



Black Earth Parks, Grounds, and Recreation Committee
Monday, January 24, 2022 6:00 pm
1210 Mills St., Black Earth, WI 53515

Minutes

1. **Call to Order.** Chair Brammerson called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.
2. **Roll Call and confirmation of Quorum.** Present: Scott Patchin, James Coyle, Jared Brammerson, Lauri Statz. Meagan Kahl absent at time of roll call. Also present: PWD Matt Kahl, Deputy Clerk Dani Franco.
3. **PROOF OF POSTING:** A copy of the notice was delivered on 1/21/2022 to the following: by fax to the Star News; posted at Black Earth Municipal Building, Black Earth Village Web Page, by fax for posting to the State Bank of Cross Plains Black Earth branch and posted at the Black Earth Post Office. *Noted.*
4. **Public Comment.** Limit 3 minutes per person. *None.*
5. **Approve Meeting Minutes from:** December 6, 2021
 - a. Patchin/Coyle motion to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0.
6. **Discussion/Action on Cooper Property.**
 - a. Discussed and supported multiple scenarios regarding Cooper property including:
 - i. Fire Department controlled burn of entire structure
 - ii. Fire Department controlled burn of collapsed structure
 - iii. Demolition of entire structure without burning
 - iv. Removal or keeping of sidewalk and driveway
 - b. The committee selected Matt to collect price estimates of total demolition, partial demolition, and cost of cleanup for the different scenarios.

Meagan Kahl joins meeting via zoom at 6:04pm.
 - c. Further discussion on weighing options of keeping/removing sidewalk, driveway: will keeping it become a burden on Public Works for maintenance? (shoveling, etc.). Matt stated that yes, Public Works will need to do upkeep on the property including mowing, possible tree maintenance, just like other Village parks. Patchin stated he would like this placed on to the next Public Works Committee meeting agenda for discussion.
7. **Discussion/Action on Trail extension.**
 - a. Brammerson stated his support for connection of Cross Plains and Mazomanie trail through Black Earth. Stated that Gateway to the Driftless is working on trail, but no updates. No action was taken by committee.
8. **Update on ballfield at BE Elementary.**
 - a. Coyle stated concern for parking near Community Park. With new development coming in place of the elementary school, parking for baseball games at the park will be severely limited. Wants to keep this on for further discussion for solutions to parking situation.
9. **Discussion/Action on Vet's Park:**
 - a. **BBQ pit.**
 - b. **Fencing replacement**
 - i. Discussion on state of BBQ pit and wellhouse fence. Committee agreed that if a new wellhouse building is coming, no point in investing a lot of time and money into redoing either. Committee requested Public Works to replace any bad boards on the wellhouse fence and repaint, and repaint the BBQ pit.

10. Discussion/Action on Community Park:

a. Basketball Court updates needed.

- i. Basketball court is in need of refurbishment. Possibly looking at a different location for the court. Will discuss more next meeting.

b. Playground Equipment

- i. Brief discussion on whether or not current elementary school play equipment would stay with new developer or if the Village would be able to put the equipment to use. Consensus was take a wait-and-see approach; too early to know as of now.

11. Discussion/Action on Water Tower Park:

a. Brush Clearing

- i. PWD Kahl gave overview of the status of Water Tower Park. Stated that there is lots of dead undergrowth, dead trees, want to clean it up. Eventually want to plant prairie grasses, mow it every so often, and keep tidy. Said there is quite a bit of walking traffic up through there. Looking to rent a forestry skid loader with a mulching head to clear everything up. Not looking to remove any good trees, just clear up overgrowth. After discussion with ACT Benish, grant money could possibly be available if related to trail expansion. Cost is about \$4000.00 for a week to rent. Would like to use in the park and then clear up other ditches that need work, and possibly share cost with Vanguard if they need to use it. Would like to do this before everything blooms in spring.

Scott Patchin exits meeting at 6:26pm.

- ii. Statz supports weeklong rental; make more use of the rental at once. Not in favor of making the space anything more than a greenspace and walking path with some benches/tables. Too out-of-sight, out-of-mind for more than that.
- iii. Matt will get pricing/quotes for next meeting:
 1. Machine rental and Public Works completing the work
 2. Contracting out work with 3rd party.

12. Other items for future agenda discussion.

- a. Tree takedown and tree replacement at Veterans Park
- b. Equipment: Ice refurbishment machine for ice rink
- c. Basketball Court replacement / possible relocation
- d. Water Tower Park – brush clearing

13. Setting of Next Meeting.

- a. Monday, February 21 at 6:00pm.

14. Adjournment of Parks, Grounds and Recreations Committee.

- a. Coyle/Statz motion to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dani Franco
Deputy Clerk