

**CITY OF CEDARBURG
COMMON COUNCIL
April 13, 2020**

**CC20200413-1
UNAPPROVED**

A regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Cedarburg, Wisconsin, was held online on Monday, April 13, 2020, utilizing the Zoom app.

Mayor O'Keefe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present - Mayor Michael O'Keefe, Council Members Sherry Bublitz, Jack Arnett, Kristin Burkart, Rick Verhaalen, Garan Chivinski, Patricia Thome

Excused - Council Member Rod Galbraith

Also Present - City Administrator Mikko Hilvo, City Attorney Michael Herbrand, Deputy City Clerk Amy Kletzien, Public Works Superintendent Joel Bublitz, 7th Aldermanic District Candidate Barbara Lythjohan, interested citizens and news media

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE

At Mayor O'Keefe's request, Deputy City Clerk Kletzien verified that notice of this meeting was provided to the public by forwarding the agenda to the City's official newspaper, the *News Graphic*, to all news media and citizens who requested copies, and by posting in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law. Citizens present were welcomed and encouraged to provide their input during the citizen comment portion of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Council Member Thome, seconded by Council Member Bublitz, to approve the minutes of the March 30, 2020 meeting. Motion carried without a negative vote with Council Member Galbraith excused.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS – None

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM CEDARBURG BASEBALL TO INSTALL A PERMANENT OUTFIELD FENCE AT ADLAI HORN PARK; AND ACTION THEREON

Director Friess explained that the Common Council approved the Adlai Horn Park plan on June 12, 2017 to only include a temporary removeable fence to keep it a multi-use park with open space. In March, Cedarburg Baseball requested to build a permanent outfield fence at Adlai Horn Park. Before the Mercury Marine project, there was a permanent fence at this field. Cedarburg Baseball has stated that they have had issues with the previous temporary fence. They have said that the fence consistently gets knocked down by wind and it is more difficult to cut grass around because it continually must be taken down and put back up. They also stated that goose droppings are becoming a safety issue for players and park users because the temporary fence has not kept them out of the outfield playing area. The requested permanent fence would have gates that would allow for an enclosure during games and

the gates would be open at all other times. Cedarburg Baseball also explained that a 6-foot permanent fence would be safer for the children in the league and for pedestrians on the walking paths around the perimeter of the field. Director Friess also stated that the enclosed area would help to increase recreational programming by adding dog training, toddler classes and other special events. This would also increase the multi-use of Adlai Horn Park.

Council Member Thome read the following statement: “I was stunned when I read the minutes of the March 4th Parks, Recreation and Forestry Board meeting. I read that they gave approval to Cedarburg Baseball to purchase and install a permanent fence when the Parks Board was fully aware of the agreement that was reached nearly 4 years ago. All parties had agreed that a removable outfield fence would be used in that park. Since the history of discussions, decisions and compromise was ignored by the Parks Board, I requested that the item be brought to the Common Council for final determination. During 2016 Adlai Horn Park neighbors, members of Cedarburg Select Baseball, the Parks Board, Rick, me, Mikko and others had numerous discussions and meetings regarding what the re-build of the park would look like after Mercury Marine’s restoration of Cedar Creek was completed. I remember at least one Parks Board meeting where the Council Chambers was filled. I can’t believe that those same Parks Board members didn’t recall those months of discussions, when they met on March 4, 2020. Today you received an email from an Adlai Horn Neighborhood Ad Hoc Committee Member which included minutes and the timeline of approvals of several items including “removable outfield fence”, by the Parks Board in 2016 and the Common Council in 2017. I don’t need to elaborate on those minutes and the timeline. A beautiful park was the result of all our efforts. Trees were planted just beyond the outfield. Baseball has the new concession stand that they said was necessary for fund-raising during the games. Baseball families are proud to show off their new field. During baseball season Columbia Road is filled with parked cars, families, and the sounds of baseball. Kids are having fun. In the off-season the removable fence comes down and that the area is opened up for neighbors to freely use. After the first year, grass is beginning to fill in. Families who live near there should be able to use the open space to kick around a soccer ball, fly a kite, perhaps put up a net for an impromptu volleyball game. Given time and opportunity people gravitate to open space that is near their homes and they utilize it. I have asked for greater research regarding removable fencing. I suggested using the same type of chain link fence that Cedarburg Baseball proposed but in sections using ground sleeves so the sections could come out at the end of the season and be stored in the enclosures already in that area. I was told that chain link fence would suffer too much wear and tear. That there aren’t enough volunteers. That the infield would need to be cleared of goose waste before the kids could play ball. Apparently, geese don’t fly over a permanent fence. I was asked why a fence is such a big deal? If you walked around the park before this meeting you saw where the outfield circle lies, and using the drawing in your packet, you can see how little space will be open between fencing and the trees if a permanent fence is in place. I am asking Baseball families, the Parks Board and those involved to come to the table to create a solution to identify removable fencing that meets everyone’s needs. Temporary fencing is used for baseball at Behling Field and Cedar Pointe’s field. I truly don’t understand why it’s not an option here. In 2016 this was agonizing for everyone involved. I honestly thought it was done. And am so disappointed we are back here again.”

