

**TOWN OF NEW GLARUS
PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
NOVEMBER 16, 2015
MINUTES**

ATTENDING: Chris Narveson, Dana Emmerton, Harry Pulliam, Andy Elkins and Susan McCallum, Deputy Clerk.

ABSENT:

ALSO ATTENDING: Becky and Clark Strok, Mark Miller, Rob Ready, Chris Rear

CALL TO ORDER: H. Pulliam called the meeting to order at 7: 05 p.m.

AGENDA:

1. Proof of Posting: S. McCallum attested that the agenda was properly posted.
2. Discuss and consider October 28, 2015 minutes:
C. Narveson moved to approve the October 28, 2015 minutes, 2nd A. Elkins. Motion carried.
3. Public Comments: None.
4. Discuss Parks Trails/Parks sinking fund plans: The Stroks questioned whether all the residents in the BBRC neighborhood received the letter that they had. S. McCallum explained that the others had not and the reason they did is due to their property boundary along the BBRC the area that needs to be addressed this fall/winter. H. Pulliam recounted the establishment of the park, work that has been done and the current processes in regards to maintenance. C. Strok asked what the park plan is, are there funds to do the work needed such as the branches and cord wood left from the box elder removal last winter. The Commission informed him there is a 5 year plan and after this more expensive tree removal work is completed there will be minimal maintenance. C. Strok is concerned about the tree removal and any stumps possibly sticking out of his rock border. B. Strok is concerned about a recently planted weeping willow tree 10' within their yard and the discussion this evening alleviates her concerns. C. Strok would like to meet with the contractor and mark which trees are to be removed. S. McCallum gave the Stroks the current selection of trees/bushes that can be used for replanting. C. Narveson said we should work on a plan to remove logs and stumps and discuss what would be replaced. H. Pulliam stressed the fact that the Commission wants to be a good neighbor and wants input from the neighbors. S. McCallum asked for their contact information and she will forward to Indigenous Restorations so they can coordinate a visit. C. Strok said he will wait to meet with him before signing the form and he does mowing of the paths, but not to the back area. M. Miller said he has a stump puller and R. Ready informed the group about John Adametz who does logging with horses, as possible resources to clear debris. H. Pulliam asked if Ready wanted to be notified when we do the prescribed burn, he answered yes and McCallum was directed to let him know. B. Strok asked to be notified too. Discussion continued regarding Parks trail plans, joint dog park with the Village and other projects the Commission is involved with.

The Town Board directed the Parks Commission to review the sinking funds funding mechanism. C. Narveson reported that the Clerk does not know how to combine funds but can create new ones. C. Narveson moved to amend the 2011 Parks Plan- VIII Funding Plan to no longer fund the Town Hall Community Park Sinking Fund, 2nd by A. Elkins. D. Emmerton moved to amend the 2011 Parks Plan- VIII Funding Plan to establish a Town Parks and/or Trail

Sinking Fund, 2nd by A. Elkins. Motion carried. A. Elkins moved to amend the 2011 Parks Plan- VIII Funding Plan to continue the Parks Funding Plan of 33% that was designated for the Town Hall Community Park Sinking Fund and any remaining annual budget monies to be allocated to the Town Parks and/or Trail Sinking Fund, 2nd C. Narveson. Motion carried. C. Narveson moved to amend the 2011 Parks Plan- VIII Funding Plan changing the Community Partnership Sinking Fund as a line item amount to be determined with annual budget by the Parks Commission, 2nd by D. Emmerton. Motion carried.

