

**VILLAGE OF HARTLAND
PARK AND RECREATION BOARD MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2016**

7:00 PM

Board Room

210 Cottonwood Avenue, Hartland, WI

Present: Tina Bromberger, Curt Gundrum, Tim Hallquist, Peggy Kallenberger, and Dick Landwehr.
Excused: Mike Cottrell and Duane Lawson.

Others Present: DPW Operation Supervisor Gerszewski and Recreation Director Yogerst.
Excused: DPW Director Einweck

7:00 PM Call to Order

Public comments for those items not included on this agenda (Please be advised per Wisconsin Act 123, the Park Board will receive information from the public for a three minute time period, with time extensions per the Park Board Chairman's discretion, per person, be it further advised that there may be limited discussion on the information received, however, no action will be taken under public comments.) - NONE.

Approval of Park and Recreation Board Minutes – January 4, 2016 Meeting and January 13, 2016 Special Park and Recreation Meeting

Motion (Bromberger/Kallenberger) to approve the Park and Recreation Board Minutes of January 4, 2016. Motion **Not** Carried (3-0-2). Landwehr and Bromberger abstained.

Motion (Landwehr/Bromberger) to approve the Special Park and Recreation Board Minutes of January 13, 2016. Motion **Not** Carried (3-0-2). Bromberger and Kallenberger abstained.

The above motions need a quorum of four people to carry the vote. Therefore, both of these minutes are not approved and will need to be approved by a quorum at the April Park and Recreation Board Meeting.

Agenda items were taken out of order. The Recreation Director Items were taken first at the meeting.

Director of Public Works Items

Presentation by Roger Boogren (Hartland Resident) to Operate a Short Wave Radio in Village of Hartland Parks to Commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the National Park Service

Mr. Boogren handed out literature regarding "National Parks on the Air 2016" and "What is Ham Radio?"

He plans to operate in the mornings for a few hours from time to time as he wishes. He will set up in different locations each time, along the Ice Age Trail in the Village. He has 105 stations as chasers. There are 490 national parks, river-ways, seashores, and other shorelines throughout the country that will be locations used by operators.

Operators train with the Sheriff's department twice a year to be ready to help in case of a natural or other disaster.

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Discussion and Possible Consideration of an Agreement with Arrowhead High School Lacrosse and the Village of Hartland Regarding Use of Centennial Football Field

No one from Arrowhead High School was present.

Motion (Hallquist/Bromberger) to **table** an Agreement with Arrowhead High School Lacrosse and the Village of Hartland Regarding Use of Centennial Football Field. Carried (5-0).

Discussion and Possible Consideration of Village of Hartland Athletic Field Users Policy and Residency Determination

It was found that if the Park Board goes by the addresses on the tax exempt status paperwork from each of the current user groups, none of the groups are Village residents.

Mike Cottrell (who was excused) previously talked to Tim Hallquist and asked him to make his idea known regarding the priority usage of the field:

1. Village sponsored programs
2. Land O'Lakes, Lake Country Youth Baseball, Hartland Athletic Advancement Association
3. Private schools, public schools, associations, businesses, resident-based leagues and residents
4. Non-resident based leagues and non-residents

Tim Hallquist suggested that if possible, those groups included in #2 should get their tax exempt status connected to a Village of Hartland address. Pete Ludtke mentioned that HAAA is in the process of getting tax exempt status and they will be connected to a Village address.

Motion (Bromberger/Kallenberger) to approve the Village of Hartland Park Board Policy for Facility Reservations with the following priority usage changes:

1. Village sponsored programs
2. Land O'Lakes, Lake Country Youth Baseball, Hartland Athletic Advancement Association
3. Private schools, public schools, associations, businesses, resident-based leagues and residents
4. Non-resident based leagues and non-residents

Carried (5-0).

There was additional clarification discussed regarding the priority groups.

It was brought up that there will possibly be more of these resident based groups coming forward in the future. There could be multiple groups vying for the fields. We need more criteria to determine priority use.

Checking all participant addresses, birth certificates, etc. would be very complicated. The Park Board will probably review this policy annually and may make more changes in the future.