Brandon Hall, President of Cedarburg Baseball, explained that this program has been in Cedarburg for 40 years, with 150 children who play competitive community baseball in grades 1 – 12. What makes the program different than Little League is they start practice in January. The program is 100% volunteer and league rules state that every child attends Cedarburg Schools or lives in the Cedarburg School District. Their goal is to build successful baseball teams at each level and then compete

together and go onto High School and experience success at the High School level. Unfortunately, they do not have their own baseball facility so they depend on the beautiful City Parks to have their program survive. In addition to committing hundreds of hours on the City parks, they also donated or committed to spending (including Adlai Horn Park) just over \$90,000 in facility upgrades at different City parks since 2017. They also communicate with Director Friess on growing the City recreational programs. All their donations come from Cedarburg families and businesses. Their goal is making the parks as beautiful and baseball friendly as possible for everyone to use. Many children, that are not in their program, are using the batting cages and fields. Brandon Hall became President of the group a year ago and was not part of the discussions in 2016-17. He agreed with Council Member Thome that Adlai Horn Park is a beautiful Park. No one who plays them would argue that it is the nicest baseball field in Ozaukee County. One exception is the yellow outfield temporary fence and they consider it an eyesore. The fence blows down and it is difficult to get volunteers to help fix a fence on top of preparing fields, chalking fields, and getting the players ready for a game. To solve this issue, he thought he went through the proper channels for a permanent fence in the park. He gathered proposals from vendors, the Cedarburg Baseball Board approved the project and appropriated the funds, and they went to the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board for approval, which they received. They now have a signed contract with a vendor to put up the fence and this opposition puts them in a gray area. Out of respect for this group, the construction of the fence was supposed to start this week. He proactively put that on hold out of respect for this group. They request to have the baseball field back to the way it was prior to the Mercury Marine project. Cedarburg Baseball paid for the fence last time and they are willing to pay for it again at no cost to the taxpayers. This will be the only field that they will have access to with an outfield fence. Having a fence is part of the game. They tried a temporary fence and it did not work; therefore, they made the request for a fence following the proper channels and was given approval. They use the field from April through September. There is still a lot of green space available beyond the fence for other recreational activities. If the fence were temporary, that would only leave October through March without a fence. He was not made aware of any requirements for the fence or outfield area and they are committed to improving the City Parks.

In answer to Council Member Arnett's question, Brandon Hall explained that the temporary fence goes up in April and is taken down at the end of September. However, in the interim it continually gets blown down and the coaches need to pound it back down before the games.

Cori Rice, N62 W5972 Columbia Road, is a neighbor and is involved with Cedarburg Baseball. Their son is 11 and has played on the league for two years. It is a top-notch field and she is not opposed to a permanent 4 ft. or 6 ft. fence.

Glenn Herold, W69 N984 Washington Avenue, explained that he is on the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board. He said that he listened to the neighborhood people 3-4 years ago asking to make the park as diverse as possible with a temporary fence and the City should stick with that decision. A temporary fence works at Behling Field and other fields and should work at Adlai Horn park. The aesthetically open space is nice to see.