Current 2011 Parks Plan:

VIII. FUNDING PLAN

In general, the Parks Commission recommends the lowest cost approach to establish a quality parks system by following these guidelines:

1. Base funding for projects will be achieved through the continued contribution to Sinking Funds that are part of each annual budget of \$15,000 and through the use of Impact Fees for capital costs identified in the 2008 Public Facilities Needs Assessment. The following are the totals for each fund as of February 23, 2011:

\$17,855.96 Community Partnerships Sinking Fund (20% of the annual Parks budget is pledged for this fund each year)

\$30,418.38 Town Hall Community Park Sinking Fund (33% of the annual Parks budget is pledged for this fund each year)

\$11,876.04 Impact Fees (41% of the total impact fee collected for each new residential building permit issued by the Town of New Glarus)

5. Discuss joint opportunities with New Glarus Youth Baseball group: Rob Ready addressed the commission from the one year old 7 member board. They have increased up to about 100 youth members in all categories. They are facing difficulty scheduling time on the two ball fields and are trying to work with the Village to enhance any new facilities. They have researched lands and cost numbers for project areas including the Valle Telle area. Inquires have included a trail along the stream like the Commission is interested in doing and they would like to develop a multi-use facility. They are discussing funds with a grant writing company in Monroe, whom has done a lot of work pro bono for the village. Their goal is to not assess the residents with another tax or fee but by doing leg work and utilizing volunteer activities with tractors and skid loaders to help build facilities. H. Pulliam inquired whether they have had success working with the village. C. Rear said they have been addressing the Village regarding their needs but have recently backed away because there has been a lot of discussion around the new library location that has taken precedence. They are looking at the tennis court location because the village owns the land around the courts and in discussion with the school, the school was concerned about the cost to redo the courts as they are only used for phy-ed classes occasionally and there is not a school team. He stated that the school agrees this is a good location for a complex because it is almost on their campus. The whole Veteran's Park is all infill with street debris, including where the tennis courts are located. C. Rear said the Village Parks and Recreation Committee is working on drafting a resolution to either donate or give a 99 year lease for Glarner Park to the Library Board. This park has diamonds but they are only designed for softball and up to 6th grade baseball. A. Elkins said he has heard that the land across from the High School may be available.

C. Rear said it was studied by the school for multiple fields but he felt that it is the village's issue to work out, and their plans have changed to possible green space. In addition the school is reviewing providing their own facilities to meet WIAA criteria. H. Pulliam asked what they were for the Commission could help. C. Rear spoke about the non-village residents utilizing the Village Recreation programs and asked if there is any way that the Town can donate money to the process/program. R. Ready suggested naming rights might be available, such as a fence donated by the "Town of New Glarus". He asked how their youth association can help the Parks Commission. H. Pulliam suggested some man/woman power volunteering on special projects. R. Ready said the 4-H group could also be involved and school children also need to do a certain amount of community service. S. McCallum suggested utilizing the group to work on clearing debris with a burn or hauling of debris from tree work in the BBRC. C. Narveson suggested working together on local recreational projects in the future. Discussion continued regarding community amenities for new residents, funding streams and grants. A. Elkins commented that the more people that come to a meeting the more of an impact they present. R. Ready asked if there is any other land within the town that is attached to a park or dedicated for green space. C. Narveson spoke about deed restrictions requirements in the land division ordinance, but the Town does not own that land. H. Pulliam asked them to reconnect when they work through items with the Village. D. Emmerton inquired whether it would hurt a ball field to install an ice rink. C. Rear said no, not on the infield. The conversation ended with them all agreeing to work together.

6. Discussion and consider: review final expenditures from 2015 budget; reimburse Emmerton \$22.35, purchase of \$500 in postage, Green County treasurer-labels \$14.82, New Glarus School District, printing- \$150.00: C. Narveson moved to reimburse D. Emmerton \$22.35, \$500 for postage, Labels for \$14.82 and printing, 2nd by A. Elkins. Motion carried.

7. Discuss and consider Holiday Open House: Sunday December 13th at 8pm to invite all elected and appointed Town officials and spouses. Location at the Town Hall, park Commission to provide beverages, a large cheese board from Cow & Quince and a hors d'oeuvre from Hoesly's Meats, guests bring dessert pot luck.

8. Adjourn to assemble 2016 Tree Sales Flier for mailing: D. Emmerton moved to adjourn at 9:20 pm, 2nd by A. Elkins. Motion carried. D. Emmerton volunteered to take the fliers home to assemble and mail.