

VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN
(Official Minutes)

MONTHLY MEETING of the PARK COMMISSION

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

Chairperson Treptow called the meeting of the Park Commission to order at 6:00 pm in the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin.

Park Commissioners present: Dawn Sammons, Rallee Whowell-Chupich, Laurie Larson, Rick Treptow, Susan Geye, Sarah Lobdell

Park Commissioners absent: Brent Horvath, Sharon O'Brien

Also present: Keith Fredrick, CDA Executive Director Joseph McHugh, Wes Milner, Dave Patrick, Jill Wegner, Director of Public Works Craig Workman, Fred Young

Visitors Heard

Jill Wegner, Wes Milner, Dave Patrick and Fred Young of the Blackhawk Chapter of Trout Unlimited discussed the findings of their recent walking tour of Van Slyke Creek. The water quality of the creek can sustain Brook Trout and Brown Trout, despite its unique location within a municipality. The Blackhawk Chapter is working with the Wisconsin DNR on a proposal to stock the creek with trout. The Blackhawk Chapter members stated that they can help the village with the necessary work and in drafting a stream plan to qualify for the DNR program.

General Business

Plan Commission Report

Larson updated the Park Commission on pending proposals.

CDA Report

McHugh updated the Park Commission on pending CDA matters.

Trustee Report

Larson presented an update.

Park House Use

Treptow stated that the Park House was used 11 times in February.

Treasurer's Report

Lobdell presented the Park Commission Financial Report as of February 28, 2005.

Public Works Report

Workman provided an update on the public works schedule.

Old Business

Agrecol Presentation

Keith Fredrick of Agrecol, Madison, presented a summary of 2005 activities in the Fontana Fen and at Fontana Headwaters and the Hildebrand Conservancy areas and outlined expectations and the scheduled on-site activities for 2006. At the Fontana Fen in 2006, the demonstration gardens will be much more robust and flower heavily. The seeded areas will be slow to germinate and growth will be limited to the roots. Fredrick stated that this will be the worst looking stage of the project since the Fen will be mowed at 6-to-8-inches, and it will look messy; there will only be a couple of flowers that bloom between mowing; and many of the natives will only be a couple inches tall at the end of the year. On site activities in 2006 at the Fontana Fen include the spraying of the site three times to eliminate noxious weeds, mowing the planted areas and areas with thick weed growth twice to

minimize seed production; and weeding the demonstration gardens three times. With regard to the Fontana Headwaters and Hildebrand areas, expectations in 2006 include the disappearance of the cover crop, spreading of the plants and more flowering in the open areas, the appearance and subsequent treatment of garlic mustard plants, and the germination of native seeds and their roots. On-site activities at the Fontana Headwaters and Hildebrand areas in 2006 include spot spraying on three occasions over the course of the season to control garlic mustard, re-treatment and the cutting of sprouts that were cut from trees and shrubs last season, and planting the remaining 24 trees (oak and river birch), 75 shrubs (serviceberry) and 392 ferns (four different species).

Landmark Trees

Treptow reported that a story will be published in the village’s quarterly newsletter.

Parks Organizational Status

The commission discussed at last month’s meeting the responsibility and accountability issues with regard to park operations. The commission decided to request a joint session meeting with the Lakefront and Harbor Committee to discuss some plans, but the meeting has not been scheduled. Treptow/Geye 2nd made a MOTION to table the matter, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Parks Projects/Completion Dates

Treptow updated on the commission on the park projects.

Fontana Signs – Entrance/Parks/Wayfinding

McHugh updated the commission on the timeline for the project and handed out photocopies of sign samples. The Park Commission will solidify its choices at next month’s meeting.

Spring Park Walks

Treptow stated that the proposed dates for the park walk events will be set next month.

New Business

Third Avenue Lighting Plans (CDA)

McHugh presented a diagram of the proposed Third Avenue lighting plan. Planning and Design Institute has submitted a new pan for the future street lighting along Third Avenue. The plan has been forwarded to Don Dewey of Commercial Lighting Sales for photometric analysis.

Mill Street Park/Hildebrand Conservancy Entrance (CDA)

Following the general delineation of the new Mill Street entrance to the Hildebrand Conservancy, the Department of Public Works will begin the process of clearing the area. The plan is to remove the dead trees and brush. No healthy trees will be removed until a final design for the new park is approved by the Village.

Bills to Pay

There were no bills to be approved.

Park Requests

There were no park requests.

Adjournment

Treptow/Geye 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Rallee Whowell-Chupich & Dennis Martin, Village Clerk

Note: These minutes are subject to further editing. Once approved by the Park Commission the official minutes will be on file at the Fontana Village Hall.

APPROVED: _____