Discussion Regarding Issues Listed by John McNeil (Land O' Lakes) at Nixon Hardball Field

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The following are some comments on the issues raised by Mr. McNeil and the response from DPW:

1. The weeds in the infield are not sprayed until June. (Why)
The fields were sprayed the last week of May due to the lateness of the weeds emerging and the wet spring we had. Unfortunately, the contractor we hired got delayed in all of their work. We are obtaining proposals from both True Green and Frontier FS for the 2016 weed spraying and will require a spray by date. Staff will look at some spraying themselves also.
2. The infield has not been rolled.
We have not rolled the fields for a number of years because it compacts the soil which is not good for the grass.
3. The lip on the infield is awful. Was told would be fixed and it was not. 3 years running. One truck load of material was added to the field and graded in September 2015 to reduce the amount of ponding and to reduce the lip at the grass edge.
4. The spike for the base at 3rd has been crooked for 2 yrs.
We were not notified of this and were unaware because the Village does not provide the bases. The base pegs were removed before the field work was done. They will be set and installed in spring.
5. The base lines don't line up.
We did not see this problem last year, but home plate was removed for the field work and will be installed this spring along with the base pegs.
6. No plan to stop the ponding water on the infield. I believe I spend more time pumping water out of the infield so my team can play.
Field users should not be pumping water off of the field. The game should have been canceled by the Village staff that checks the field in the late afternoon.

Mr. McNeil was present and stated that he was told three years ago that the base pegs would be replaced. He was told home plate was going to be replaced two years ago, but it wasn't. The Village was going to fix the field two years ago, that's why he couldn't have a game until Memorial Day Weekend. At that time all that happened was two piles of dirt were put on the field and spread around. He wanted to know why they can't put any dry-out on the field. He spends most of his non-working hours pumping water out of the infield with a hand-pump that Dave Jambretz supplied. Mr. McNeil feels this is normal maintenance that should be done by the Village.

Mr. McNeil sprays for weeds in his yard in April. The field doesn't get sprayed until June. Mike Gerszewski stated that weed spraying is scheduled for April this year.

Mr. McNeil used to cut the grass on the field to get rid of the dandelion flowers, but he did not last year. Team members called Mike Einweck to ask what was going on. He has had three people get hit in the face due to poor field conditions. The lines do not match up to where the bases are. It has been going on for the five years Mr. McNeil has been involved.

Tina Bromberger brought up that if this has been going on for five years, this is the first the Park Board has heard of any issues. Mr. McNeil stated that he has talked to Dave Jambretz and Mike Einweck about these issues in the past.

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John McNeil said that the infield is hard and bumpy. It rained today and you could go out with a roller and even out the field. It's embarrassing how poor the field conditions are.

In September one truck load of dirt was delivered and graded. Mr. McNeil said that wasn't enough. Several years ago the Village put dry-out on top of the field. The only trouble is the dry-out ran off into the outfield and became sand. It has to be mixed in the dirt to make a base. Sussex does it, Monches does it, every place we play in this league (except for Lannon), has done this. When it rains, the water doesn't pond – it runs off into the outfield, but not in Hartland.

Mr. McNeil mentioned that dragging the field should be from the outfield to the infield, but Hartland does it from the infield to the outfield. That is creating a lip and making it worse. This has been a problem for five years. Staff has told me time after time there is no money in the budget. There was money and time for the batting cages, but all Mr. McNeil wants is the field to be fixed.

It was mentioned that the lip is still treacherous at third base, even after adding the dirt last September. The lip is embedded -- it's like concrete. It's not going anywhere by adding dirt. Mr. McNeil said he doesn't think the field has been rolled in five years.

Mike Gerszewski stated that it is not recommended that the field be rolled. It compacts the grass and it is not good for it. Mr. McNeil stated that every other community rolls their fields. Mr. McNeil has offered to do the field work with licensed and bonded workers. The Village wouldn't need to pay for it – Land O Lakes would pay for it.

Items listed for remediation:

- The Village and Mr. McNeil have a philosophical difference in rolling. Mike Gerszewski said he would look into it.
- The whole infield needs to be looked at.
- The new base pegs will need to be put in the right spots.

Dale Kuphall stated the he and Mike Einweck got together two years ago and talked about what needed to be done to the field. He was told it would be fixed, but it never was. When asked about it, the answer is always that it isn't in the budget.

Mr. McNeil said the issue of ponding is due to no dry-out in the field.

There will be more youth users this year. The Legion 15 – 16 year olds and the Hawks 7th and 8th Grade will be using Nixon as home field.

Mike Gerszewski said he will look at the financing and putting it in the budget for sure for 2017. To do this work, the field would have to be closed for April and May and the sod cut out. John McNeil suggested using a trowel and bringing dirt forward from the lip and laying the grass down and rolling it.

Others in the room disagreed with Mr. McNeil's suggestion. Pete Ludtke said that cutting the sod worked well at Bark River softball field.

Mr. McNeil said the Village cuts the grass on Tuesday. If it was cut on Thursday or Friday, the weeds wouldn't be as much of a problem.

