

MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE VILLAGE OF METTAWA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE HOUR OF 7:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2016, IN THE MAPLE BOARDROOM OF THE HILTON GARDEN INN HOTEL, 26225 N. RIVERWOODS BOULEVARD, METTAWA, ILLINOIS.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Sheldon called the meeting to order at approximately 7:16pm.

B. ROLL CALL

Upon a call of the roll, the following persons were:

Present: Chairwoman Sheldon and Member Armstrong and Member Towne

Absent: None

Also present: Bob Irvin, Village Administrator; Scott Anderson, Village Engineer; Trustee Pink; resident Patricia Cork; Jay Womak of WRD Environmental; Colleen Liberacki, Deputy Village Clerk.

Chairwoman Sheldon declared a quorum present.

C. Approval of minutes from April 13, 2016.

Member Towne moved to accept the minutes of April 13, 2016 as presented, and Member Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

D. REVIEW WRD SCHEMATIC DESIGNS FOR WHIPPOORWILL AND OASIS PARKS

Jay Womak presented Whippoorwill Park schematic design and Phase 1 steps with associated costs. The initial goal was: trail restoration, maintenance and vegetation clean up. He acknowledged that the committee wanted to keep the pine trees, but noted that the turf around them needed to be mowed. He pointed out that the asphalt trail would be a nice place to walk, but wanted to eliminate some of the stub-offs. Member Towne and others noted that the one stub-off lead to a retention pond and there was a need to preserve emergency vehicle access. Jay Womak recommended keeping the honey locust and maple trees, and opting for native gardens. He also suggested a woodland garden using the bluestone for a terrace (that was currently stored on location) along with preserving the wishing well with daffodils, shrubs and perennial plantings. He further suggested a stonewall to create the feeling of a special place, presenting photos of such examples.

Chairwoman Sheldon noted a dangerous hole by the staircase that needed to be filled in or covered in order to avoid an accident. Member Pink liked what was presented, but wondered about cost, to which Member Sheldon replied that it could be accomplished in steps. At that point, Jay Womak presented the estimate for Phase 1, costing \$66,067.50.

Bob Irvin suggested their newest vendor, On-Call mow the turf trails at Whippoorwill. He also suggested that the two utility poles further west could be removed by Commonwealth Edison, perhaps for free as noted in an older franchise agreement he researched. It was an agreement that stated if the lines were abandoned that Commonwealth Edison should remove the poles. Chairwoman Sheldon suggested the opportunity for homeowners to purchase

engraved bricks that would be part of the restoration process and would provide additional funding.

Jay Womak presented Oasis Park schematic design and Phase 1 steps with associated costs. He initially suggested keeping the trail along Bradley Road, noting little degradation, however, Member Towne cautioned that it was too close to the road and puddles and drainage issues from trail sand were plentiful. Womak also recommended a second trail with 8' wide and 30' length boardwalks. Scott Anderson agreed with this idea, as it would bridge the wetlands and avoid dealing with the Army Corps of Engineers. Bob Irvin questioned the proposal of two trails to maintain, to which Chairwoman Sheldon replied that if they abandoned the trail closer to the road that would eliminate the safety and drainage issues they were now facing.

Womak estimated a \$5/square foot cost for a limestone trail, totaling \$44K, the largest expense on the Phase 1 estimate. Member Towne did not think this estimate was realistic. He cautioned that they have been unsuccessful in acquiring an affordable bid for this trail thus far (\$138K the cheapest), and that the engineering required to avoid drainage and grading issues was part of the problem. Chairwoman Sheldon was very interested in having Womak produce a vendor who could come up with such a desirable quote under \$50K. Womak promised to research vendor costs and presented Phase 1 bid for \$207,975. Bob Irvin reminded those present that the \$205K that the Village received from Ehlers & Juhrend for the excavation spoils on this site would justify this expenditure, since the Village would be burdened with very little additional cost.

Chairwoman Sheldon was encouraged and excited by the WRD designs and wanted to proceed with next steps. Member Towne thought that some of the trails could be reduced, to which Chairwoman Sheldon replied that she would evaluate that concern after the initial clean up.

E. RECOMMENDATION FOR OASIS PARK TRAIL RELOCATION BIDS

Chairwoman Sheldon was looking for suggestions about the disappointing proposals submitted for the trail relocation work, especially since the timeline for decision was looming and Jay Womak promised to provide at least one other vendor. All agreed to reject the other bids at this time.

It was moved by Member Armstrong, and seconded by Member Towne, to recommend to the Village Board that they reject the submitted bids for the 2016 Oasis Park trail relocation, and if appropriate, waive sealed bids and get proposals. The motion was carried.

F. UPDATE ON ROUTE 60 TRAIL EXTENSION PROJECT

Chairwoman Sheldon inquired of the IDOT status to which Scott Anderson replied that the approval was verbally granted by Roozbeh, a plan reviewer with IDOT, however, he has yet to receive the written letter, which would spur the process of going out to bid. Chairwoman Sheldon felt that more progress could be made and Anderson should pursue this with more focus. Bob Irvin noted that a permit could not be applied for until a contractor was selected. Scott Anderson stated that he could have the bids back next month. Bob Irvin gestimated that the storm sewers involved in this project would bring this project cost up to \$200K and the Village Board already approved the steps to go out for bids. Member Towne noted that

this project would involve traffic control and a \$50K bond in order to work with the State of Illinois.

G. UPDATE ON WHIPPOORWILL PARK

Chairwoman Sheldon advised the committee that she and Jay Womak walked the site and pointed out numerous dead ash trees and stumps that need removal as well as some elms, buckthorn and other items that were marked with pink paint. She obtained a very reasonable quote from Perfect Cut Tree Services to do the work and would like approval for a \$2800 proposal.

It was moved by Chairwoman Sheldon, and seconded by Member Towne, to recommend to the Village Board that they accept a proposal from Perfect Cut Tree Services for \$2800 to remove dead ash, stumps, buckthorn and additional vegetation marked with pink paint. The motion was carried.

H. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMITTEE FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO THE VILLAGE BOARD.

Bob Irvin inquired about next steps for the Whippoorwill and Oasis Park projects.

Chairwoman Sheldon replied that if he were comfortable, she and Jay Womak would walk through the sites and prioritize items. Bob Irvin inquired about 701 Riverwoods Blvd.

maintenance mowing and if Bob Herendon was available to do so. Member Towne volunteered to contact him to see if he was interested, since his price was affordable last year.

Chairwoman Sheldon wanted a bid to remove the buckthorn at the Dreikosen site from Perfect Cut Tree service to compare it to the \$40K proposal from the other contractor. Jay Womak offered to walk through the Whippoorwill site with Chairwoman Sheldon to mark the trees and talk to landscape contractors about the 8800 square feet of limestone trail pricing. Member Towne encouraged him to use the same specs as the Village did when asking for proposals.

I. ADJOURNMENT

With no further items discussed, it was moved by Member Armstrong to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm, seconded by Member Towne. The motion was carried.

Colleen Liberacki, Deputy Clerk

This document is subject to correction as noted on next meeting's minutes.