Committee Chairman Cain called the Holmen Park, Recreation, and Library Committee meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. on February 3, 2021 at the Holmen Village Hall.

Present: Brandon Cain, Dawn Kulcinski, Micah Wyss, Mike Brogan, Chris Geary, Chris McArdle-Rojo  
Excused: Scott Heinig    
Guests: None

Motion by Kulcinski second by Wyss to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2021 meeting. Carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None

Library Director’s monthly report: McArdle-Rojo distributed the monthly library report and program guide to the committee. McArdle-Rojo stated that the library added Hoopla at the beginning of the year. Trustee Kulcinski asked for details on the internet hotspot available for checkout. McArdle-Rojo stated that it is a traveling hotspot that patrons can checkout for three weeks. Trustee Kulcinski asked if they are easy to use. McArdle-Rojo stated that they are easy to use, you just have to hook up your device and you should be ready to go. Trustee Kulcinski asked how many devices the library currently has. McArdle-Rojo stated that they currently have six of them and if rentals go well, they may look into getting more in the future.

Park and Recreation Director’s monthly report:  
Recreation: Geary updated the committee on the status of the recreation programs. Brogan stated that the Sunday Concerts in the Park lineup is filling up with bands eager to perform. Trustee Wyss asked if there was any talk of capacity limits for concerts this summer. Brogan stated that the department will look at recommendations from the State and County to determine any regulations on concerts.

Parks: Brogan stated that part-time job inquiries were sent to past staff with a February 26th deadline to respond. Brogan stated that the nutrition room was recently painted by park staff.

Pool: Brogan stated that pool job inquiries were sent to past staff with a February 26th deadline to respond. Brogan stated that state-wide meetings have begun to occur to discuss Covid-related procedures for the summer pool season. Brogan stated that many things are still undetermined, but we are still planning to start registration in March, like past years.

The committee reviewed a proposal for playground equipment additions for five parks. Brogan stated that there was $30,000.00 budgeted for these additions in 2021. Brogan stated that most of these parks have not had any updates in over fifteen years. Brogan stated that the additions would go in at Viking Park, Ponderosa Park, Timberline Park, Cedar Meadows East Park and Cedar Meadows West Park. Brogan stated that many of the parks are used daily by daycares and new equipment would make for great additions to the parks. Motion by Wyss second by Kulcinski to recommend to the Board approval of the proposal for playground equipment additions to five parks from Lee Recreation in the amount of $30,201.00. Carried unanimously.

The committee reviewed a quote for the 2021 contract for fertilization and weed control on Village properties. Brogan stated that the quote came from Turf Maintenance and they have taken care of Village properties for the last 15 years. Brogan stated that Turf Maintenance has done a good job over the years and have not increased their price from 2020. Trustee Wyss asked if the department received any other bids for the contract. Brogan stated that we haven’t received any other bids for the contract in a few years, but last time we did, Turf Maintenance was still the lowest bid by almost $10,000.00. Trustee Wyss asked why some areas get five treatments versus others that only get three. Brogan stated that the areas that get five treatments are the highest profile areas that get the most use. Motion by Kulcinski second by Wyss to recommend to the Board approval of the 2021 fertilization and weed control contract from Turf Maintenance in the amount of $31,120.30. Carried unanimously.
Other Business: Brogan stated that the Holmen Area Foundation wants to put a free sled library in at Deer Wood Park. Brogan stated that it would be similar to the one that is currently in Myrick Park in La Crosse. Brogan stated that it would most likely go in near the concession area so it will be visible for the cameras and would have to be maintained by the Holmen Area Foundation if added. Trustee Kulcinski stated that she loves the idea and is fully on board. Trustee Cain asked if it need to go before the Board for approval. Brogan stated that it didn’t and he just wanted the committee’s opinion before approving it. Trustee Wyss stated that he is for the idea as long as it is maintained and removed in the summer. Trustee Kulcinski stated that it would also be worth monitoring the usage throughout the sledding season. Trustee Cain stated that he is for it as long as the Village would not be responsible for any lost or stolen items.

Motion by Kulcinski, second by Wyss to adjourn at 5:43 p.m. Motion carried.

Chris Geary
Asst. Park & Recreation Director