Simon Fast, N62 W5948 Columbia Road, expressed respect for Brandon Hall and what baseball does for the community. However, he was surprised that the fence was being discussed again after the heated debates, stress, time, effort, and hard work that went into the original decision. There were compromises that led to the decision for a multi-use park with a removable fence to allow people to kick a soccer ball or play frisbee in this space. He questioned whether an electric scoreboard, PA System, or

advertising banners would be allowed next. Simon Fast asked the Common Council to remain true to the original plan and not vote for a permanent fence. He also asked Mayor O'Keefe to examine the current make-up of the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board because members are associated with the Cedarburg Baseball Club and were aware of the discussions that took place in 2016-17. He suggested that the entire Board be disbanded and instead be made up of women, senior citizens and young people with the citizens in mind.

Mayor O'Keefe reviewed the members appointed to the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Board and asked for clarification.

Glenn Herold stated that he was not at the meeting that the permanent fence was approved. He is opposed to a permanent fence and he would have voted against it.

In answer to Council Member Verhaalen's question, Mr. Fast explained that he considered Council Member Verhaalen to be a baseball person and it was a conflict of interest for him to serve on the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board. Council Member Verhaalen explained that City Attorney Herbrand issued an opinion that serving on the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board was not a conflict of interest. He stated that most Council Members are active in the community and he is also involved in football and basketball with his children. Mr. Fast opined that a permanent fence was presented at the Park Board level to avoid the Common Council.

Paul Hayes, N63 W5795 Columbia Road, provided the following email prior to the meeting: "The message of a fence, whether six feet high or four feet high, loudly and plainly states "STAY OUT" unless you play baseball. It destroys public open space in a small park with limited open space. Wind blowing down a temporary fence seems to be a trivial problem to me. Problems in mowing won't be solved by a fence. To say it has other uses such as you suggest is a desperate and empty gesture to placate critics of the fence. Dog training, kids programming, special needs programming, etc. can all take place in an open area. Behling Field does not have an outfield fence. Why does Schoen Field need a fence? After the struggle of two years ago and an agreement reached, this was done out of sight by the Parks Board, reversing a public Common Council decision that had public participation. I take this to be a betrayal of an agreement honestly arrived at in public. Frankly, Administrator Hilvo, this is a bad faith transaction on the part of a baseball-dominated Parks Board. I cannot participate in your meeting, but I ask that you enter this statement on the record."

Paul Hayes was able to join the Common Council meeting and added that the most precious part of Adlai Horn park is the creek and he stressed the importance of it being a wildlife corridor for deer, owls and birds to move freely. He added that there was baseball junk in the trees, and he asked Cedarburg Baseball to clean up the area. The park should be filled with trees, wildflowers, and bushes. Nature in the parks is an asset to Cedarburg.

Paul Rushing, W62 N799 Sheboygan Road, explained that a lot of thought and effort was put into the current configuration of Adlai Horn Park which resulted in the current design. Two important points to review is the location of the field, which is situated 60-70 feet farther south than the original field, resulting in more open space. A removeable fence was decided on to allow more open space for other activities. The second point is the fence was discussed in a manor of fait accompli allowing a 6 ft temporary fence. An improvement to a temporary fence would be to set in 4 ft. sleeves in the ground

to add stability to the fence and allow it to be put up and taken down twice each year. This would be a good compromise.

Randy Groth, W77 N982 Cranes Crossing, stated that he played on the Adlai Horn field as a child and coached many years later with a permanent fence in place. He questioned the compromises that were made and only sees improvements (pickleball courts, concession stand, etc.). He explained that he is a supporter of a permanent fence with gates to enter and exit because it makes the game more professional and provides a nice place to stand outside of the game.

Paul Hayes added that a compromise was one enhanced field over two fields with 30 parking spaces instead of 90. It took many meetings and community involvement to decide on the current park, which allows freedom in the park for the people in the City.

Superintendent Bublitz explained from a maintenance perspective, that a permanent fence with access gates and a stone warning track would be best. A fence would allow additional programming and City activities. He does not want to see a six-foot fence with sandbags. Driving fence posts into the ground and taking them out each year would be too costly and a temporary fence with netting does not stay up.

Council Member Thome suggested contacting Munson Fence to discuss other options, similar to a permanent fence but removeable.

The Common Council discussed various options.

Brandon Hall expressed concern about volunteers putting the fence up and down, wear over time, and storing the fence.

Superintendent Bublitz stated that it would be difficult to find storage for a fence, it will wear out after 3-4 years, a temporary fence looks temporary, and this is the second time the Club will be paying for a fence.

