

Park Committee Monthly Meeting Minutes, Town of Russell, July 2, 2026 at 6 p.m.

- Chair called the Town of Russell Park Committee board meeting to order on June 4, 2026 at 6:06pm at the Russell Town Hall. Chair Elise Schuler, Treasurer/Secretary Mary Huhta, and one citizen present. Vice Chair Bridget Mitchell arrived later in the meeting.
- Treasurer Report -
 - Huhta to check on mulch installation - check has been sent, but not deposited.
 - Assessed remaining ARPA budget -
 - official last date - Huhta to check with County
 - how to use remaining funds - discussed later in meeting during Rice Park section
- Chair Report - no new news
- Echo Lake
 - Painting bathrooms - Huhta and Schuler to finish painting on 7/7, weather permitting
 - Hand sanitizer dispenser - will purchase and install in bathrooms
- Rice Park
 - Remaining Site Work
 - Additional mulch needed - has been ordered; company is waiting to deliver since it is a small quantity; Huhta will advise when she hears back from company
 - Porta-Potty
 - has been installed
 - currently set for weekly cleaning; paid monthly
 - Schuler inquired on pricing fee for handicapped stall instead of standard; when she hears back, will update; likely changing to a handicap access stall
 - Schuler to confirm that funds for porta-potty maintenance are coming out of Town Parks fund, not ARPA funds
 - Pavilion
 - Flyers/banner/fundraising materials - made changes to simplify marketing of pavilion
 - Online donations - Huhta will make changes to GiveButter campaign based on simplified marketing and will get Parks banking info connected to it
 - Town website (Parks page) - Huhta will work with Amy to get fundraising info migrated over to Parks page (from Town homepage)
 - Grants
 - Park City Cares - will hear back further in late July
 - Merrill Community Foundation - grant is due Sept. 10; Huhta has begun work on it
 - North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission - help with longer-term goals; 50:50 grants for future parks projects (5 year plan); need to put "wish list" together to have on file for them
 - Misc Purchases
 - remaining ARPA funds - discussed how best to use the rest of the ARPA funds

- Tables - will be ordering tables with ARPA money
- Swing - pricing out a harnessed swing to replace traditional “baby” swing on swingset
- Landscaping - can we pre-order trees for next spring? local nurseries?
- Soccer nets
- Frisbee golf nets (check size of space, estimating 2 or 3)
- Benches - two coming this week; the rest will be soon
- Official opening day - July 18th
 - details - 10AM - 12PM
 - social media - post ahead of time to let people know
 - have table set up with info on pavilion fundraising
 - ice cream social? will discuss potential donations with local businesses

Next regular Parks Committee Meeting Thursday, August 13, 2026 at 6 pm.