

Town Of Cortland
Town hall
59 S. Somonauk Road
Cortland, IL 60112
Park Advisory Committee
Minutes
March 11, 2025

Call to Order / Roll Call

Committee Chair Ms. Fioretto called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Fioretto called the roll call as present Committee Members, Michelle Bergeson, Angel Mendez, Curtis Kouba, Josh Orr, Mariann Kaminski, and Trent Moser. Committee member Liz Botts was absent. Quorum was present. Also present at the meeting was Town Trustee Doug Corson.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

Approve the minutes of February 11, 2025. Ms. Bergeson moved to approve the minutes of February 11, 2025, as presented, seconded by Mr. Kouba, A unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

Hearing of Staff/Citizens

Doug Corson wanted to express his interest in naming one of the parks after Mr. Abbott. He also stated he was present for the meeting as he is part of the Lion's Club and wanted to be able to hear and express his thoughts about the event space for the Cortland Community Park

New Business for Discussion and Possible Action

There was no new business for discussion.

Unfinished Business for Discussion and Possible Action

Discussion of Phases for Cortland Community Park Event Space

Trustee Corson suggested that Cookie Town Clerk has access to large-scale maps for planning purposes. He also mentioned that the Lion's Club, in preparation for the festival, has created a scale model board that allows movable pieces to plan event setups. He offered to have a similar board made for the committee to aid in organizing space and layout.

The committee agreed to divide the future event space into four distinct phases. While the ideal goal is to complete each phase within a year, the committee acknowledged that costs may prohibit this and extend each phase over multiple years.

Approved: May 13, 2025
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- **Phase 1** will involve relocating the skate park, removing the existing baseball field, and creating a large open grassy area that can be used for soccer when events are not scheduled. The committee also hopes to include at least a gravel parking area in this phase, if possible.
- **Phase 2** will include installing electrical infrastructure, constructing a stage for concerts and events, paving the parking lot, and building a pavilion to accommodate farmers markets, craft shows, and similar events.
- **Phase 3** will focus on the construction of a building to hold, two restrooms, a ticket booth, and a concession stand. This phase will also include adding a band covering for the stage area.
- **Phase 4** will consist of expanding vehicle parking at the front of the park, removing the existing playground, and installing a new playground equipped with rubberized safety surfacing.

The committee agreed that breaking each phase into smaller, more manageable steps would help make progress more achievable. They will continue discussions at the next meeting to refine the layout and implementation strategy. It was noted that the phases may evolve and change as planning progresses.

Chair Fioretto mentioned that the town's engineer and the head of the Public Works Department should be invited to a future meeting to review and provide input on the committee's preliminary plans. Additionally, the committee plans to explore options for a fireworks display area as part of the park's expansion.

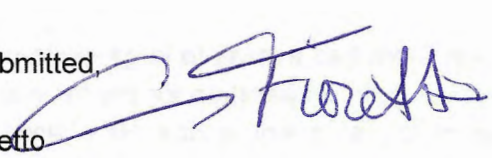
Idea Gathering for the Future of Cortland Community Parks

There were no new discussions regarding other parks during this meeting. The committee did express the hope that the names for the unnamed parks could be brought before the Board of Trustees for approval this spring.

Adjournment

Mr. Moser moved to adjourn the meeting, with a second by Mr. Kouba. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Charmaine Fioretto
Cortland Town Trustee
Cortland Park Advisory Committee Chair

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