Mike Gerszewski stated the Village will make sure that the weeds are sprayed by a deadline of the 2nd or 3rd week in April. The Village will roll the lip and the field to

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minimize the lip. Sod cannot be cut now because there is not enough time for it to get going. If we don't have money to cut the lip in the fall, I will put it in the budget for 2017 to have a contractor rebuild the field. Mr. Gerszewski is open to other suggestions.

Mike Gerszewski reported that in September, home plate and all the bases were taken out. Material was added on the baselines, home plate and the whole infield. It might have been as many as two quads that were delivered. The field was regraded so the lip has been minimized -- we took the dirt out to the sod edge. We roto-tilled it and rolled the infield. We put Sure-Hop ball diamond mix in and dry-out on top and mixed it in with a roto-tiller.

John McNeil was informed that if he has any field issues in the future, he should call Mike Gerszewski or Mike Einweck.

It was suggested that John McNeil look at Nixon field tomorrow and then call Operations Supervisor Gerszewski or DPW Director Einweck to discuss the field.

Discussion and Possible Consideration of a Request for a Memorial Honoring the Dedication by Jim and Steve Dibb (Presented by John McNeil, Land O' Lakes)

Mr. McNeil would like to put a stone in Nixon Park near the tree on the right field line to honor the men who spent 40 – 50 years with the Land O Lakes organization. No grass grows under that tree. It will be paid for by Land O Lakes.

Mr. McNeil was asked to put together a proposal for this project with some exact details of the size, etc. of the stone. Another idea would be to put a plaque on the canteen, whichever is easier. The size could be around 16" x 24". The Board asked Mr. McNeil to bring in a rendering so they could see what his idea looks like.

An example of what has been done at Bark River Park, the Chapman family paid for a blue spruce tree to be planted in the park. It was dedicated to Mike Chapman and a plaque was put on the canteen.

Motion (Landwehr/Bromberger) to **table** the request for a Memorial Honoring the Dedication of Jim and Steve Dibb for more specific information until April meeting. Carried (5-0).

Recreation Director Items

Discussion and Possible Consideration of a Request by Hartland/Lakeside School to Conduct a Boat/Duck Race in the Bark River in Nixon Park as a Fundraiser for the Chimney Swift Chimney to be held on Saturday, May 28, 2016 starting at 10:00 AM

The DNR has approved this event. Last year the students raised \$1,200.

Motion (Landwehr/Gundrum) to approve the request by Hartland/Lakeside School to conduct a Boat/Duck Race in the Bark River in Nixon Park as a fundraiser for the Chimney Swift Chimney to be held on Saturday, May 28, 2016 starting at 10:00 AM and Waive the Shelter and Park Fees. Carried (5-0).

Discussion and Possible Consideration of Hartland Kids Day – 2016 at Nixon Park on July 27, 2016 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

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Melissa Peterson mentioned that this will be the fourth year for Hartland Kids Day. There were some clean up issues last year, but Ms. Peterson will work to improve that. She is hoping for a bigger and better event this year.

Motion (Landwehr/Kallenberger) to approve Hartland Kids Day – 2016 at Nixon Park on July 27, 2016 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Carried (5-0).

Discussion and Possible Consideration of a Planned Event by Ana Alarcon and Elise Miller Regarding Explore Hartland Night, Thursday, August 4, 2016

This event was formerly known as Hartland Night Out. The applicants stated that they have decided to keep the name Hartland Night Out and not change it to Explore Hartland Night.

There is a concert in Nixon Park that night and after dark, a movie will be shown on the t-ball field.

After meeting with the Business Improvement District, it was decided not to have a camp out and a moonlight walk in the park that night. A business crawl through downtown Hartland will be held that evening with participating businesses. There will be food and crafts happening. The band “The Ricochets” will play from 7:00 – 9:00 PM, and the movie “Inside Out” will be shown afterwards.

Motion (Bromberger/Kallenberger) to approve a planned event by Ana Alarcon and Elise Miller regarding Hartland Night Out, Thursday, August 4, 2016. Carried (5-0).

Announcements: It is not contemplated that these matters will be discussed or acted upon. The following individuals may provide announcements: Park and Recreation Board Members or other Village Staff members

Tina Bromberger stated that she realizes there may be some people on the Board with conflicts of interest regarding the fields and parks. She respectfully requested that those who have conflicts of interest not vote on those particular issues.

Adjourn

Motion (Hallquist/Kallenberger) to adjourn. Carried (5-0). Meeting adjourned at 8:19 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by
Recording Secretary,

Lynn Meyer
Deputy Clerk