

**PARKS BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 22, 2023  
6:30 PM**

Nina Schroeder called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Don Buchert, Nina Schroeder, Scott Weaver

**Other Village Personnel Present:** None

**Citizens/Others Present:** DMRC Liaison Phil Rath

- ❖ Motion to excuse Marty Hura and Cookie Vanek made by Scott, seconded by Don; all “ayes.”
- ❖ Motion to approve January 18, 2023 minutes made by Scott, seconded by Don; all “ayes.”

**Old Business:**

- At the council meeting on February 21, Mayor Clark advised that Phase 3 at Buchert Park is not totally complete; seeding that was washed out around the newly paved trail must be reseeded – and then Phase 3 will be officially closed out.
- Phil Rath confirmed that funding for Phase 4 has been tendered to the Village.
- Discussions about Phase 5 projects continued.
  - Regarding the construction of a temporary pickleball court, the following pros and cons were considered:
    - The playing field (one half of the basketball court) is already available; therefore, no concrete has to be poured, and that cost is eliminated.
    - A temporary court is the less expensive option of the two projects.
    - The basketball courts are popular and regularly used, and this activity will be impacted; pickleball is trending but may not attract the same foot traffic.
    - The net must be placed each time the court is used, which requires a Village employee to erect the net and some sort of schedule to designate play time to pickleball versus basketball.
    - Determining the best schedule to attract pickleball players will require further research.
  - Regarding the construction of a permanent pickleball court, the following pros and cons were considered:
    - The expansion of the existing concrete pad will not go to waste; it might be used by the Potato Festival, other special events or sports, for example.
    - Because concrete will already be installed at the basketball courts (to correct the heaving median), money could be saved by expanding the pad at the same time the basketball court median is poured.
    - To make the current pad (which is 30x29’) fit a 44x20’ playing field, around 3.46 cubic yards of concrete have to be poured, which is more costly than painting pickleball lines and erecting a net on one of the basketball courts.
    - This court and/or the expansion of the concrete pad could present parking issues.
      - People have complained that there is not enough parking during special events, sports events, etc., and expanding the pad could decrease parking even more.

- Parking vehicles on the pad could ruin it; a barrier would have to be erected to keep vehicles off.
  - The court could impact access to pavilion #2 and/or its sidewalk.
    - If the current pad is expanded to the north (with the net running east to west), maybe the sidewalk linking pavilion #2 and the parking lot can be placed to the east of the court, employing what is already there as the sidewalk's footprint.
- Regarding the expansion of the volleyball court, these points were considered:
  - A regulation court must include a 59x29.5' playing field and a safety space around it measuring 10' in each direction (50x80' in total).
  - Our current court is 60x35', has no designated safety space around it, and a utility pole is 8' from the northeast corner.
    - Whether the utility pole can be removed and whether doing so is cost effective are questions for the Village's engineer, Gene Arters, of CT Consultants.
      - Prior requests to remove the utility poles entirely from Katie's Meadow have been made, but such a project requires Gene's input, discussion at future Parks meetings, and further review of the Village's contract with the Potato Festival.
    - Another option for handling the utility pole may be putting some type of padding or encasement around it (like one would find on a football goalpost or like those on the poles that currently support the net).
    - Another option is to move the net poles west toward the parking lot to increase the distance between the playing field and the utility pole.
- Regarding pavilion #2, the Service Department inspected it and recommended that its floor does not need replaced (although there are some cracks that could be filled in).
  - The walkway to pavilion #2 must be widened to be ADA accessible.
  - The walkway to pavilion #1 is being widened in Phase 4.

### **New Business:**

- Phil advised the board that the DMRC has recently fronted about \$8,300 toward the Triple Trail Fest; this is important because it impacts what the DMRC is able to encumber for Parks projects.
- ❖ Motion to move Phase 5 project requests (constructing a temporary vs. permanent pickleball court; expanding the volleyball court; replacing the pavilion #1 floor; expanding the pavilion #2 walkway to make it ADA accessible) to Council and to authorize CT Consultants to determine best engineering options and cost estimates for Phase 5 made by Scott, seconded by Don; all "ayes" given.
- Phil confirmed that the DMRC will provide the \$2,500 for the work authorization with CT Consultants.
- ❖ Motion to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. made by Don, seconded by Scott; all "ayes."