

TO: Village of Copenhagen
ATTN: Mayor Souva
CC: **Trustee Vogt**, Trustee Stokely, Trustee Bates, Trustee Colton
RE: Consideration of Electricity at the Ted Simmons Memorial Pavilion
FROM: Copenhagen CARES Collaborative



DATE: September 12, 2022

Dear Mayor and Trustees:

"Near the banks of fair Deer River, rippling toward the sea, proudly stands our Alma Mater.... Hail to Thee, our Alma Mater, May we honor you."

Copenhagen CARES Collaborative cannot think of a better way to honor this community than to provide a modern, inclusive, and updated outdoor space for village events and functions that will bring a greater quality of life to this village and its residents.

With the **TED SIMMONS MEMORIAL PAVILION @ RIVER PARK** nearing completion and our dedication scheduled for Sunday September 18, 2022, we as a Collaborative are excited to see this space used for so many wonderful events.

The opportunities are really endless!

Our collaborative envisions this beautiful space being used for events including, but not limited to: a morning yoga class, a senior citizen's coffee hour, our Memorial Day celebrations, our winter/holiday celebrations, birthday parties, picnics, the Alumni social hour and so much more!!

Our collaborative has discussed events that may possibly take place during the day, but even some that might stretch in to the evening. Lighting will be vital for the safety of this space.

Shari Simmons recently shared, that she approached the village about having some type of electricity at the Ted Simmons Memorial Park Pavilion. She also shared your response was that electricity was not something the village wanted to pursue. Despite her sharing that someone has even volunteered to do the labor and supply the materials, for free, to the village, her request was still denied.

As a collaborative, we understand the added cost of having power to this space, but we are asking you to reconsider your decision. Our Collaborative has discussed investing in a solar panel to allow electricity to be supplied for our events while mitigating costs. We have brainstormed the use of a breaker that could shut power off, completely, when the pavilion was not in use. However, even if we invest in these items, we will still need electrical wiring done in the garage and to the pavilion.

This space has so much potential!

By developing River Park, it will allow our community to have a central gathering space for our community, increasing the inclusion and cohesion of the Copenhagen Community. Electricity will expand the number and type of events the village will be able to offer the community. If a musician is brought in for "Music in the Park", they will need an outlet or two for their amplifiers and their instruments. If someone is providing a

morning yoga class, they too will need an outlet for their music or program. If a book club were to meet there, the host may need lights to ensure all members can adequately see their reading materials. It will be necessary to ensure that the Pavilion is accessible to all village residents. Copenhagen CARES Collaborative plans to purchase a sound system that will allow events to have a microphone to allow all its members to hear, without difficulty. Without electricity, residents may not be able to hear announcements or see entertainment, which limits their involvement and enjoyment of the event.

As a community, many parties, including both our Collaborative and you as the Village Board Members, are making strides to create inclusive, health-promoting, family events. Copenhagen CARES was established on the values of fostering unity and pride while promoting health and safety. As the Ted Simmons Memorial Pavilion at River Park nears completion, our Collaborative believes having electricity to provide lighting and sound is necessary to achieve that mission and make this space as functional and safe as it can be, for all wishing to use it.

We ask that you reconsider your decision and we thank you in advance for taking our concerns and request seriously, to allow electricity to be part of this beautiful space.

Respectfully Submitted,

Molly Williams
Copenhagen CARES Collaborative

A PLANNED DEDICATION TO
**THE TED SIMMONS
RIVER PARK PAVILLION**

Join us in Copenhagen River Park on
Sunday September 18th at 11am

Chicken BBQ

By Mike & Joyce Sullivan

\$12 dinner - \$8 halves

Proceeds to Support River Park Amenities, Signage,
and Upkeep

No preorders available

Mum & Bake Sale

By Roots in Ag 4-H Club

Chain Saw Carvings

By Scott Simmons, Dan Hartley, and Doug Ryan

Raffles

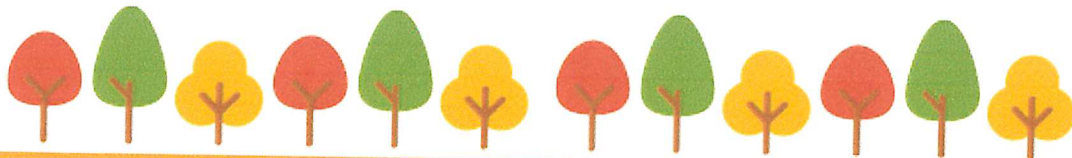
By St. Mary's Church

As part of their fall fundraiser

Cake & Punch

By Copenhagen CARES Collaborative

*Including an announcement of their next
Community Enhancement Project*



Copenhagen River Park
Bring your lawn chair!

*See You
There!*