

PLANNING COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 15, 2017

The Village of Combined Locks Planning Commission meeting was called to order by Commission Chairman Al Leicht. Other commission members in attendance included: Tim Mulry, Jeff Maynard, Jim Hamilton, David Casper, Karen Menting, John Weyenberg, and Cathy Vander Zanden. Tracy Melzl and Michael Korn were absent.

Also in attendance were: Village Administrator Racquel Shampo-Giese, Deputy Clerk Treasurer Joe Stephenson and Recreation Director Barbara Vanden Heuvel.

The first item on the agenda was to review and consider a recommendation to pursue the construction of a splashpad. Chairman Leicht provided an overview of splashpads and explained that he has visited the one in Sherwood. He also explained that a meeting was held with a vendor that installs splashpads. The vendor provided an overview of the entire installation process, from identifying needs to final construction. D. Casper was at the meeting with the vendor and reported that it's a nice amenity to consider, but the location of it needs to be right. It was noted that we should check into what the surrounding communities have and are planning for with regard to water features and retention of use for splashpads. It was also noted that perhaps we should focus more attention to existing parks upgrades before spending upwards of \$275,000 on something new. The Administrator and Deputy Clerk Treasurer were asked to gather more information from Sherwood and/or Waupaca regarding their splashpads.

The next item on the agenda was to review and consider recommendation to pursue construction of a small baseball/softball field at Memorial Park. The Administrator reviewed the growth of the baseball/softball program with the Planning Commission. She explained that all of the programs have been moved from morning to evening due to lower participation in 2016. This has caused the exact opposite issue as the participation is such that every program now has a wait list and many boys and girls will be turned away. The Recreation Director also provided some data regarding the baseball/softball program, and the Deputy Clerk Treasurer reported that there is a grant available through Major League Baseball's Baseball for Tomorrow Fund. He explained that the grant is awarded to groups looking to expand their programs by adding participants, constructing fields or adding programs. The grant can be up to a 50% match with the average grant award being \$40,000. T. Mulry explained that he believes the cost will be around \$95,000. A \$25,000 commitment from Combined Locks Advancement Association, \$25,000 from the Village, and the balance from the grant is what would need to be in place for the field to be constructed. The matter was discussed at length with need and location at the forefront of the conversation. J. Weyenberg made a motion to recommend applying for the grant to add a fourth baseball/softball field on the northwest end of Memorial Park. T. Mulry seconded the motion, and it passed with a four (4) ayes: T. Mulry, C. Vander Zanden, J. Weyenberg, and J. Hamilton and three (3) nays: J. Maynard, K. Menting and D. Casper.

The next item on the agenda was review and consider a recommendation to approve repairs and the purchase of new identification signs and banners throughout the Village. T. Mulry explained that many of our entrance signs and park signs have been damaged by woodpeckers. He has been working with a vendor to create a metal overlay for the signs which will give good, long-lasting color and durability to the signs. T. Mulry also asked the Planning Commission to consider adding the America in Bloom logo to the bottom right of the signs and to consider approving the purchase of banners for County N/Washington Street. The matters were discussed. C. Vander Zanden made a motion to recommend

the purchase of banners for County N/Washington Street and include the AIB logo on the Village's identification signs. D. Casper seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Under other general business, the Administrator was asked to include Van Zeeland Park renovation on a future agenda, provide a status of the Locks Business Park and advertise for anecdotes about Combined Locks at the Spring Election and in the newsletters.

J. Weyenberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. J. Hamilton seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.