



222 Lewis Street
River Falls, WI 54022

Phone 715.425.0900
Fax 715.425.0915

MINUTES

PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, April 20, 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, and Patricia LaRue.

Members Absent: None.

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

Others Present: City Council Member Scott Morrissette; local citizen Ben Fochs; Jim Higgins of the Saint Croix Valley Bird Club; Molly Miller and Nancy Lindall plus four young women from Girl Scout Troop 53727.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

MSC Gaulke/Nordgren to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2016 Park and Recreation Advisory Board. Motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Terry Kusilek showed a photo of an old kiln just south of the lower dam. It is becoming dangerous. There is also graffiti. It is impossible to fence. He suggests a warning sign, indicating that it's dangerous, historic, and to keep out. Park Board agrees with the idea of a sign, but it should be run past the Historic Preservation Committee first.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Four Girl Scouts from troop 53727 plan to hang three informational bird signs on the Kinnickinnic Trailway System. They chose a sign company in Hudson because they make good quality signs in full color, and they will even donate the signs. Plexiglass is not recommended. Examples were passed around. They need three 5' posts and Terri Kusilek volunteered to supply them. They will be set in the ground in a bucket of concrete. The Girl Scouts showed photos of proposed locations. The exact location needs to be decided by City staff at the time of installation, to be sure they are out of the mow line and emergency boat access area.

MSC Nordgren/Gaulke Park Board will grant this Girl Scout proposal. Motion passed 6-0.

Tom Schwalen showed current photos of the new storm shelter at Hoffman Park. He explained that there is a storm-safe hallway that contains bathrooms, water fountain, AED, and emergency phone. That hallway is unlocked during park hours and there's a security camera. If someone opens the AED cabinet, an alarm goes off and the police are notified. If the emergency phone is picked up, the storm shelter door will unlock and the 911 operator will be contacted. There are signs to warn people. All the storm shelter doors unlock when a storm siren goes off. The building is air conditioned and heated, but it will be done minimally. It is very noisy in the storm shelter, so we may add a ceiling or wall noise-reducing product. Tom Schwalen is getting quotes from different companies. Fighting Fish has asked about installing lockers in the building but there would need to be a plan to protect the floors from cleats. There is a meeting with the baseball people next week to discuss the issue. The occupancy limit for the large room is 360 persons (standing) during a storm, or 120 persons for meeting use. Tony Steiner is working on planning an open house in May for the community to see the new storm shelter. Park Board will need to discuss safe room rental at a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

MSC Dobbertin/Zielski to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 5:52pm.

JOINT WORKSHOP

PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD AND PLAN COMMISSION

Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at 6:00pm

City Hall Training Room

6:00pm CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – Meeting convened at 6:00pm.

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

Park Board Members Absent: None.

Plan Commission Members Present: Todd Schultz, Lisa Moody, Mayor Dan Toland, Aleka Powell, Susan Reese, Scott Morrisette, Reid Wronski

Plan Commission Members Absent: Mary Van Galen

Staff Present: Recreation Manager Cindi Danke; Assistant Community Development Director Amy M. Peterson; Finance Director Julie Bergstrom; City Planner Tony Steiner; Supervisor Tom Schwalen; Public Works Operations Supervisor Terry Kusilek, and GIS intern Jason Blatz.

Others Present: Local citizen Ben Fochs.

Amy Peterson spoke about implementation of the Glen Park and Hoffman Park master plan. The purpose of the presentation was to provide staff recommendations and engage the Board/Commission on policy questions. All present had a copy of the master plan. Already having the Master planning process background, they jumped into the recommendations and policy questions. The total project at Glen Park as it stands is approximately \$3.6M - \$4.5M. The total project at Hoffman Park is approximately \$4.2M. The last City survey showed that more than 8 in 10 citizens support a dedicated funding source to implement the master plan. Staff recommends updating Glen park first (for health and safety issues at Glen Park and because of the future DOT loop road at Hoffman Park), and Hoffman Park second. Staff also recommends one year construction at Glen Park vs. a 3-5 year construction plan. This would involve closing the park entirely in

2018, and Hoffman Park work would occur about ten years later, to be decided at a later date. Closing the Glen Park pool for one summer causes concern, but other options were discussed such as using the high school pool, using hotel pools, and offering bus trips to other pools and waterparks. We are applying for a grant for a storm shelter at Glen Park. Funding discussions included the possibility of capital campaigns, partial funding options and full funding options. Most were in agreement of fully funding the projects in which \$4M in bonding would add \$78 per year to a \$200,000 home. Perhaps the townships could help out since they use the parks too. This will be presented at the Council workshop in May.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Rundle', written in a cursive style.

Brenda Rundle, Recreation Assistant