

**TOWN OF GENESEE
PARK BOARD MEETING
MARCH 18, 2021**

Chairman Ron Hill called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Present were Park Board members Scott Hettwer, Jana Heinzelmann, Vaughn Werner, Jim Gibson and Dennis Michaelis; member Charlie Gresser was absent. Also present were Supervisor Jeff Schmittinger and DPW Superintendent Will Gibson.

Discussion of Outdoor Recreation Plan

The Park Board discussed the possible beer garden, questions were who was responsible for the clean-up, who would do the clean up and will the Town make anything doing this. Hettwer stated he spoke with Sideliners regarding the beer garden and they are interested and willing to take it on. Discussion. Hill felt this would be a way to showcase the parks. The Town Board wants to see more people here in the parks and this would draw people and showcase the park at the same time.

Schmittinger asked how often would these be held, how often. Hill felt the traveling beer gardens are busy so only once or twice a summer. Schmittinger didn't think the Board would say no.

Werner felt holding it at Sunset would not benefit the town, it's too far from the businesses, Town Park would be a better fit. Discussion of hours, since there is nearby residence, it was felt they should close by 9 or 9:30.

Hill and Hettwer will talk to Sideliners.

Schmittinger suggested possibly a cooler trailer for the beer and local businesses, churches could trade off times for food sales and promotion.

Michaelis asked if they would pay anything to the town, Hill replied a percentage of the sales to cover the maintenance at the park, it would be advertising for the Town.

Hill asked everyone to read over the Outdoor Recreation draft plan for discussion next month.

Discussion of the Lunt Fontaine Nature Center for use as a dog park. Some did not like the idea, they felt it is called a Nature Center designed for walking.

There was a question if dogs would be allowed to run or leashed. Since there is no fence, dogs should be leashed.

Michaelis didn't agree with this idea, he felt the land was given to the Town as a nature walk not a dog park. Discussion. People currently walk their dogs there, no complaints have been received, there is no sign dogs aren't allowed in the Nature Center.

Hill suggested a sign and box be placed at entrance for donations for bags and to help maintain the area.

Michaelis stated he doesn't want to promote this as a dog park, it land was donated for a Nature Center.

Update on information of pickle ball court – Vaughn Werner/Charlie Gresser

Werner stated Gresser was going to take this over. This will be on next month's agenda.

Discussion/action – Park Board minutes of October 20, 2020

Michaelis made motion to approve, Jim Gibson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Report on Parks – DPW Superintendent Will Gibson

Park Board members were copied with the report. PARKS REPORT -

We have been working on clearing brush at the Nature Center over winter. This is an ongoing project that will be worked on as time permits. The herbicide and fertilizer application for the parks and Town Hall will be done in house. The Town purchased a John Deere Gator with a sprayer and Will and Mike are state certified to applicate turf. The main pavilion at Town Park had plywood installed under the roof. It will be painted this year. The vegetation that was growing over the septic field was removed and will be graded and seeded this year.

The dumpsters at Sunset Park were moved onto concrete pads close to the park building. A wood fence around the dumpsters is a possibility. Bleacher pads will be poured this year as soon as weather permits. The new ball diamond mix was installed on Field 4. It is our hope this results in fewer rainouts. We purchased a wood planer with the hopes of resurfacing picnic tables in the hopes this will be more cost effective than replacing the wood or the tables themselves. Sandboxes will be replaced and diggers will be installed. It is still yet to be determined whether the soccer field is ready to be played on this year. The water will be turned on at both parks' March 24.

Some park employees will be starting on March 22. Baseball will start on April 15 at the earliest. Soccer will start on April 1.

DPW is looking to either add on to the existing building or build a new one across from the salt shed.

All park equipment has been serviced. Fields will be rolled when the weather permits. Parks will be left open year-round starting in 2021. Bathrooms will auto lock and unlock. Both parking lots will be restriped in house. Dedicated park employees have been reduced from 6 to 5 with higher wages. Park employees have merged with DPW to be all Town of Genesee employees. Employees in parks may be called to help on roads and vice versa.

Will Gibson also told the Park Board they are looking at a new DPW building, he is working on location, setbacks and design. There should be no loss of parking spaces for the park.

The old freezers from the Lions building are gone, discussion.

The weed control will now be done in house, Gibson is working with someone on a program, chemicals and paperwork necessary as we are doing it ourselves.

Discussion on the rolling of the soccer field.

Update on Recreation Department – Dennis Michaelis

Soccer will start April 24th, practice April 1st, the season will end the first week of June.

Michaelis stated they already have over 100 reservations for base ball fields, it will be a busy summer.

Discussion of the volley ball courts at Sunset and work needed at the Town Park basketball court.

Werner made motion to adjourn, Heinzelmann seconded, motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Whitmore, WCMC
Park Board Secretary