Mary-Kay Bourbulas, N67 W5389 Cedar Court, provided the following statement to be included in the minutes and reviewed it at the Common Council meeting:

“The current configuration of Adlai Horn Park was several years in the making and reached by compromise. Discussions on the Park started in 2015.

I don't wish to rehash the whole story but will bring up a few key points:

- This is a neighborhood multi-use park, serving the community.
- Neighborhood residents compromised with a private, single sex, select, sports organization (Cedarburg Select Baseball) that proposed turning Horn City park into a 2-diamond, tournament play complex. Parks and Rec (Mikko Hilvo) got both sides to compromise on a plan, which is visible in the park today.
- CSB has the use of a state-of-the-art ball diamond/concession building/storage area and bathroom facilities, while residents enjoy an open area (this open area is the outfield of the ball field), pickleball, tennis, and a walking path.

- During the Park planning session, CSB asked for the ball field to be moved to the center of the park; the outfield in the prior location tended to flood in spring; prolonged flooding tended to push back the start of the ball season.
- In exchange for moving the field, CSB offered to have no outfield fence, or a removable outfield fence.
- The open area would be used for fireworks (July 4th), and general open use in the park when baseball season was over.
- It is important to note that Horn park did have an open area prior to the Park revamp, the moving of the field to the center eliminated any other open field in the park.

A lot of effort was put into this park plan, a lot of thought, compromise and planning.

No other ball field in the Cedarburg Park system has permanent outfield fencing (Behling, Cedar Point, and Quarry). Removable fencing, if needed, works in all the other parks.

The composition of the Parks and Rec Board is virtually the same since the Horn plan was passed. The Council representative is the same as well. It is hard to believe that the Board, and the Council representative could **forget** the significant compromises that occurred; and the fact that “Removable Outfield Fencing” was one of the compromises.

I’ve attached minutes and notes starting in 2016, when significant conversations and compromises occurred. (*Attached to minutes).

CSB proposed no permanent outfield fencing and agreed on a removable outfield fence because they wanted the ball field moved to the center of the park.

The Horn park plan was passed by Parks & Rec in 2016 and moved on to the Common Council, which approved the plan in 2017. Small changes were made to allow more varied use (pickleball), and all the requests for CSB were installed in the park (mostly paid for by Mercury Marine).

CSB came before Parks and Rec in March of this year (2020), asking to install permanent fencing.

They did not mention that they had agreed to removable fencing. P&R did not bring up/question why removable fencing was agreed upon. It was suggested that this was “temporary” (CSB), which implies short term; they erred on the word usage; it was NEVER temporary in nature.

A few key points on the March Parks & Rec Board meeting:

- No due diligence was done by P&R when this request was brought forth, they simply took the word of a private organization that failed to mention the whole story.
- P&R never suggested that this be brought forth to the neighbors, considering the compromises made.
- The former head of P&R during 2015-17 is now our City Administrator (Mikko Hilvo). He was aware of and involved in the negotiations and should have advised the new head of P&R on direction, when this proposal came forth in March.
- A removable fence allows for an open area in the park; this is what was agreed to in 2016-17.
- A permanent fence signifies a closed area. If we have no fencing in other City parks, why start now?
- CSB has misrepresented the fence to its members, see attached letter which states the fence was ripped up during reconstruction of the park, and they simply want it “put back to the way it was”. They fail to mention that they (CSB) made the proposal for no permanent fencing and agreed to it.

- The board members on CSB involved in 2016-17 are still on the board. It is unfair to spread erroneous information and portray the neighbors and citizens of Cedarburg as the bad people in this affair. The “bad people” are the ones that chose to ignore compromise, promises, and approved plans, then forget to look at past City minutes and push through changes without investigating why the fence was not allowed a few years back.
- The current Council representative for P&R was the representative in 2016-17, during negotiations.
- The current Council representative is affiliated with the Baseball organization and was affiliated during the park planning stage as well.

Adlai Horn Park was re-done by compromising. Back in 2016-17 that compromise was the Citizens of the City of Cedarburg against a private, small (180 boys) single sex, single sport, select sports organization. This organization had many participants who did not reside in the City of Cedarburg. This organization was able to piggyback off of restoration paid for by Mercury Marine and receive the use of a new state of the art baseball complex, including a concession/restroom/storage building. CSB is now called Cedarburg Baseball, but they are still a private, boys only organization, and pays the City \$300 a year for exclusive use of the ball diamond and building.

