



COMMUNITY

DEVELOPMENT

222 Lewis Street
River Falls, WI 54022

Phone (715)425-0900
FAX (715)425-0915

AGENDA
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Wednesday, March 21, 2018
Training Room-City Hall 5:15PM

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

Minutes of February 21, 2018 Park and Recreation Advisory Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Related Topic

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Kinni Off Road Cyclists Update – Rick Cleary**
- 2. Bat Houses-CVTC -Aaron Larson**

OLD BUSINESS

- 3. Glen Park Pavilion Bid Recommendations**
- 4. Glen Park Master Plan Priorities Update**

ADJOURNMENT

Council members may be in attendance for informational purposes only.

No official Council action will be taken.

Post: City Hall Bulletin Board 3/16/18



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MINUTES

PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, February 21st, 2018 at 5:15pm

City Hall Lower Level Training Room

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

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

Members Absent: Brandon Dobbertin.

Staff Present: Cindi Danke - *Recreation Manager*; Nancy Miller – *Library Director*; Reid Wronski – *City Engineer*; Amy Peterson- *Development Services Director* and Mike Stifter – *Operations Director*. Madeline, Madeline, and Grace from Girl Scouts Troop 55651 along with some of their parents.

Others Present: Madeline S, Madeline K, and Grace V. from Girl Scouts Troop 55651 along with some of their parents.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

MSC Nordgren/LaRue to approve the minutes of the January 17th, 2018 Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting. Motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Several youths from Girl Scout Troop 55651 made a presentation about their idea for their Silver Award Project. They would like to propose game tables and stool sets out of stumps and natural materials, and place the sets in a park. They presented pictures of their silver award project idea. They would make two checkers sets and two tick-tack-toe sets. They believe people of all ages would enjoy this intergenerational activity in a park. Game pieces would be kept in a waterproof container. If pieces disappear, people could use sticks, rocks, or leaves.

The girl scouts plan is to check the sets monthly to see if they need maintenance or replace pieces. They are thinking of Glen Park, but would consider other parks as well. It was suggested to them that publicity would be a great way to tell about their project idea.

MSC Gaulke/Nordgren that Park Board allows Girl Scout Troop 55651 to build some stump game tables and put them in city parks. Motion passed 6-0.

Library Director Nancy Miller would like permission to set up a story walk along one of our city's pathways/trails, and she would like a recommendation as to where. People can walk along a trail and find 12-20 boards, each containing a page or two of a story as they walk along. The board may include a physical activity suggestion as well. This allows people/families to enjoy walking and reading and talking. It promotes literacy and helps reach people that don't visit our library. The library would be responsible for changing out the stories, and for maintenance, along with help from public works if needed. They would like it to be nice looking. This could be just a summer thing, or a year-round thing. Several examples from other towns were shown. Susan suggested DeSanctis Park might be a good location, or the Kinnickinnic Trail, especially the new path between City Hall and the library might be good as well. They will use money from a grant or fund for the boards, laminating if needed, and maintenance.

MSC Zielski/Watson to approve the story walk concept and decide upon a location in the future. Motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Reid Wronski spoke about the finalization of Glen Park Implementation Priorities. Park Board needs to make a recommendation to City Council about what they recommend be done within the constraints of the budget. Park board members discussed the main parking/road/trail system, the pavilion, and the splash pad are the most important items. They also see the importance of the paved trail (western segment) and maintenance building (using existing shelter). One park board member had a concern about having too much parking. Staff feels it will be possible to receive donated funds for the center nature playground and the splash pad. Several park board members expressed concern that at least two of the existing playgrounds be left in place until the new one is built. The nays on the motion would prefer the creative play area to be listed at a higher level on the priority list, with reduced parking on the south end and possibly leaving the ball field where it is. This resolution is presented to City Council on March 13th.

MSC Watson/Gaulke that we accept the resolution showing a list of priorities, as currently written. Motion passed 4-2.

The next Park Board meeting will be Wednesday, March 21st, 2018 at 5:15PM

ADJOURNMENT MSC Reese/Zielski to adjourn the meeting at 6:50pm. Respectfully

submitted,  Brenda Rundle, Recreation Assistant

Who: Aaron Larson and Martin Wolf Speaking on behalf of the Environmental Science Class at Chippewa Valley Technical College for our cause of saving the bats

What: Seeking permission to put up three bat houses in total in parks around town to aid in the decreasing bat population. We ordered these bat houses from BAT conservation & Management website. These house are made from cedar and came with shingles and we also plan on stain them. Proposed locations are located on the map below. Our class will be hanging these houses on trees. Along with the houses we plan on putting up an informational sign explaining why they are there and telling visitors to please don't disturb them. Working on contacting the Urban forester of River Falls Nathan Croes. All maintenance and care will be done by Ms. Kristina Novek and her future classes of CVTC. All emails for this meeting have been through Cindi Danke. We also have been in contact with Crystal Cave in Spring Valley for some information and their own opinions on the bat population. We have also talked to Family Fresh here in town and CVTC campus about a bake sale we are going to have to raise funds to donate to Crystal Cave so they can have more studies done on white nose syndrome. Those dates are on April 30, 2018 at CVTC and on May 2, 2018 at Family Fresh

Why: Bats in the area are suffering from a disease called White-nose syndrome. This disease is found in hibernating bats and is caused by the fungus pseudogymnoascus destructans that infects the skin of the muzzle, ears, and wings. This is causing them to have weight loss, dehydration, electrolyte imbalances and death. This also causing them to wake from hibernation earlier than they should in which they starve and or freeze. With the disease in the area we are hoping that with these bat houses that we put will encourage bats to hibernate and live in these so that their population will build back up. We are also hoping that with these houses we are able to isolate enough bats from bigger populations into smaller ones in hope save some bats from this disease since it is highly contagious in the bat population. Bats are very important to the ecosystem here in River Falls. They help control the insect population. If the insect population gets too high people may not go to certain area because it's to buggy. Also some bugs destroy crops and other plants. So with an increase bat population to help keep these numbers balanced. This project is for the CVTC Environmental Science Class.

