

Nyack Parks Commission Minutes
July 25th Meeting
Meeting Minutes taken by James Willcox

Park Commissioners present:

Jim Willcox, chair
Bert Hughes, vice—chair
Marcy Denker
Marianne Olive
Steve Guarascio
Carolyn Cairns

Minutes. Previous minutes approved, with minor changes.

Memorial Park: Continued discussion of the issue the Memorial Park bathrooms are now being locked at 6:00 p.m. instead of 10:00 p.m. This is causing problems during for people using the park facilities in the early evening hours, including those playing basketball, families using the children's playground, etc. It is particularly troubling during events, such as the summer music program, that attract larger crowds. The situation apparently stems from the change in parking hours, as it is the job of the parking authority to lock the bathrooms. Because parking fees are now suspended at 6:00 p.m., parking agents are simply locking the bathrooms when they go off duty.

A proposed solution is to have the parking authority agents lock the bathrooms at 11:00 p.m., when agents go back on duty to enforce metered parking.

There also appears to be issues with the bathrooms having adequate supplies, including toilet paper. There is anecdotal evidence that there are several people now living in the park that are talking toilet paper and other supplies from the bathroom to use elsewhere once the bathrooms are closed.

There also seems to be a problem with the lights in park not being turned on during evening park events.

Fundraising/Grants: There was some discussion about a suggestion by the Mayor that the Parks Commission help the Village grant writer seek funding for various parks projects. It was suggested that this, in fact, was the very reason the Parks Conservancy was created. The Parks Commission is trying to set up a meeting with the Mayor and the Village Board to discuss this, and other, issues.

Fishing Pier: Jim was informed that engineering work has started on the renovation of the fishing pier at the southeast end of Memorial Park.

Recreation Director. The Parks Commission was informed that the Village is currently looking to hire a part-time Recreation Director for programs in Nyack. The Parks Commission is trying to get more information about the job, its responsibilities, and how the director will interact with the Parks Commission.

Children's Playground: The Village has ordered some replacement equipment—the swing set and the teeter-totters for smaller children—but does not have the funding to replace the larger wooden structures that have been removed for safety reasons. The Village is looking to outside fundraising to finance new equipment, and the Parks Commission will be assisting in the effort.

Tan/Wax: The Village is still talking with the owners of the property at the foot of the inlet separating the marina from Memorial Park about an easement to build a bridge joining the two properties.

Community Outreach: In order to better educate Nyack residents about what is going on with Memorial Park, the marina, and other properties within the Park Commission's purview, the Commission is looking at a number of ways to expand its community outreach, including social media, workshops, posting notices/information updates on the bulletin board in the park, etc. All agreed that a greater education of, and involvement by, Nyack residents would benefit the Village.