Promises were made, it is clear that Parks and Rec, and the Council Member on P&R ignored the commitments made.

I ask that the City Council vote to not allow permanent fencing in Adlai Horn Park. It was agreed upon in 2016-17 that it would not be part of the park plan. Parks and Rec did not due its due diligence at the March meeting. Currently, we have time. This time should, at the very least, be used to thoroughly investigation temporary fencing options.

It sets a bad example, especially to the boys in Cedarburg Baseball, when our Parks and Rec Board chooses to ignore approved plans, and when half-truths are presented as facts.”

Brian Clement, N54 W6003 Portland Road, spoke in favor of a permanent fence and restoring the field to what it had been for many years.

Council Member Burkart stated that Adlai Horn is a gorgeous park. She was not on the Common Council when the park design was decided and was disappointed that this had already been discussed in length. Cedarburg Baseball people are wonderful people and she stated that there is time to figure out a solution that everyone can enjoy for years to come.

Council Member Bublitz stated that she was not on the Common Council when the Adlai Horn park design was decided. Cedarburg Baseball is a positive group in the community and a part of Cedarburg. It is the role of government to instill trust and have the responsibility to be trustworthy. A decision and an agreement were made in 2016-2017 involving the blood, sweat and tears of the community and this means something. Council Member Bublitz stated that the City did a poor job of being transparent in this case and the way it has happened is unacceptable.

Council Member Verhaalen stated that the design of Adlai Horn park was approved in concept and needed tweaking. Not all the bullet points were in the final design. He stated that an outfield fence is part of the game and had been there for many years.

Council Member Bublitz explained that decisions were made, and the neighbors did not expect this to surface again and it was not handled properly. Now it appears that a permanent fence was railroaded through without the residents knowing.

Mayor O'Keefe stated that the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board meeting was publicly noticed and proceeded like the Common Council.

Council Members Bublitz and Thome disagreed that the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Board was the proper level to make this decision. Council Member Burkart stated that citizens should be able to trust the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board. Council Member Thome stated that all but one member on the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board were involved in the initial decision on the fence and owns some responsibility on how it was handled.

Council Member Verhaalen stated that there are problems with the temporary fence at Behling Field and he asked who would put up and take down a temporary fence at Adlai Horn Park each year?

Council Member Thome recommended that the City could put up and take down the fence each year. She stated that if the City does work for Festivals and Summer Sounds, they can do this for Cedarburg Baseball.

Superintendent Bublitz stated that the City is asked to do a lot for the community, and he was concerned about having the manpower for another job.

Council Member Verhaalen explained that Cedarburg Baseball contributes by maintaining the baseball fields in the City.

The Common Council continued to discuss the type of fence that should be allowed and how it should be reviewed and approved.

Motion made by Council Member Verhaalen to approve a 4 ft. permanent black fence to match the existing side fence. Motion died for lack of a second to the motion.

Motion made by Council Member Burkart, seconded by Council Member Thome, to send removeable fence options back to the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board for consideration with the City responsible for set up and take down each season. Motion carried without a negative vote with Council Member Galbraith excused.

In answer to Council Member Verhaalen's question, City Attorney Herbrand opined that if City dollars and staff time is involved the item should be vetted through the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board and the Common Council for final approval.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. 2020-06 DESIGNATING AND AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES FOR THE CITY OF CEDARBURG CHECKING AND SAVINGS ACCOUNTS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR; AND ACTION THEREON

Motion made by Council Member Arnett, seconded by Council Member Bublitz, to adopt Resolution No. 2020-06 designating and authorizing signatures for the City of Cedarburg checking and savings

accounts for the ensuing year. Motion carried without a negative vote with Council Member Galbraith excused.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07 AUTHORIZING FINANCE DIRECTOR/TREASURER TO SIGN DNR RECYCLING GRANT; AND ACTION THEREON

Motion made by Council Member Arnett, seconded by Council Member Thome, to adopt Resolution No. 2020-07 authorizing Finance Director/Treasurer to sign DNR recycling grant. Motion carried without a negative vote with Council Member Galbraith excused.

