

Minutes – Wilton Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting

January 6, 2025 – Gavin Park

Present: Ken Bishop, Mark Dailey, Kellie Milne, Andrea Glogowski, Bob Garrett, Brent Pollack, Sara Bogardus, Shawn Lescault, Bella Osborn (WWPP)

Absent: Trey Bodkin (since resigned)

Before the meeting was called to order, the Commission heard from Bella Osborn, who represents Wilton Wildlife Preserve and Parks. She advised the Commission she will be in attendance to listen in and hear about the Commissions projects and partnership.

Meeting called to order at 7:00PM

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Bob Garrett to approve the minutes from the December 2nd meeting, second by Brent Pollack, minutes were approved.

Director’s report: Ross MacNeil advised that he would catch up next month with an updated report.

Old Business: The Commission welcomed new member Shawn Lescault and gave introductions.

The Commission discussed presenting the QR Code Survey results to the Town Board at their next meeting in February (It was subsequently decided to push this to March). Andrea to make a handout to bring to the Town Board meeting and Ken and Mark to discuss the recreation assessment proposal and cost for the Forest Grove Trails project with Belmonte. Andrea confirmed the Town removed the survey code from the Town website and the survey is now closed.

Mark provided a short update on the Northern Pines pier project with is moving along with the LA Group. Mark to stay in contact with them.

Brent provided an update on the proposed town zip line project, still on target for a spring completion. He indicated that the Friends of Wilton is reviewing color swatches.

Ken and Mark discussed the Forest Grove project and received a quote of \$6,000 for a recreation assessment. Ken and Mark walked to the end of Scout Road along the logging trail cleared by Belmonte Builders and saw good potential for

recreational trails in the area. The recreation assessment would provide ideas and indications for tree cutting, rolling hills, perimeter of property, and ideas for the pocket park in the middle of the neighborhood that is town property. Shawn provided his input on discussions the planning board has been having as well as timelines and milestones for the trails to be built. The Commission questioned what else the recreation assessment would include and what the final cost would be for the work to be done post-assessment. Mark and/or Ken to reach out to Ethan Winter to see how much the Graphite Range cost. Shawn to speak to Planning Board regarding timelines. The Commission made the decision to postpone their planned attendance at February Town Board meeting to March to gain more information on this topic.

Bella Osborn mentioned that the Forest Grove trails project would qualify for the Marathon Dance Fundraiser which she is a participant of.

The Commission discussed volunteer stewardship agreements and how this would work for maintaining the Forest Grove trails.

Ken provided details on the Joint Trails meeting scheduled for 2/26 at 7pm at Gavin Park with a presentation from Natalie Lincoln, Grants Coordinator for Congressman Paul Tonko.

Commission members who attended the Gavin Park Tree Lighting in December mentioned that it was well attended and enjoyed by all.

New Business: Ken explained that Trey Bodkin as resigned from the Commission. Wendy Mahaney is interested in filling Trey's open spot and Ken will coordinate with getting Town Board approval.

Mark advised that he has been selected for the Graphite Range Committee.

Kellie to email the Town to get website updated with new/changed members.

Bella Osborn provided information on WWPP's Education Center project. WWPP received a \$100k grant and is still in phase I of the project with the Education Center being built, with the intention for phase II to include a natural playground, ADA pathway, to be completed in 1-2 years.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 3rd

Adjourn: A motion was made by Kellie Milne to adjourn at 8:02pm, second by Sara Bogardus.

Respectfully submitted:

Kellie Milne