may be happy with courts regardless of location.

Kostka asked about why the tennis courts in Village Park were not a considered location.

Mr. Smith stated that those courts are slated to be removed eventually due to a new access road being built from Hwy 164 as part of a future development.

Fourness asked, what are the plans for the existing Grove courts when considering new court construction? Would it stay a mixed-use court?

Mr. Smith said the plans are to leave it as is.

Fourness asked, how many total courts do we have? How many do residents need?

Mr. Smith stated there probably are not as many non-residents as people believe. Pickleball is a fast growing sport. There may be more need.

Coenen asked if the Pickleball players would be happy with courts in two different locations.

Motion by Fourness, seconded by Wells to suspend the rules and allow for Ms. Patty Coburn to reply. Motion carried 6-0.

Ms. Coburn stated that Pickleball courts in two locations is not a problem.

Waltz requested that staff evaluate the need to resurface Melinda Weaver in our existing depreciation schedule and consider if there's an opportunity to use those depreciation funds towards the cost of the construction at Melinda Weaver, This could allow extra funds to be able to add a fence to The Grove as well.

By consensus, the Park & Recreation Board direct Village Staff to explore Pickleball Courts at Armory Park and Melinda Weaver Park, with considerations to parking challenges for user groups, locations within the park (specifically for Armory Park), and evaluating the necessity of retaining a Tennis Court with the high school courts nearby.

Motion by Fourness, seconded by Waltz to return to regular session. Motion carried 6-0.

5. Lisbon Central Cemetery Mowing Contract for 2022

Motion by Waltz, seconded by Kostka to approve of the 2022 Mowing Contract with Al Moros as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

6. Update on 2022 Budget Items and Discussion and Possible Action on Utility Tractor Replacement.

Motion by Fourness, seconded by Tetting to recommend to Village Board the purchase of the Case 75A Tractor, not to exceed \$46,000, which is the lowest bid. Motion carried 6-0.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on Baseball Tournament Rain Date Policy

Ms. Dobbeck presented the presentations per the memo.

Motion by Waltz, seconded by Coenen to recommend to Village Board Option #4 for the Baseball Tournament Rain Date Policy. Motion carried 6-0.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Farmer's Market Proposal

Ms. Dobbeck presented the proposal per the memo.

Motion by Coenen, seconded by Wells to recommend to Village Board to approve the Summer Farmers Market for 2022 and potential Winter Market 2022-23 as presented.

Motion carried 6-0.

9. Park & Recreation Director's Report

Batting Cages Update: Hunzinger Construction needs a steady stream of days above 40 degrees so the glue adheres to the turf properly. When that happens they will schedule a time. The netting is being installed then by Hamilton High Schools maintenance team.

2021 Volunteers of the Year: Spooky Sussex Volunteer Committee; Sussex Area Service Club. Will be awarded at a Village Board Meeting in March.

Prides Park Update: Once snow melts, we will begin site preparations. Planned playground installation for May. Grand Opening July 21, 2022 at 5:00pm at Pints in the Park (4-8pm).

Egg Drop and Story Hop: Saturday April 9 - \$6/child, sign up for a time slot 9-11am, every 30 minutes.

Arbor Day 5K: The 5K has moved from Lions Daze to Arbor Day. The 5k is Saturday April 30 at 8:30 am. Will feature a kids run. Sign up today to run, walk or volunteer on the route!

Recreation Coordinator: We are hiring for a part time, 20 hour a week Recreation Coordinator to focus on Adult and Senior Programming. Jean Horner, who held this position, retired in January.

Summer Day Camp: Registration opened February 1. We are running our early bird special (10% off for the month of February). Due to many requests, we are offering full day camp during Summer Opportunities Summer School. We are also offering a CIT program for kids 13+ that want to gain volunteering and leadership experience. Enrollment is already half full.

Lannon Stone Sledding Hill: Due to significant costs for the power burial, that project is delayed with no new timeline established.

New Programs: Weekend Pickleball: Saturday 16/24; Sunday 15/24; Drop In Play Time (Friday AMs) roughly 15 kids under 5 each week.

10. Topics for Future Agenda Items

Pickleball Status, Waitlist Data (Just Sussex Programs, 2 or more on waitlists)

11. Adjournment

Motion by Waltz, seconded by Tetting to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.

Motion carried 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Halie Dobbeck
Park & Recreation Director