

Parks Committee Minutes

17 November 2024

8:00am

5920 Tahoe Dr. SE

ARTICLE 1. Call to Order

Members in attendance: Chair Mike Reese, Ken Kaiser, Matt Douglas, Ryan Bruneau
Supervisor Grace Lesperance, and Bill Otten

Absent members: Eileen Boekestein,

Others Present: Jade Smith, Dan Zwick, Sydney Aubert, and others listed on the
sign-in sheet

ARTICLE 2. Approval of Agenda

The approval of Agenda was motioned by Grace and seconded by Bill

ARTICLE 3. Public Comment (5 minutes/individual)

No public comments were received

ARTICLE 4. Approval of August 20, 2024 Minutes

The August 20th 2024 minutes were tabled to be approved in the December 17th
meeting

ARTICLE 5. Update from Township Manager Smith

Township Manager Jade Smith reported on the recent hiring of Parks and Facilities
Director Dan Zwick and Parks Facilities Coordinator Sydney Aubert, both
approximately four weeks into their positions. Manager Smith detailed a successful

meeting with Burton Park residents regarding easement concerns. Ongoing dialogue continues regarding park access and maintenance issues.

Parks and Facilities Director Dan Zwick introduced himself and provided operational updates, noting current seasonal maintenance including winterization of restrooms, drinking fountains, and irrigation systems. Staff continues daily leaf removal operations. At Burton Park, Oak Wilt management continues with planned trenching based on consultant recommendations. The gate that was not working on Windcrest entrance has been repaired to help stop local traffic using it as a through street. The department has improved park signage at the parks where signs are outdated, began holiday decoration installation, and hired a new full-time building and grounds employee.

Parks Facilities Coordinator Sydney Aubert introduced herself and presented upcoming programming initiatives including a Holiday event at the Stone House featuring Santa meet-and-greet, fire truck display, ornament making, and making retirement home Christmas cards. She also mentioned a February Valentines parent-child dance that is planned as well.

ARTICLE 6. Old Business

Cascade Recreation Park Master Plan Update Chair Reese presented three concept designs for committee consideration:

1. Concept One maintains both existing baseball fields while adding a splash pad and hybrid walled soccer field/ice rink facility. The design incorporates expanded pickleball courts from six to twelve and additional parking areas.

Concept Two proposes removal of baseball fields to create a large open-use field and an expanded pavilion with ice skating capabilities. This design emphasizes flexible space usage and winter recreation opportunities.

Concept Three retains one baseball field and introduces a hybrid splash pad/ice rink facility. The design balances traditional park amenities with new recreational opportunities.

The committee engaged in discussion regarding pickleball court expansion and possible relocation. Considerations for possible lighting was discussed for various facilities in relation to not wanting to impact the neighborhood and extended usage hours. Consideration was given to field utilization data, maintenance requirements, and seasonal programming possibilities.

2. Five Year Master Plan Update Review The committee reviewed progress on established initiatives including maintenance plan implementation, staff reorganization, and pathway improvements. Township Manager Smith reported on integration with broader township strategies, including development rights ordinance development and open space policy procedures. Manager Smith also mentioned the new draft plans for Tassell Park with new gathering spaces and incorporating into the overall villages reimagining. He referred to the township website which provides project updates.

ARTICLE 7. Other Business

Discussion ensued regarding Burton Park Road paving considerations and associated property development impacts. Township Manager Jade noted ongoing dialogue with property owners and development interests in the area.

ARTICLE 8. Adjournment

At 9:31am the meeting was adjourned, Bill motioned to adjourn, Ryan Bruneau seconded the adjourn.