

Survey Summary & Action List

In April 2014 The Parks Board assembled an Opinion Survey for the Village's six parks. The survey was available online on the Village's website, included with the newsletter, *Village Voices* and available at the Village Office. 85 completed surveys were returned and tabulated; of the 85 responses, 79 were from Village residents. A separate excel document includes all the responses. The following is a summary of the responses and an Action Plan formulated by the VOC Parks Board.

BADGER PARK

For Badger Park, 213 families reported 155 visits. Of these, 11 (about 5%) found the facilities to be adequate. Respondents reported roughly equal use as playground, ice skating, basketball, and other, including bike riding and watching skaters. Concerns were raised that it felt too unused and secluded in the summer. Suggested improvements to existing facilities included increased ice skating opportunities, especially supervised skating; more shade trees, and more seating. Suggested additional facilities included restrooms (most frequent upgrade mentioned), a pavilion for shade and gatherings, and an emergency phone.

- Actions:**
1. Pavilion
 2. Improve signage [on street, an arrow sign "to Badger Park"; with facility listing "skating rink, playground, basketball court, picnic tables]
 3. Improve plantings, particularly at street entrance

COUNCIL ROCK PARK

There were 641 visits by our 85 respondents. 36% of respondents indicated that no improvements were necessary. Some respondents made recommendations for improvements (docks, parking, swimming) which would not be allowed in this park which is protected by deed restrictions to ensure a natural, undeveloped park.

- Actions:**
1. Repair the concrete step and pillars
 2. More benches
 3. Pedestrian crossing on Lake Street to park steps

FAIRY SPRING PARK

Our 85 respondents reported 576 visits to Fairy Spring. Most found the facility adequate though there were requests for a larger swimming and beach area and multiple comments concerning improved walkways. There were also several comments in favor of "no change," and the desire to keep the rustic nature of Fairy Spring and its unique location the same. Park-goers provided several positive comments on having a helpful caretaker at Fairy Spring. There were also requests to see more use of the pavilion.

- Actions:**
1. Investigate enlarging swimming area
 2. Beach/shore line deck to increase seating area
 3. Pedestrian/bicycle pathway from Village
 4. Improve park roadway and collapsing retaining wall

LAKEFRONT PARK

Our 85 respondents reported 1,873 visits to Lakefront Park making it our 2nd most visited park. The majority of respondents ((78.8%) indicated that they utilize this park for scenic enjoyment. Cultural enjoyment for concerts and festivals was also a large per centage (67%). Picnics and boating (each 30%) were also uses cited by respondents, with 23.5% utilizing the boat docks. Emphasis was placed on continuing to fund the Lakefront Concert Series and continuing to properly maintain (and prune) the buffer strip.

- Actions:**
1. New boat docks
 2. Improve drainage along water front
 3. Repair existing facilities, including re-pointing of the bandstand
 4. Improve the boat ramp (too shallow)
 5. More boat/kayak racks and closer to water [new rack scheduled for 2015]
 6. Long term, address the parking and boat trailer issues.

PIONEER PARK

This is the most visited of all our parks, with respondents indicating they visited it 2083 times per year. It serves both residents and many tourists who visit the kiosk located in the Park. Of the 85 responses, 51 or 60% indicated that the park and its facilities were adequate and no improvements were necessary. Other suggestions included encouraging more concerts and performers, and planting more flowers.

- Actions:**
1. Signage on kiosk noting locations of public restrooms

THREE MILE POINT PARK

Of the 646 visits to this park by respondents, the greatest per centage (53%) used it for swimming with picnicking (46%) next in usage. Boating (23.5%) and scenic enjoyment (24.7%) were also cited. Fewer respondents indicated fishing (18.8%) and use of boat dock (19%).

Comments included: overcrowding, because it is a small park; improve cleaning in pavilion, bathrooms; improve lifeguard attentiveness; improve boat dock and chairs.

- Actions:**
1. Investigate enlarging swimming area
 2. Better quality (more sturdy) chairs for beach
 3. Better quality (stone) for parking area

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Given limited financial resources, what do you think the highest priorities should be in terms of park or facilities improvement?

- Actions:**
1. Overall Maintenance & Repairs
 2. Boat Docks and Canoe/Kayak Racks
 3. Remedy Lakefront Park drainage

- What facility improvements or activities do you feel are lacking in the Cooperstown Area?

- Lacking:**
1. Playground equipment
 2. Concession / food stands
 3. Bike /walking trails
 4. Swimming in the Village

[Additional responses: benches , bike racks, dog park and improved/more ice rinks]