CONSIDER LICENSE APPLICATIONS; AND ACTION THEREON

Motion made by Council Member Arnett, seconded by Council Member Bublitz, to authorize granting of a temporary Class “B”/“Class B” license to Cedarburg Firemen’s Park, Inc. for the Ozaukee County Fair, Firemen’s Park, W65 N796 Washington Avenue, for July 29, 2020 through August 2, 2020, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

CONSIDER PAYMENT OF BILLS DATED 03/27/20 THROUGH 04/02/20, TRANSFERS FOR THE PERIOD 03/28/20 THROUGH 04/10/20; AND PAYROLL FOR FIRST QUARTER 2020 FOR EMS AND PAYROLL PERIOD 03/22/20 THROUGH 04/04/20; AND ACTION THEREON

Motion made by Council Member Bublitz, seconded by Council Member Thome, to approve payment of bills dated 3/27/20 through 4/2/20, transfers for the period 3/28/20 through 4/10/20; and payroll for first quarter 2020 for EMS and payroll period 3/22/20 through 4/4/20. Motion carried without a negative vote with Council Member Galbraith excused.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

City Administrator Hilvo extended a thank you to the Clerk’s Office, poll workers, Emergency Management, Mayor O’Keefe, Council Members Arnett and Verhaalen, community volunteers, and City Staff for their help in running a smooth election.

Work will begin on the budget and the strategic plan with Department Heads.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS – None

COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Bublitz heard that the election was run beautifully and was very organized. People who worked felt very safe.

Council Member Verhaalen said that working the election was an enjoyable experience and it was nice to see young people volunteering.

Council Member Arnett welcomed Barbara Lythjohan as the new 7th District Council Member. He also asked that the Research Librarian implement a hotline to serve as a resource for unemployed citizens

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor O’Keefe issued Proclamations for: Municipal Treasurers Week – April 14-20, 2020; Municipal Clerk’s Week – May 3-10, 2020; and National Library Week – April 19-25, 2020.

Mayor O’Keefe thanked all the people who helped with the election and risked their safety during this pandemic.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Council Member Arnett, seconded by Council Member Bublitz, to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Amy D. Kletzien, MMC/WCPC
Deputy City Clerk

*Continued email from Mary-Kay Bourbulas:

NOTES:

On November 9, 2016 Cedarburg Select Baseball presented a revised plan to the Parks Board that indicated “no outfield fence”. Pertinent minutes are attached.

On December 7, 2016 the Parks & Recreation Board voted to approve a variety of improvements to Adlai Horn Park including “removable outfield fence”. Pertinent minutes are attached.

On June 2017, the final approval was given by the Common Council to make numerous improvements to the park, primarily by Mercury Marine, and the key points of the plan were listed in the minutes. They included “removable outfield fence”. Pertinent minutes are attached.

It is unfortunate the Parks and Rec Board gave approval on March 4th of this year to Cedarburg Baseball to purchase and install a permanent fence when that Board was fully aware of the discussions and agreements that occurred in 2016 and concluded in 2017. That was a period of extreme concern for many on both sides of the issue. We came to compromise after months of discussions and negotiations. Most of the current Parks and Rec Board members were on the board at that time, so they sat through the discussions and were aware of the agreements made. The discussion of a removable outfield fence was a key topic. The fence would be up during baseball season. Down the rest of the season it allowed full open space in that neighborhood park.

From June 12, 2017 Cedarburg City Council Minutes:

Director Hilvo explained that after Mercury Marine has completed the creek cleanup, they are required to restore Adlai Horn Park to its original condition. Several public meetings were held to discuss the future of the park with input from residents, neighbors of the park, and Cedarburg Select Baseball. He presented a drawing of the final result for the park as approved by the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board. The plan includes the following:

- One additional parking space
- Restored island
- Kayak and canoe launch
- Picnic areas
- Regulation tennis courts
- New and improved baseball field
- Existing bleachers reinstalled
- New one story concessions, restroom and storage building
- Refurbish subgrade throughout the park and plant grass
- Council ring/outdoor classroom
- Unobstructed view to gazebo shelter from parking area
- Bio-stabilization & habitat creation along entire creek bank and island • 8’ wide asphalt-paved walking/vehicular service path
- Variety of hardwood trees (minimum 3” caliper)
- 20’ diameter gazebo or structure
- Wood fishing platforms
- Regulation size pitching practice & warmup alleys
- Baseball infield, outfield and fireworks launch area

- Landscape screening
- Park benches on concrete slabs at creek bank
- Removable outfield fence

Motion made by Council Member Thome, seconded by Council Member O'Keefe, to approve the Adlai Horn Park restoration plan in concept as presented with some minor changes as needed. Motion carried on a roll call vote with Council Members Czarnecki, Arnett, Verhaalen, Regenfuss, Thome and O'Keefe in favor and Council Member Dieffenbach opposed.

