

**Village of Marshall  
Parks Committee Minutes  
August 8, 2011**

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson Hensler called the Parks Committee meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present: Stransky, Lemke, Hensler, Diedrick, Cripps, and B. Arnold. Tweed was absent. Others present: Matt Hendricks-Recreation Director, Garret Perry-Design Studio ETC, Betsey Day-Stantec Consulting, Deneil Parker, Frank Opoku, Chris Rausch, John Hendrickson, Mark Diercks, Daniel Truschinski, Mark Shepler, and Corinne Elliott-Deputy Clerk.

1. Riverview Park.

- a. Update/recommendations on Riverview Park from Design Studio Etc Garret Perry of Design Studio said he and Betsey Day of Stantec Consulting had met with Mr. Hensler and Mr. Hendricks, to get background information on what had happened in Riverview Park. Ms. Day gave a presentation, including photos of the analysis and recommendations of the Riverview Park seedbed. The committee's concerns were dredge soil placement, seedbed preparation, treatment, and current seedbed conditions. Stantec gathered background information from Jeff Hruby of Montgomery Associates-Resource Solutions (MARS) and Doug Millin, Village Street Dept. Foreman. MARS served as the Village's consultant for the dredging process and the Street Dept. was responsible for grading and seeding the spoils.

Stantec's review included:

1. The Maunasha River sediment core logs, analytical report, sediment samples, soil tests reports: Physical Analysis (conducted by UW Soil & Plant Analysis Lab) on soil samples taken from each of the four quadrants of Riverview Park prior to dredge spoil placement.
2. Lawn Soil Analysis and Physical Analysis of spoils by UW Soil & Plant Analysis Lab on one composite sample taken from a number of different silt bags.
3. Lawn Soil Analysis and Physical Analysis of spoils by UW Soil & Plant Analysis Lab on one composite taken from Riverview Park and one from Langer Park.

Field investigations were conducted, logging four test pits, approximately 3 feet deep, excavated in each of four quadrants, sampling soil from Riverview Park, evaluating and photo documenting the condition and/or character of the grade, plant cover, and erosion control measures at Riverview Park, and land use, land cover, and hydrologic characteristics of adjacent areas, and visually assessing suitability of stockpile soil at Converse Park, for use at Riverview Park. McKay Nursery mobilized equipment, an operator, and a foreman for the test pits. The pits were excavated in each of four quadrants within the graded spoils and refilled after observations and sampling were done. Matt Hendricks was there and watched and provided additional background information. These tests were done by Betsey Day and Steve Banovetz.

The findings: Sediment cores were taken through the ice in February of 2009. No hazardous constituents identified. Soils underlying the turf grass field at Riverview Park were sampled and analyzed in April 2009 and it was found that there were adequate nutrients to support turf grass. Average 58% silt, 32% clay and 11% sand. Organic matter ranged from 2.8% to 6.0%. During the summer of 2009 filter bags filled with dredge spoils were placed at Riverview Park, surrounded by silt fence, and were left to drain for approximately one year. There were two different types of bags used, woven and extruded mesh. The bags were stacked in a double layer on portions of the site.

In June of 2010, the tops of the bags were cut, and removed from the site, leaving the bottoms of the bags in place. The lower layer of bags were either left intact or were only split around the sides with no bag material from that layer removed from the site at that time. A soil sample in June of 2010 was analyzed and phosphorous levels were found to be too low to support turf grass and fertilizer was recommended. The spoils were rough graded with a bulldozer in August of 2010 and crowned for drainage.

The Street Dept. staff prepared the seedbed in October of 2010. The soil was soft due to recent rain. They hand-broadcast 100-150 lbs of annual rye with a minor amount of turf grass seed mixed in. The seed was not raked in or mulched, and the recommended fertilizer was not immediately applied. Fertilizer was applied in May of 2011 and no turf grass has been planted yet.

Site Investigations: The spoil layer consisted of dry and blocky soil ranging from 12 to 17 inches deep. Saturated soils were observed at approximately 35 inches below the soil surface. Vegetative cover by rye grass was nearly 100% with one exception: a low area in the NW quadrant of the spoils-near the center of the site- was nearly bare of vegetation and appears to have held ponded water earlier in the season. Silt bags were observed in the test pits, but were not in obvious evidence at the soil surface and were not having a noticeable effect on grass cover. The rough surface of the graded area is the most noticeable surface problem. There is also the uneven surface of the graded spoils which is hidden by heavy grass cover. The perimeter of the spoils area has yet to be feathered in.

Soil Analysis: The soil test reports indicate that the soil at Riverview Park is still in need of increased fertility before it can support a healthy cover of turf grass.

Soil Test Report Summary: Still very low, at least 45 parts per million is needed to establish turf, 2X starter fertilizer application is recommended, plus 4 applications of general turf fertilizer.

Conclusions: Action is necessary at Riverview Park before it can be expected to perform as a functional park. Even though pieces of the filter bags that were left within the dredge spoils were originally thought to be one of the main causes of the undesirable conditions at Riverview Park, very little of this material was observed at the ground surface, nor did it appear to a factor responsible for preventing re-vegetation because no bare spots were observed that coincided with exposures of filter bag material.

Recommendations: Complete fine grading of the seed bed, add recommended fertilizer to the seed bed, seed with turf grass, and complete maintenance applications of fertilizer along with additional watering.

