

VILLAGE OF WALWORTH PARKS, RECREATION AND OUTDOOR COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 18, 2024

MEETING MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - The December 18, 2024 meeting of the Park Committee was called to order by chairperson Arlene Vorpapel at 5:30 pm at the Walworth Village Hall.
2. **ROLL CALL** – Attending Park Committee members Arlene Vorpapel, Cara Pfeiffer, and Dana Goheen, Bob Ball, representative of the Public Works Committee, Dean Connley representative of the Big Foot Recreation District, Louise Czaja, Village President and Chris Holt, Public Works Dept. Committee member Perry Weborg was absent.
3. **APPROVAL of NOVEMBER 20, 2024 PARK COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES** - Motion by B Ball to accept the November 20, 2024 meeting minutes, C Pfeiffer second, motion carried. Minutes approved.
4. **CITIZEN COMMENTS WELCOMED** - No citizens/guests present.

DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5. VILLAGE REPORTS

Village News reported by Village President L Czaja;

Dec 9, 2024 Board meeting - 2025 budget was approved without changes.

Plan Commission to review TIF funds criteria midway into the plan term.

Hwy 14 rehab is scheduled for 2028.

Hwy 14/67 and village square lighting is a priority in the highway rehab project due to its age.

Planning a meeting in January 2025 for the Village Board and the village attorney to obtain clarification on utilizing Impact Fees and TIF funds. The Park Committee requests to be included in that meeting.

The Village staff Christmas Party will be at 6:30 pm, Friday, January 17, 2025 at Cruise In.

Public Works Dept report provided by B Ball. The committee is working on filling the Public Works Dept open PW employee position. The department is currently at two staff members.

PW Dept Report by C Holt

PW staff is working to keep up with their responsibilities while short staffed.

6. REC DEPT NEWS – by D Connley

The new Winter/Spring Activity Guide has now been mailed out.

The recent gingerbread house event resulted in 27 gingerbread houses built. This is a popular, growing program. Wellness Club is a new, free program starting in 2025.

Snowshoeing at Kishwakeetoe in Williams Bay is scheduled for Sat, Jan 25, 2025, pending snow cover.

Cross country skiing is allowed on the Village Conservancy trail. Paths will be plowed as time allows.

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Rec Dept Activity Guide Deadlines

- Summer deadline Fri, March 21, 2025
- Fall deadline Fri, August 1, 2025
- Winter/Spring deadline by Fri, Nov 7, 2025

Village Quarterly Bill Deadlines

- April 2025 deadline Mon, March 17, 2025
- July 2025 deadline Mon, June 16, 2025
- Oct 2025 deadline Tues, Sept 16, 2025
- Jan 2026 deadline Mon, Dec 22, 2025

7. PROJECT UPDATES (Ongoing projects will remain on agenda until they reach completion)

Volleyball Pits – 2025 Budget or Impact Fees? Clarification on Impact fees is needed.

Rotary Park Sledding Hill – Park Committee is asked to make winter observations of activity here.

Badger Park - Little Woods – Will resume this project in the spring.

Project Daffodils – Jan 22, 2025 Richard Rasmussen will speak at the Park Committee Meeting. We will review the Village properties for possible planting locations. (Village map with Jan agenda)

Park Signs Permanenet Landscaping in 2025 – We will invite arborist, Jason Gerdes, to Park Committee Feb 2025 meeting.

Rotary Park Ice Rink – A private donor had the cracks filled and the rink sealed. Skating has commenced.

Local Dog Parks – Dog Parks near Wal. Info to share with residents; no one has visited any yet.

8. PARK EVENTS/REPORTS

Quartz Funding Opportunity – D Connley will have a virtual meeting with Quartz rep at 10 am, Tues, Dec 31, 2024 and will report at next meeting.

Toynton Park Clean-Up Day – B Ball motion, D Goheen second, motion approved to hold second annual Community Park Clean-Up Day Sat, April 26, 2025 at Toynton Park.

Southern Lakes Fastpitch girls softball team – We will Invite reps from this group to the March Park Committee meeting.

Parks Tree Planting and Replacement Plan – Committee: P Weborg lead with C Pfeiffer on committee.

Review the Revised Park Use Evaluation Forms - Implement in 2025 - Revised form reviewed. C Pfeiffer motion to use park evaluation form as revised, D Goheen second, motion carried to use for large group events.

City-Wide Rummage Sales Sat, Aug 2, 2025 Committee A Vorpagel, D Connley

Park Brochure – Winter project by A Vorpagel, D Connley, D Goheen, beginning after the holidays.

9. “CHRISTMAS IN MY HOMETOWN” REPORT – A Vorpagel reported on the Nov 30, 2024 event.

Estimated about 100 people attended. Evaluation held with a lot of feedback for improvements.

D Connley reported that BF FFA is not interested in working together on any other date for the FFA pizza with Santa event. Motion by D Goheen, C Pfeiffer second to hold second annual “Christmas in My Hometown” on Sat, Nov 29, 2025. Motion unanimously approved. This date will be announced right away.

10. “LIGHT UP WALWORTH” DECORATING COMPETITION – C Pfeiffer reported there are 13 entries (12 residential and 1 business) with 62 registered voters. Kick off earlier next year.

11. REVIEW PRIOTITIES LIST

- We continue to wait for clarification on Impact Fees and TIF funds eligible projects.
- C Holt reported that double-ground wood chips must be purchased. Village cannot produce the required size chips.
- Also Devils Lane Park limestone baseball diamond may be removed by Public Works team if they have more available staff for this project.
- Concerns expressed about report of exposed wires in warming building at Rotary Park. C Holt/PW Dept will check it out for safety concerns previously reported.
- Discussion regarding the park priorities list was tabled.

12. ANY OTHER NEWS

Girl Scouts Letter – D Goheen will Invite Girl Scouts to spring clean-up day on April 26, 2025 at Toynton park and to assist with flower planting, if needed.

2025 Park Communications with Village Residents – A Vorpapel suggested the spring clean-up day should be noted on the April water bill for all residents. (Deadline: Mon, March 17, 2025)

Park Communications – Better communications and promotions of our parks is needed within the community. C Pfeiffer made a motion to pursue a social media group page with Emily Adams of Creative Media assisting. D Goheen seconded, motion unanimously approved.

13. NEXT MEETINGS 5:30 pm, Wed, Jan 22, 2025 at Village Hall

The Jan 22, 2025 meeting will include the Daffodil Program by Richard Rasmussen

Future Guests / Programs:

- Arborist Jason Gerdes – C Pfeiffer motion to invite Mr. Gerdes to the Feb 19, 2025 meeting, second by D Goheen, motion carried.
- Lakers Girls Fastpitch Softball League -- Motion by C Pfeiffer, second by D Goheen to invite league reps to March meeting to discuss future softball diamond use of Toynton Park, schedules and the shelter. Motion carried.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by C Pfeiffer, second by D Goheen to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 pm. Motion approved.

Minutes submitted by Dana Goheen

Approved by Park Committee 1/28/2025