Link to the June 12, 2017 CC minutes

[Common Council Minutes](#) .

PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY BOARD November 9, 2016

**PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY BOARD
November 9, 2016**

**PARK20161109-2
UNAPPROVED**

Discuss Adlai Horn Park Plan; and Action Thereon

Director Hilvo informed citizens that Mercury Marine has poorly informed the City about exactly when things would happen in the park. Trees have been marked, but we cannot control what Mercury Marine does. Director Hilvo said that there are two options for the park. Either leave it as status quo or use this opportunity to change or enhance the park. He then showed two field options for the park.

Jim Fitzpatrick and Chad King from Cedarburg Select Baseball then spoke about potential plans. These plans included keeping Grant Schoen Field the same, tweaking angles from the original plan, not hosting tournaments and not having an outfield fence. They also mentioned that their new plan was to enable the Recreation Department to utilize the fields for other recreational programming.

Director Hilvo mentioned that this clean-up is a unique situation and it is not something that tax money is being spent on, so the plan can be different. Glenn Herold asked if building a better parking lot to get cars off the street would make the neighbors happy, but the response was negative.

Simon Fast then presented a proposal. He stated that people come to Cedarburg for use of the parks and that we should not waste waterfront property with more ball diamonds. He was also questioning why Cedarburg Select Baseball has a say in this matter since they are a private, non-profit group.

Resident John Birkels stated that he faults the City Council for the destruction of the park. He also believes that Council Member Verhaalen should not have a say in this matter, due to a conflict of interest. Bob Schroeder then stated that the land was originally donated for public use and not just for a single sport. Another resident, Paul Hayes, gathered ninety-six signatures from Columbia Road residents who do not want the park changed. He also mentioned that if the parking lot size increases, then the park will have the fourth largest parking lot in the City.

Motion made by Paul Rushing, seconded by Terry Wagner, that the historic intent of Adlai Horn is to guide further planning by the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Board to the effect of maintaining one improved baseball diamond, one improved baseball practice infield, with onsite parking remaining substantially the same and the remaining balance of the park restored to park open space defined as green areas with trees, paths, and creekbank improvements, details all of which will be refined during further planning. The tennis courts will be moved to Zeunert Park with the possibility of lighting. Motion carried without a negative vote with Scott King excused and Council Member Verhaalen abstaining.

REPORTS

Director Hilvo reported that he, Superintendent Bultman and Supervisor Friess attended the Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association's annual conference last week. Ms. Bultman and Mr. Friess were both awarded scholarships to help pay for conference registrations.

Superintendent Bultman reported on new activities and special events that will be happening in the upcoming season.

PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY BOARD
December 7, 2016

PARK20161207-3
UNAPPROVED

REPORTS – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discuss and Consider Adlai Horn Park Plan; and Action Thereon

Council Member Verhaalen mentioned that he spoke with the City of Cedarburg Attorney and it was decided that he does not need to recuse himself from the Adlai Horn discussions.

Director Hilvo then introduced the discussion of the new Adlai Horn Park plans. He said that some aspects of the park are being funded by Mercury Marine, but other aspects would not be funded. He mentioned that the main goal of the meeting is to determine what amenities are wanted for the park, not necessarily which layout will be chosen.

Paul Rushing described the various proposed plans, diagrams and structures. The Board then individually went through a list of twenty-two possible amenities for the park. Through the individual discussions, it was decided that Adlai Horn Park should consist of a restored island, bio-stabilization of creekbank, council ring/outdoor classroom, accessible shelter structure, fishing platforms, two tennis courts with no lights, open pickup play field, a fully restored baseball field, removable outfield fence, reinstalled existing bleachers on concrete slabs, above grade fenced dugout area with benches, bathroom/concessions/storage building, batting cages, 8' wide asphalt paved pathways, hardwood trees throughout the park including screening trees, park benches on concrete pads, picnic areas with four tables in each of the four areas, canoe/kayak launch platform with accessible access ramp, refurbished parking lot and regraded plants/lawn. The amenities that will not be included are a bridge to the island and a baseball practice diamond.

