

**Village of Holmen
Park, Recreation, and Library Committee
Meeting Minutes - Wednesday, September 7, 2011**

Committee Chairman Forde called the Holmen Park, Recreation, and Library Committee meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. on September 7, 2011 at the Holmen Village Hall. All members were present, except Moser (excused).
Guests: Mike Dunham.

Motion by Forde, seconded by Horvath to approve the minutes of the August 2011 meeting. Carried unanimously.

Public Comment: Mike Dunham expressed the need to improve the maintenance and condition of the bike/pedestrian trail located between Gaarder Road and Hale Dr. (west of Northern Engraving). Dunham stated it should be graded, resurfaced, regularly mowed, named, and have signage (name, not plowed, no ATV's/snowmobiles). Brogan researched the trail and provided the easement information and stated it was created in 1999 by Public Works Director Scholze as trail for kids to access Deer Wood Park/Aquatic Center/Viking Elementary and there is a sewer line going through the area also.

Library Director's monthly report: Layland distributed and explained a brochure for the Joseph Rakha Memorial Leave A Legacy Event on Saturday, September 10, 2011 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Onalaska Public Library. Layland stated the event benefits Bangor, Campbell, Holmen, Onalaska, and West Salem libraries. Contributors can choose and purchase new books and materials to add to the libraries collections and a bookplate acknowledging the contribution will be placed in each item purchased.

Layland provided the Committee with the August 2011 library usage report. Layland stated that total circulation decreased 7.9%, but the door count increased 9.2% over August of 2010. Layland stated the library now has a new online catalog system and will be offering One-Click Audio in January of 2012. Friends of the Library – no report.

The Committee reviewed proposals for the library tuck-pointing repairs. Brogan stated the project was evaluated by three companies, but only one proposal was received. The project was budgeted for \$6,500 and was based on Masonry Restorations budget quote from 2010. **Motion by Horvath, seconded by Forde to recommend to the Board approval of Masonry Restoration Incorporated of West Salem for the library tuck-pointing repair and sealant installation at a cost of \$4,500. Carried unanimously.**

Pool Manager's year-end report:

Aquatic Center Manager Jon Parkhurst was unable to attend the meeting. Brogan stated that Parkhurst will not return for 2012 and has recommended one of the assistant managers, who would also receive assistance from past manager Heather (Harris) Foley. The pool closed for the season on August 21. Tentative schedule for 2012 is to open on June 2 to close on August 26. Off-season projects and repairs include the possible recall of the Virginia Graeme Baker Act drain grates (under warranty), ADA access pool interpretations could require mandated costs, an additional water meter must be installed to separate irrigation and pool water (requested by Water Department), pump motors serviced, Cla-Valve repairs, and the sand filters will be inspected and have media removed and replaced at a minimum. Brogan stated the American Red Cross is now charging \$5 per person for swimming lessons and the format may be revised to avoid the unnecessary costs. The committee reviewed the 2011 pool statistics summary report. Horvath requested that customer satisfaction surveys be created and emailed to past membership and program participants.

Park and Recreation Director's monthly report:

Recreation: Brogan explained that the fall and winter program brochure was distributed and that registration for all programs is ongoing. Brogan stated that Kornfest softball tournament featured 38 teams. Brogan stated that programs beginning within the week include: youth football, youth volleyball, middle school tennis, Yoga, and fall co-rec softball league. Reinhart stated that new programs include a photo contest, new adult fitness classes, and the Befit 4 Kids 5K Trail Run. Brogan explained that WPRA tickets for summer has ended. Dave Marsh completed his UW-La Crosse internship on September 2. Brogan stated the November 2nd meeting conflicts with the WPRA State Conference and may be rescheduled.

Parks: Brogan gave a KornFest update and stated that other than turf compaction and turf damage from the corn butter area there no known KornFest damages to Halfway Creek Park and the Holmen American Legion has already paid the \$284.50 utility marking bill. Joey McKee has completed his Eagle Scout project of landscaping park entrance sign areas at Cedar Meadows East Park, Whispering Pines Park, and Sylvan Park. Upcoming Halfway Creek Park Band Shell concerts consist of the Grand River Show Choir on September 11th and Highway 16's on September 18th. Brogan stated the Emerald Ash Borer beetle has been found in La Crosse County and the Village has public information links on the website. Brogan stated that 35 prominent village owned ash trees have been on a treatment program for all of this year. An independent insurance adjuster forester and representatives from Reinders and Turf Maintenance inspected and inventoried all trees in all areas where herbicide was applied in the spring of 2011 due to a national DuPont product recall of the new "Imprelis" herbicide, which is known to cause tree damage in certain types of trees. There are around 100 village trees which may be affected and have been documented and will be monitored. Official action has not been announced. During the tree inventory, an extensive Japanese Beetle grub problem was identified at Countryside and Remington Hills Parks and will need to be treated immediately to save the grass. Once treated, the grubs are killed and others are not supposed to come back to that soil. Horvath and Forde encouraged the staff provide public information for this problem as soon as possible. Public Works Director Spanel and Brogan met with the MSA stormwater engineer to discuss the Deer Wood Park Estates flooding of Deer Wood Park issues on September 6. Lloyd Dresen from the Holmen Area Foundation has told Brogan that the foundation has money available for the removal of down trees in the creek along the Halfway Creek Trail, Brogan will create an inventory and priority list of down trees, but many of the trees are not within the trail easements.

The Committee discussed the September budget comparison reports.

The Committee discussed a new letter from Vierbichter requesting payment of \$7000 for their Halfway Creek Park Phase design services. The Committee made no recommendation and Forde stated the issue will be discussed by the full board at the September 8th Board meeting.

Brogan presented a list of possible 2012 capital item requests for parks, recreation, and pool. The committee also discussed the need to focus on long range planning and future uses of park development funds in upcoming months.

Brogan presented a letter from Scott Burnstad inquiring about the possibility of a dog park. The committee will consider this topic in future long range planning discussions.

Motion by Horvath, seconded by Forde to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. Motion carried.

Mike Brogan
Park & Recreation Director