

Town Of Cortland
Town hall
59 S. Somonauk Road
Cortland, IL 60112
Park Advisory Committee
Minutes
August 12, 2025
6:30 p.m.

Call to Order / Roll Call

Committee Chair Ms. Fioretto called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Ms. Fioretto called the roll call showing as present Committee Members, Mariann Kaminski, Curtis Kouba, Trent Moser, and Michelle Bergeson. Committee members Angel Mendez, Josh Orr, and Liz Botts were absent. Quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Kaminski moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Moser. A unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Bergeson moved to approve the minutes of July 15, 2025, seconded by Mr. Kouba. A unanimous vote carried the motion.

Hearing of Staff/Citizens

No one wished to speak at this time.

New Business for Discussion and Possible Action

There was no new business.

Unfinished Business for Discussion and Possible Action

Discussion of previously selected park names before submitting to the Town Board for recommendation

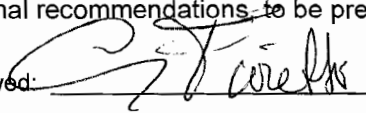
Mr. Kouba expressed his frustration that the committee was being asked to revisit park name recommendations that had already been discussed and voted on, especially since the full committee was present during the original vote. Mr. Moser also voiced his dissatisfaction with the topic being brought back for further discussion.

Ms. Kaminski noted that the park names had been discussed thoroughly over the past two years, and she found it disappointing that the committee was being asked to vote again on recommendations they had already made.

Despite their shared frustration, the entire committee agreed to review the previously recommended park names once more. After revisiting all available options and engaging in a thoughtful discussion, particularly regarding the future park at 50 W. Maple Avenue, the committee unanimously affirmed their original decisions.

They emphasized that significant time and consideration had gone into selecting the names and did not feel any changes were necessary. The committee reiterated their strong support for the name **Legacy Park – In Honor of Bill Abbott** for the future park at 50 W. Maple Avenue.

The final recommendations, to be presented to the Board for the currently unnamed parks, are as follows:

Approved:  (Date) 11/12/2025

- **Bluebell Street:** Ohio Grove
- **Walnut Street:** Walnut Park
- **Chestnut Grove Subdivision:** Prairieview Park
- **50 W. Maple Avenue:** Legacy Park – In Honor of Bill Abbott

Discussion of Ideas for the future park at 50 W Maple Ave

The Committee recommends that the future park features a beautifully designed six-sided gazebo, surrounded by walking paths and retaining walls. These retaining walls would offer residents the opportunity to purchase engraved bricks to honor loved ones or community members.

Lining the pathways, the Committee envisions plaques and statues recognizing the remarkable individuals who have helped shape and will continue to shape the Town of Cortland. The space would also include benches, trees, and vibrant flower beds, creating a peaceful and welcoming atmosphere for all visitors.

Behind the dedication area, the Committee proposes a new playground. Currently, there are no playgrounds on this side of town, and the Committee unanimously agreed that providing a safe and accessible play area for local children is a top priority.

The goal is to install a sign and hold a dedication ceremony in September or October to mark the future site of Legacy Park – In Honor of Bill Abbott and begin building community awareness and support for the project.

Adjournment

Chair Fioretto asked if there was any additional business to discuss. Mr. Kouba suggested adding **trees** as a topic for discussion at the next meeting.

With no further items brought forward, Chair Fioretto called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Mr. Kouba and seconded by Ms. Kaminski. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charmaine Fioretto
Cortland Town Trustee
Cortland Park Advisory Committee Chair