Motion made by Terry Wagner, seconded by Dave Polacek, that the Adlai Horn Park plan should consist of a restored island, bio-stabilization of creekbank, council ring/outdoor classroom, accessible shelter structure, fishing platforms, two tennis courts with no lights, open pickup play field, a fully restored baseball field, removable outfield fence, reinstalled existing bleachers on concrete slabs, above grade fenced dugout area with benches, bathroom/concessions/storage building, batting cages, 8' wide asphalt paved pathways, hardwood trees throughout the park including screening trees, park benches on concrete pads, picnic areas with four tables in each of the four areas, canoe/kayak launch platform with accessible access ramp, refurbished parking lot and regraded plants/lawn. Motion carried with Glenn Herold, Terry Wagner, Dave Polacek, Scott King, and Paul Rushing in favor, Council Member Verhaalen opposed and James Schara excused.

REPORTS

Superintendent Bultman reported on new activities and special events that will be happening in the upcoming season.

Superintendent Westphal reported on parks and forestry projects.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Paul Rushing, seconded by Dave Polacek, to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 p.m.



Cedarburg Mercs

Hello Mercs families,

I hope this email finds you well. We are all missing the game of baseball and certainly your kids. Hopefully we can get past this mess soon!

Many of you have raised money for Cedarburg Baseball throughout the years and we sincerely thank you for your effort! The board is currently in the process of using those funds to upgrade facilities for our kids. Our next project is a permanent outfield fence at Adlai Horn.

For those of you that don't know, the Horn baseball field was ripped up for the Mercury Marine Cedar Creek cleanup project. During reconstruction, the baseball field was built without a permanent outfield fence that was there prior for years. Last season we tried a temporary outfield fence and it just didn't work well for many reasons. We believe permanent fencing will be not only more visibly appealing but more effective and efficient.

Last month, Cedarburg Baseball received approval from the City Parks Board to build a black permanent outfield fence at Horn. The decision is running into opposition by neighbors and will be reviewed by The City Common Council Monday April 13th via a Zoom meeting.

We are passionate about improving city parks and baseball facilities which are accessible to our entire community. Simply stated, we are asking for the field to be put back the way it was, and Cedarburg Baseball will pay for it.

I know many of you have donated hundreds of hours to our program and we thank you! We are asking if you could offer just a little more of your time to help us.

Please contact your City Alderman to share your opinion:

- Cedarburg [Alderman district map](#)
- District 1: [Sherry Bublitz](#), (262) 674-6111

- District 2: [Jack Arnett](#), (262) 208-4598
- District 3: [Kristin Burkart](#), (262) 745-5934
- District 4: [Rick Verhaalen](#), (262) 251-6575
- District 5: [Garan Chivinski](#), (262) 421-5414
- District 6: [Patricia Thome](#), (262) 377-7154
- District 7: [Rod Galbraith](#), (262) 483-0562

To request an invite to the meeting, please follow these steps (no requirement to talk):

Email City Administrator Mikko Hilvo (mhilvo@ci.cedarburg.wi.us) at least 2 hours in advance of the meeting. In subject line put: Common Council Meeting on 4-13-2020. Provide the following information in the body of the email message: Name, Address, Email, and Phone Number

You will receive an invite to the meeting via email. Click on the invite prior to the meeting being held. The meeting will be open 10 minutes prior to the scheduled meeting time so you can check your microphone and camera setup (if you choose to include video).

All public participants will have their microphone muted. If, during the public comment, anyone wishes to talk, they should request to do so through the chat feature or by using the "hand" to wave at the meeting organizer. The administrator of the meeting will unmute you at the appropriate time and ask you to make your comments.

If you are unable to utilize a computer, iPad, or tablet to view the meeting you can call or email ahead of time and a phone number will be given to you to call in on. If you do call in, we ask that you put your phone on mute when you are not talking.

Stay safe. GO MERCS!

Brandon Hall, (414) 322-2325

MERCS Co-President

bhalluw180@gmail.com