

# Meeting Minutes

## Grand Island Parks & Recreation and Advisory Board

**Members Present:** Judy Schmidt (C) / Jenn Pusatier (S) / David Pratt / Jason Masker (VC)

**Absent:** Eric Soehnlein / James Szakacs

**Town Board Liaison:** Thomas Digati

**Recreation Supervisor:** Joe Menter

**Recreation Supervisor:** Jenn Menter

**Parks:** Natalie Grunzweig

**Public:** Jenn Perise (EDAB)

**February 24, 2020**

**Meeting called to order by Judy Schmidt at 7:04pm**

**Robin Shipman has stepped down**

***Board openings: (1) seat, (2) alternates***

***Changes to board: Jenn Pusatier secretary***

***Motion to approve minutes: Jan 27th by David / 2nd by Jason***

### 1. Old Business

#### a. Creek Clean Up Town Commons

- concerns of overgrowth, lack of sight-lines, bridge not ADA compliant
- what is overgrowth and what is natural habitat?
- the board is requesting a review with the CAB board to access original plans and to have them review our concerns
- Councilman Digati is going to contact CAB

#### b. Master Plan Parks Committee

- Master Plan Parks Committee will be meeting more frequently with stakeholders and seats appointed by the supervisor.
- Councilman Marston is the liaison.

#### c. Open Space Inventory

- Parks and Rec has been requesting OSI since September of 2019 to see the open space inventory done by the Conservation Board.
- Parks and Rec has asked Councilman Digati to look into the inventory and bring it to this advisory board.

#### d. Picnic Shelter Veterans Park

- Reviewed the two sites again we had suggested for placement.
- Councilman Digati reviewed these sites with town board, parks, and engineering.
- A motion was made by David and seconded by James to approve the placement of the picnic shelter at the end of the parking lot between the football fields and the little league diamonds by the restroom trailer.  
(4-0) approved

#### e. Way-finding Signage Trail System

- Carlos Peach did the W. River Trail

- Possible Way-finding subcommittee for exploration and fact-finding for new signage. graphics/pictures/colors/text
  - a. Boards of interest
    - EDAB (businesses)
    - CAB (environmental)
    - HPB (historical)
    - P&RB (trails)
- Scenic Woods & Bicentennial Park
  - a. plans needed to review
  - b. what is the progress, plan, and grant status
  - c. Trails at Scenic Woods are being destroyed by 4 wheelers.
    - *what can be done?*
    - *police patrolled?*
    - *cameras located anywhere?*

## 2. New Business

- a. Board Officers
  - Robin Shipman has put in a request to step down.
  - Jenn Pusatier was officially named secretary with David as 2nd if needed
  - Judy stated that we had received enough requests for board seat openings
  - (1) seat is open (2) alternates
  - interviews are being had by Councilman Digati and Chair Judy Schmidt
  - positions should be filled by the next board meeting according to Councilman Digati
- b. Open Space Fees
  - questioning on where these fees go? Trust-fund comprises the open space and rec fees
  - board looking into these fees further. Are they comparable to comparable towns? Were these fees done in-conjunction with the open space plan?

\* Main focus of 2020 will be working on a proposal of a Field House & Way-finding \*  
The board feels this is a need and not a want. Many within the community still discuss this often. The Parks and Rec Board would like to start the conversation and see what we can come up with collaboratively. ( gyms / art / meeting space )

## 3. Town Department Head Reports

Joe Menter: February Break booked full for kids program. \$45 ages 6-11. Wait list of approx. 20 kids. Joe is a Red Cross LTP and has signed an agreement to certify town employees. Classes to the public will be offered to the public soon. Rental agreement proposal for the Community Center has been sent to the town board for approval. AED has been approved for the Community Center.

Jenn Menter : Waiting for the GAC bus grant to be released. Erie County Senior Services program “ Choose Healthy WNY classes will be offered. The focus of this program will be self management for (15) residents for (5) weeks. “Diabetes Matter of Balance” is being taught to the seniors by Jenn Menter. Wednesday night program has been a huge success with about 30-40 people, 4-8pm. Jenn starred the March Golden Voice with the board.

Thomas Digati : Natalie, Joe, and Tom met up with engineering and the Little League to come up with a plan for the park. We are waiting to set a date with the town and the Chamber of Commerce for a Ribbon Cutting ceremony. Air quality testing on the complex has been submitted for the next town board meeting for approval. Tom is looking to have a overall rental and booking policy in place for all public areas within the Town of Grand Island. Suggestions have been a live facility usage website and/or calendar. \* Recreation Dept is working on this through Lauras office. Coordination and a collaborative location would be ideal and needed. Talked about the Parks Dept updating their website. A full list of facility usages within the town and fees is being worked on.

Guest: Jennifer Perise stopped in from the Economic Advisory Board.

Meeting Adjourned at : 8:47pm motion by Jason / seconded by David