

**Village of Holmen  
Park, Recreation, and Library Committee  
Meeting Minutes - Wednesday, December 6, 2023**

Chairman Wyss called the Holmen Park, Recreation, and Library Committee meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on December 6, 2023 at the Holmen Village Hall.

**Present:** Micah Wyss, Travis Elam, Dawn Kulcinski, Mike Brogan, Chris Geary, Chris McArdle-Rojo, Alex Inglett, Patrick Barlow

**Absent:** None

**Guests:** None

Motion by Kulcinski, second by Elam to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None

**Library Director's monthly report:** McArdle-Rojo distributed the November 2023 statistics report and updated the committee on the upcoming programs at the Library. McArdle-Rojo stated that Jinglefest went very well and the Library had over 1,600 visits that day. Wyss asked if there were any negatives to that many people coming through the Library in one day. McArdle-Rojo stated that everything was very well run and things were spaced out enough that there were no issues. McArdle-Rojo stated that they would love to part of Jinglefest in 2024. McArdle-Rojo stated that they had a few comments from the public during Jinglefest regarding the lack of a privacy divider in the men's bathroom at the Library. McArdle-Rojo stated that she knew this was discussed in a previous meeting, but wanted to see if that was something that could be revisited. Brogan stated that equipment was ordered in the past but when it came in, it didn't match what was already in the bathroom. Brogan stated that this could be an item that can just be ordered and probably wouldn't have to be brought before the committee.

**Park and Recreation Director's monthly report:**

**Recreation:** Brogan informed the committee of the programs that are currently in progress or coming up which include: adult fitness classes, cake decorating classes, adult volleyball league and youth indoor soccer. Brogan stated that the spring and summer brochure is being prepared for distribution in late-February. Brogan stated that Inglett created a Santa mailbox that has been placed in front of Village Hall for children to drop letters off until December 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Park:** Brogan stated that shelter and band shell rentals for 2024 will be accepted beginning January 2, 2024. Barlow asked about how the scheduling and rentals would work for the shelter at Seven Bridges Park. Brogan stated that rentals would be up to Director approval similar to how Deer Wood Park is run. Brogan stated that since soccer, baseball and softball will be using the park for games/tournaments in the spring and summer, any rentals would need to be checked against the league schedules to make sure there is no overlap. Brogan stated that the Rotary Christmas trees will be setup at Halfway Creek Park through January 1. Brogan stated that the Rotary sled library has been put out at Deer Wood Park. Brogan stated that the ice rink border has been installed and staff is just waiting for colder weather to start filling. Kulcinski asked if staff have been having any issues with the overflow lot at Deer Wood Park because she has heard that there is a Blazer that drives into that lot and does donuts and then drives away. Kulcinski asked if there were any cameras that pointed at this lot that could be checked. Brogan stated that there are cameras pointed at the lot and staff or Police would need to be notified of when the incident occurred to properly look it up in the playback on the camera feed.

**Pool:** Brogan stated that quotes for slide maintenance and replacement for 55 wood posts came in after budget was approved, which prompted a change in the budget priorities for 2024.

The committee discussed possible action and recommendation on the 2024 proposal for replacement of 55 wood bollards at the Holmen Area Aquatic Center. Brogan stated that staff thought replacing the bollards at the pool would be more important than getting a new truck in 2024 so they would like to replace it in the budget. Brogan stated that a majority of the cost would be the labor to take out the old posts and the installation of the new ones. Elam asked if there were any non-wood options available. Brogan stated that they were trying to create a fiberglass version but the production didn't work out so

this is the recommended option. Elam asked if the cedar would need to be re-treated in the future. Brogan stated that it may need to be re-treated in the future to help lengthen the life of the posts. Kulcinski suggested using truck bed liner as a possible solution to help cover the posts. Barlow asked what the life of the posts would be. Brogan stated that the current posts have lasted over 25 years so these would most likely be similar. **Motion by Elam, second by Kulcinski to recommend to the Board approval of the quote from Fischer Bros. for replacement of 55 wood bollards at the Holmen Area Aquatic Center in the amount of \$14,640.00. Motion carried.**

The committee discussed the official Deer Wood Park Hours stemming from discussion at the previous Park, Rec & Library committee meeting where a concern was brought up regarding disturbances occurring after hours. Brogan provided the committee with a copy of the current ordinance. Brogan stated that these have been the official hours since the park was built. Brogan stated that the main reason the park is open until 11pm is because there are many youth and adult games that are scheduled past 10pm during the week and on weekends. Brogan stated that there haven't been many issues over his 20+ years here and doesn't think the hours need to be changed. Kulcinski stated that she lives in that neighborhood and has not heard of any complaints from anyone other than the tennis court lights being on too late sometimes. Barlow stated that changing the hours might not deter people from being there after hours. Barlow stated that if hours are changed, then a special request would have to be filled out for almost every night by groups using the fields which would cause an inconvenience. Kulcinski asked if there has been any vandalism after hours. Brogan stated that there hasn't been much ever late at night. Brogan stated that most of the vandalism occurs during the day right after school. Elam stated that you can't legislate people breaking the law and he didn't know what changing the park hours would add to stopping people from doing anything. Elam stated that it probably makes sense to keep the hours as is, so it accommodates the majority of people using the park. Wyss stated that he talked with Lt. Spears and he said that one way it could help is to give police leverage to get people out of the park if it is technically closed at 10pm. Wyss stated that there is also an exception in point #2 in the ordinance. Brogan stated that the exception is mainly in there for events like Kornfest that will go past 11pm. Kulcinski stated that she does not believe the ordinance needs to be changed and people knew what they got into when they decided to move in next to a park. Barlow asked if it would be possible to pave the gravel lot in the future. Brogan stated that it could be possible and may resolve some of the problems regarding donuts. Wyss stated that he thought that the ordinance does not need to be changed right now, but there is room for improvement. Wyss stated that it may need to be reconsidered in the future if there are more complaints. Wyss stated that for now, if citizens see anything, they should report it to the police. Wyss stated that cleanup is needed on the website because there are a few areas where the park hours are different from what it says in the ordinance. Brogan stated that it may be due to the switch to the new website and staff will look into changing it. Elam thanked Wyss for bringing up this issue but thought that the ordinance does not need to be changed right now and it is up to police to use their discretion on any violators.

#### **Other Business:**

Barlow stated that he was thankful for staff and all of the work and support that went into Jinglefest. Kulcinski stated that she wanted to thank everyone for Jinglefest. Kulcinski stated that there is a lot of planning and work goes into it year-round and it was a really great event. Wyss stated that Jinglefest was great and also wanted to congratulate Brogan on his retirement if this is the last committee meeting that he attends.

Motion by Elam, second by Kulcinski to adjourn at 6:36 p.m. Motion carried.

Chris Geary  
Assistant Park & Recreation Director