

**Minutes**  
**Saratoga Parks Committee Meeting**  
**(SPARKS)**

Date: Monday, May 17, 2021

Time: 6:00pm

Location: Saratoga Town Hall- Banquet Hall

Members Present: Rhonda Carrell, Bill Leichtnam, Gail Kretschmer

Other Present: Sarajane Snyder

At 6:00 pm, Rhonda Carrell called the meeting to order

Declaration of a quorum recognized

*Public Comment:*

Sarajane Snyder stated she is keeping her eyes open for different areas for parks within Saratoga. She expressed her opinion in favor of the two primary spots discussed so far. She made a comment of concern regarding both ATV and Horses trails being in the same area. Greenspace needs to be more than just tiny buffer zones.

Invited Snyder to be a member of the SPARKS Committee. Snyder accepted.

Minutes from April 14, 2021 were approved. Leichtnam moved to approve minutes. Kretschmer second. Motion passed unanimously.

Locations for parks & collaborating with surrounding communities on a joint park:

- Carrell called Ray Bossert Port Edwards and discussed opening up access on the west side of Nepco Lake. Domtar will clean up the down trees.
  - Could we put in wood chips for access to lake for kayaking, canoes, or small aluminum fishing boats?
  - Could we put in a gravel parking lot?
- Discussed the boat ramp on HWY Z at the Adams County line- (Rome)
  - Discussed improvements to the area that are needed
- Discussed developing the little public access point on South Shore Drive which belong to Saratoga
- Opened up ideas for other potential areas around Saratoga that might involve a partnership with other communities

Looking into possibility of honoring the original names of our creeks

- Motion made by Leichtnam to allow Snyder to research and reach out to the Ho-Chunk Nation for history on creeks. Kretschmer Second. Motion Passed unanimously
- Discussed possible signs for creeks acknowledging their original names

Discussion was had about future bike paths or walking trails throughout Saratoga

Motion was made by Kretschmer granting permission for Leichtnam to start communication with Wisconsin River Power Company and DNR. Carrell second. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by Leichtnam for Kretschmer to reach out to Gina Keenan in regards to the Knowles/Nelson Stewardship Grant. Carrell Second. Passed unanimously.

Leichtnam motioned the Vision of SPARKS is to develop: parks, greenspace, recreation, and nature preserves. As well as, being cognizant to areas for potential development- both residential and economic growth areas. Kretschmer Second. Passed unanimously.

Discussed possible grants and agreed to move forward with the Town Board and Plan Commission on some grants due to fast approaching deadlines.

Next Meeting: 6:00pm Monday, June 28, 2021 at Saratoga Town Hall

Meeting Adjourned at 8:09 pm