



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

222 Lewis Street
River Falls, WI 54022

Phone (715)425-0900
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AGENDA
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Wednesday, June 15, 2016
City Hall-Training Room

5:15 p.m. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES
Minutes of May 25, 2016 Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Related Topic

OLD BUSINESS

1. Glen Park Master Plan

NEW BUSINESS

1. Update on summer programs and swimming pool

ADJOURNMENT

*Council members may be in attendance for informational purposes only.
No official Council action will be taken.*



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MINUTES

PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at 5:15pm

City Hall Training Room

5:15pm CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – Meeting convened at 5:15pm.

Members Present: Susan Reese (chair), Jim Nordgren, Brandon Dobbertin, Brenda Gaulke, Dennis Zielski, Hal Watson and Patricia LaRue.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Cindi Danke - *Recreation Manager*; Amy M. Peterson – *Assistant Community Development Director*; Tom Schwalen - *Maintenance Supervisor*; and Terry Kusilek - *Public Works Operations Supervisor*.

Others Present: Local citizen Ben Fochs

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

MSC Gaulke/Nordgren to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2016 Park and Recreation Advisory Board. Motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There is a site called Nextdoor River Falls, which is a social networking service for neighborhoods. It allows neighbors to chat about events, concerns within the City of River Falls. One participant was pleased to get dog waste bags in their neighborhood park in order to keep it clean. The city installed the dispensers and the neighbors will keep the bags stocked. Two were also recently installed at White Tail Ridge by the city, and that area will also get benches, garbage cans, and a bike rack, which was part of the funding for upgrades there. A Blue Bike rack has been requested by businesses in the White Tail Ridge area. People seem to be enjoying the Blue Bike program, using the blue bikes and returning to stations.

River Falls earned the Playful City designation again for the 4th year..

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution Approving Request For Border Battle Mountain Bike Event/City Assistance
2. Resolution Approving request for Icebox 480 Race/City Assistance
3. Resolution Approving Request for Minnesota High School Cycling League/Event/City Assistance

MSC Gaulke/Nordgren that Resolutions # 1, # 2, and #3 be approved as proposed. Motion passed 7-0.

4. Review and approval of Glen Park Municipal Swimming Pool Handbook

MSC Zielski/LaRue to put up a “No Firearms or Weapons” sign at the pool entry. Motion passed 7-0.

MSC Watson/Nordgren to approve the Glen Park Pool handbook with corrections as discussed. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Amy Peterson gave an update of the Master Plan which was presented at a City Council Workshop on 5/24/16. She basically heard an overall consensus about doing Glen Park first/Hoffman Park second, about construction taking one year (versus multiple year construction), and to fund the whole thing as proposed. There seemed to be a firm commitment to moving forward. Park Board still has strong concerns about aesthetics of a storm shelter at Glen Park, and how it will work as a rentable shelter building. We should know by fall if we will receive the safe room grant.

ADJOURNMENT

MSC Nordgren/Dobbartin to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Rundle, Recreation Assistant



MEMORANDUM

TO: Park Board Members

FROM: Tony Steiner, City Planner 

DATE: June 8, 2016

TITLE: **Glen Park Safe Room Concerns**

The Glen Park Safe Room Application is currently in process with the State and eventually FEMA. Staff is confident the safe room grant application will be funded, but the final decision is FEMA's. If funded construction must take place within a two year period from the time we sign the grant contract (same as Hoffman Park). An extension is possible, but frowned on by FEMA. The grant pays for 75% of the project costs and the City can leverage the cost of the land as part of its 25% contribution.

A safe room at Glen Park is identified in the Pierce County All Hazards Mitigation Plan adopted by the City and in effect prior to the Glen Park Master Plan and was discussed throughout the Glen Park Master Plan process. Its purpose is to protect citizens and visitors to the park in an extreme weather event.

A number of questions have come up as the Park Board begins work on the development phase of the Glen Park Master Plan. Staff will address these concerns and if you have others have Cindi take them down and they will be addressed under a separate memo.

The application submitted shows that the Glen Park Safe Room will have a gross square footage of 2,240 square feet with a safe room area of 1,260 square feet. It will protect 248 plus 2 handicapped serving a maximum capacity of 250 people. It will have restrooms that are eligible for FEMA funding. The safe room is planned to be in the vicinity of the center of the park. The City has control of the exact location and it will fit in with the Master Plan concept. In comparison the Hoffman Park safe room is larger. It serves 360 people and also has restrooms. It has a gross square footage of 2500 square feet.

There are certain structural requirements by FEMA with regards to the safe room itself to insure life safety in the event of a storm. However, the shape, height, roof line style, exterior colors and materials, are totally under our control. FEMA will pay for the basics and upgrades that go beyond the basics or do not contribute to life safety are

Memorandum to Park Board

Glen Park Safe Room

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totally at our expense. The safe room can be used as a multi-functional space but must always be available for its intended use. This potential conflict of use would be rare and would be understood by all users in advance.

The Glen Park Safe Room will not look like the Hoffman Park Safe Room. That building was designed to fit in with the ball park (location, color and surroundings). This safe room will be designed by a structural engineer and architect (same as Hoffman Park) and will fit in architecturally with the park surroundings which we know is totally different from Hoffman Park. There is no reason to believe it could not be placed underground with a non-protected event center above if that is the direction we take. It could also be above ground attached to a larger building that would not have the same level of protection. These are design consideration that would have to be worked out as part of the development process. As the project unfolds the park board may want to consider development of a design program to address specific requirements that would be included in the project request for proposals (RFP).

Again if you have other questions or concerns staff will address them. Staff looks forward to your review and discussion.