Option #1: pull/cut/remove visible bags, \$2560.00, herbicide existing vegetation, \$668.00, fine grade seedbed, \$2,500.00, seed, fertilize (2X) and mulch, \$26,250.00. Total option #1 \$31,978.00.

Option #2: herbicide existing vegetation \$668.00, Add 4" topsoil and fine grade seedbed, \$61,503.00, seed, fertilize (1X) and mulch \$22,750.00. Total option #2 \$84,921.00.

Option #3: excavate/pull silt bags(by machine) \$24,000.00, bag removal hand labor,\$16,800.00, rough grade \$16,200.00, fine grade seedbed \$2,500.00, and seed, fertilize (2X) and mulch, \$26,500.00. Total option #3 \$85,750.00.

Stantec Consulting recommended maintenance and management of the newly seeded area through watering and maintenance fertilizing are not included in the estimate, but can be provided upon request. After the presentation, the members discussed the condition of the park, future use of the park, and the three options. Again it was asked if the bags could ever re-surface, could they be a hazard, and the answer was if they re-surface, they would have to be pulled out, the area to be raked, seeded, and fertilized. However, these bags should be decomposing; it is not known if the bags themselves are working their way up. Mr. Hendricks stated he wants to provide a safe environment. Garret Perry of Design Studio talked about the park being a play area, such as soccer, what to do about the parking, making it functional. Mr. Diedrick stated what type of activities, a picnic table, a grill, etc.? Mr. Hendricks stated what do the neighbors and citizens want at the park?

- b. Selection/recommendation to the Village board of desired solution to Riverview Park The committee agreed to pull/cut/remove visible bags, herbicide the existing vegetation, fine grade seedbed, seed, fertilize(2X) and mulch, with adding topsoil, crowning for drainage. **A motion was made by Diedrick and seconded by Stransky to recommend to the Village Board to bid option #1 with the addition of adding 1, 2, 3, or 4 inches of topsoil in the bid and include fine grading and crowning for drainage. Motion carried unanimously, one absent.**

2. Langer Park – Discussion/Recommendation to the Village Board on the following:

- a. Review/approval of final design plans for amphitheater Mr. Hendricks handed out a drafts of the Bid & Specifications for the Natural Amphitheater with gravel stage, the design plan, and the grading plan. He asked the members to review and ask questions. A discussion continued about the boulders, if harvesting boulders on site or purchase them, and the gravel path (alternate 2) the surface of the path, mow it, or mulch or gravel prices, volunteer workers. Mr. Hensler asked can we bid with or without the boulders, the answer was both ways. Mr. Hendricks stated the bid will be put in the newspaper, on the Park & Recreation Facebook, on the Village website, and to Marshall area contractors. Mr. Hendricks stated Town and Country Engineering, Mark Barden, has been working on the parking lot plan, engineering work, etc.

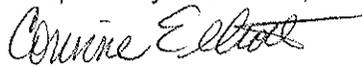
The parking grade has been set, and he is waiting on permits for the toilet and shelter. Mr. Diedrick commented if Michaels Engineering is willing to donate stone/boulders, we need to recognize them in some way, be it a plaque, sign, etc. All members agree where everything is planned,(ie shelter, parking lot, toilet, amphitheater). The parking lot will accommodate approximately 30 cars, not blacktop, gravel for now. Mr. Hensler asked that stakes be put in at the site to mark out where the shelter, toilet are going to be. He also asked if the existing Langer Park sign will stay. Mr. Hendricks said the gate, fence and the sign will stay as it is. **A motion was made by Stransky and seconded by Cripps to recommend to the Village Board to bid out the approval of final design plans for the amphitheater. Motion carried, one absent.**

3. Converse Park Mr. Hendricks stated ball games and tournaments are going good. Planning of projects is also going good.
  - a. Update on Wetland restoration project Mr. Hendricks said there has been a lack of growth of grass. He had the Marshall High School football team volunteer their help removing weeds. He stated 300 plugs were packed in. He would like to, in the future, have this as an educational piece.
  - b. Update on the progress of the "new portion" of the park/ball diamond Mr. Hendricks stated he noticed the bike path is used a lot, more than he thought and was happy to see people walking. The fencing and grading of the diamond is being worked on. Converse Park is the mostly used park in the village. Approximately 1000 people yearly. We have done many improvements to name a couple, the sink, and cabinets in the concession stand have been replaced, diamond work has been done. We want to keep the park looking nice. We do need to get a 3-5 year plan in place, looking into the future. Mr. Hensler stated this committee needs to decide on many projects, where is the money going to come from. Will we need to upgrade, for example the concession stand, will we need 1 or 2 stands? Will we need new bathrooms? We will need to set some priorities, and have a good solid plan. The funds are there, but they can be exhausted. A discussion continued on the funding of the parks. Mr. Hendricks stated we do need to set priorities, phasing things in, and have a plan. We can do more fund raising, grants, ask for volunteer work, and we need to find ways to generate more money, maybe shifting user fees, and at the end serving the citizens.
  - c. Evaluation of upcoming facility maintenance needs Mr. Hendricks said he is still compiling information and will bring this to the committee at a future meeting.

#### Adjournment

Having no further business a motion was made by Diedrick and seconded by Cripps to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Corinne Elliott  
Deputy Clerk