

Town Of Cortland
Town hall
59 S. Somonauk Road
Cortland, IL 60112
Park Advisory Committee
Minutes
September 12, 2023
6:30 p.m.

Call to Order / Roll Call

Committee Chair Ms. Fioretto called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Ms. Fioretto called the roll call as present Committee Members Michelle Bergeson, Liz Botts, Josh Orr, and Mariann Kaminski. Shown as absent was Committee Member Angel Mendez and Trent Moser. Also present were Town Mayor Mark Pietrowski, Public Works Director Joel Summerhill, and Town Engineer Brandy Williams. Quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Kaminski moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Orr. A unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

Consent Agenda

Chair Fioretto read the Consent Agenda into the record. Approve the minutes of August 15, 2023. Ms. Bergeson moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Ms. Botts. A unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

Hearing of Staff/Citizens

Chair Fioretto announced that Patricia Mackey had officially resigned from the committee and that Curtis Kouba would be her replacement. Mr. Kouba was present at the meeting for observation and gave a small introduction of himself. He will be officially a committee member by the next committee meeting. No other staff or citizens wished to speak.

New Business

Cortland Community Park

The committee discussed and walked Cortland Community Park. The committee surveyed the condition of the skate park. The overall condition of the skate park equipment is good. The committee felt that the skate park needs a new location. The current location is too far away for kids to be able to access the park and the seclusion promotes misuse of equipment. The equipment needs repainting and

the addition of a new piece or two. The committee discussed what should be done with the skate park space once moved and felt the asphalt area might be a great place to park food trucks or do car shows. We talked about removing the guardrail as it is unsightly. The committee asked about the retention area and if it could be used for additional land space for the park. Ms. Williams said that space could be utilized and would be a great place to install a proper parking lot for the park. In the future, the committee would like to remove the baseball field and install an amphitheater with a lawn seating area. In addition, a building that could be used for equipment storage, function as a ticket booth for events, and a few restrooms. We mentioned getting solar lights and solar electrical outlets for phone charging added to the current shelter, removing pea gravel from the park, and having rubberized material placed. It was mentioned that even though this park will be designed as an event space in the future, it would be very important to keep a playground and have a new inclusive playset. For now, we would like to add a few new pieces of equipment and paint some of the older pieces. The committee discussed adding beach volleyball courts on the other side of the Lions Shelter, benches in the shaded tree area, and concrete slabs for cornhole and horseshoes. We also talked about an additional shelter in the future with electricity to host farmers' markets and for vendors to set up food stands during events held in the park.

Cortland Community Parks

Mr. Summerhill mentioned that they planned on continuing the walking path to Prairiefield Ave. He also mentioned that dirt was going to be added to McPhillips Park pickleball courts around the outside so the pickleballs do not continue to escape under the fence. Ms. Botts stated that she would like to take her troop to the Dragon's Tail pond to help rid the pond of invasive plant species.

Chair Fioretto asked if there was anything else that would like to be discussed and everyone felt there was nothing else to discuss.

Adjournment

Ms. Kaminski moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Bergeson. A unanimous voice vote carried the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charmaine Fioretto
Cortland Town Trustee
Cortland Advisory Committee Chair