

MINUTES

City of Norwich, Parks Commission

January 22, 2020

Present; Chairman C. Sprague, Comm. OJ Levesque, Comm. M. Genung, Comm. T. French, Comm. S. Sutton

Absent; Comm. B. McCracken, Comm. K. Thompson

Also Present; E. Pepe

The meeting was opened by Chairman C. Sprague at 7:09 pm.

Motion to approve minutes of October 2019 Parks meeting was made by Comm. T. French, seconded by Comm. OJ Levesque, all ayes approve as written.

Visitors; Mayor Shawn Sastri

Correspondence; None

Old Business;

The committee discussed how the new playground at Greenway Park will be constructed. It will be a “community build” so volunteers will be needed. The playground will not be built before May 2020. DPW needs to prep the ground before install. Comm. M. Genung suggested we try to get high school kids involved through “dollars for scholars”, “National Honor Society”, etc.

New Business;

The new sign for Weiler Park was brought to the meeting by Chairman C. Sprague. DPW will install.

Additional playground equipment was ordered using the remaining balance leftover from the Chobani donation for Weiler Park. The City purchased a dragonfly, 2 sit ‘n’ spins, and 1 stand ‘n’ spin. The Parks Committee will determine where to install at a future date.

Auburn Park will be renamed Carnrike Park. The Parks Committee discussed sign options for the new sign. Durability, maintenance, and cost will be considered. The Parks Committee favors all Park signs to be identical, so whatever is purchased for Carnrike Park, will also be used for the other parks when it comes time to replace their signs.

The Parks Committee discussed developing a capital plan (immediate, 5 year, 10 year plans) for the Parks. A list of improvements will be developed and prioritized into Immediate, 5 year, and 10 year plans. Some initial ideas discussed were improvements at the skate park, and Kurt Beyer pool and bath facilities.

Superintendents Report;

Supt. Pepe discussed the problem with parking at the new dog park. People are not parking in the Greenway parking lot, they are parking alongside the street and in the grass along the street which is creating ruts and mud in front of the dog park. Ideas discussed were adding designated parking at the City owned property across River St, and adding parking spots along the road, and/or installing no parking signs along River St, and installing bollards along the street.

He also discussed how people were throwing away household trash in the dog waste containers, causing them to overflow. He suggested possibly adding signs stating the park is a carry in /carry out park.

Commissioner's Reports; None

Budget; No updates

Adjournment; Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.