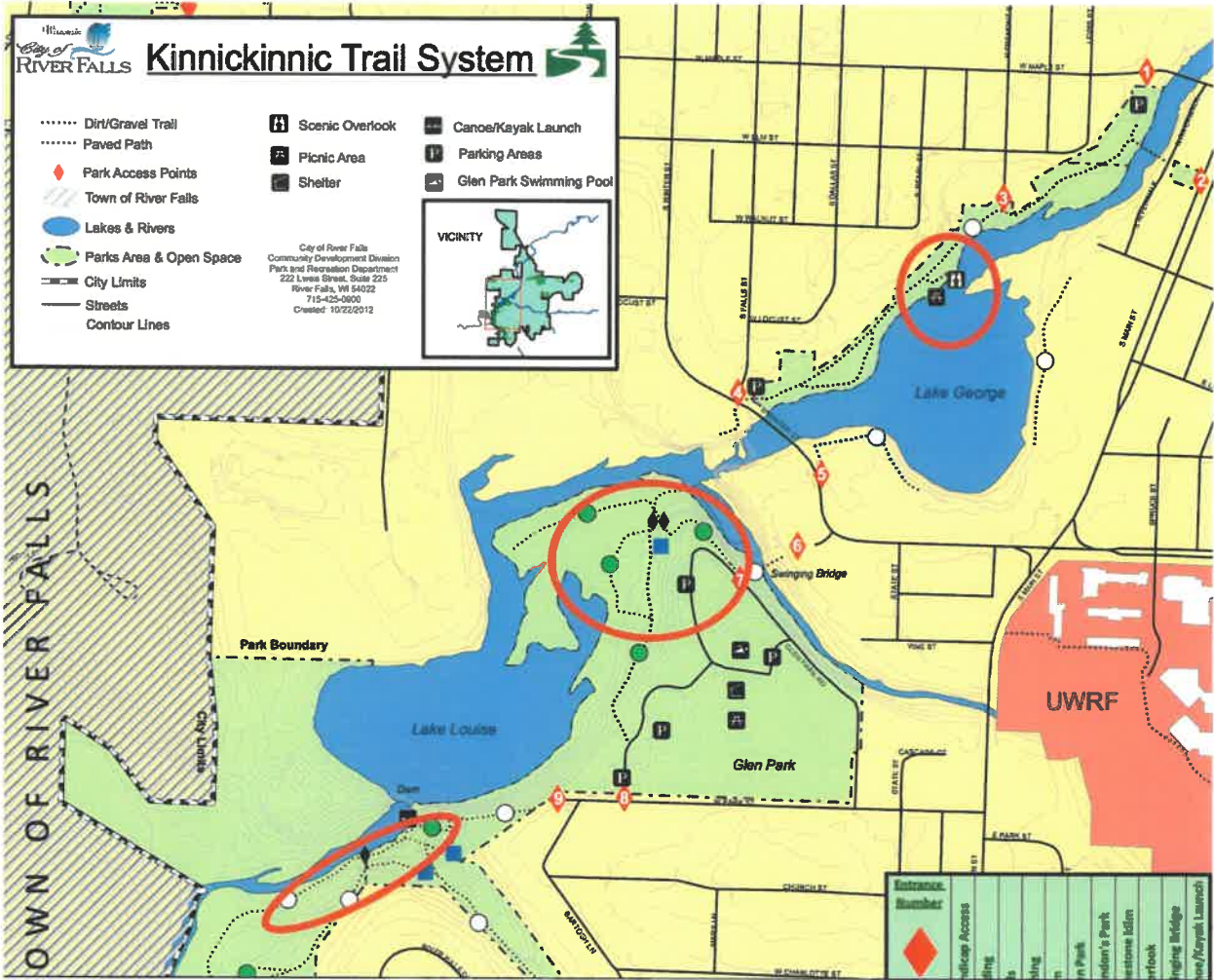
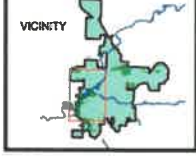


Kinnickinnic Trail System



- Dirt/Gravel Trail
- Paved Path
- ◆ Park Access Points
- Town of River Falls
- Lakes & Rivers
- Parks Area & Open Space
- City Limits
- Streets
- Contour Lines
- Scenic Overlook
- Picnic Area
- Shelter
- Canoe/Kayak Launch
- Parking Areas
- Glen Park Swimming Pool

City of River Falls
 Community Development Division
 Park and Recreation Department
 222 Laves Street, Suite 225
 River Falls, WI 54322
 715-425-0600
 Created: 10/22/2012



Entrance Number	Location
1	W Main St
2	W Maple St
3	W Main St
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6	W Main St
7	W Main St
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