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MINUTES

PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, March 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), Brandon Dobbertin, Brenda Gaulke, Patricia LaRue, Jim Nordgren and Dennis Zielski (5:30 pm)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Cindi Danke-*Recreation Manager*; Reid Wronski-*City Engineer*; Amy Peterson-*Development Services Director*; Mike Stifter-*Operations Director*.

Others Present: Rick Cleary-*Kinni Off Road Cyclists (KORC)*; Aaron Larson and Martin Wolf-*CVTC students*

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

MSC Gaulke/Nordgren to approve the minutes of the February 21st, 2018 Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting. Motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Rick Cleary of Kinni Off Road Cyclists updated the Park Board about happenings at Whitetail Ridge. Big events this year will include a Meyer Middle School Service Learning Day on May 11, the Border Crossing on July 8 (about 500 racers), the Icebox races in November, and a Chili Feed and Ride in January. There will not be a high school ride at this location this year. A storage container was purchased last year to store equipment, as per Rick's presentation and request to Park Board last year. They did a rider survey on Facebook and nearly 100 people responded. Respondents would like to see even more trail, and a water spigot. KORC plans to add some more kiosks and signs so people know where they are and the mileage of loops. KORC is proposing a relatively flat beginner trail along the edge of a corn field that the Johnson's rent from the City. KORC would purchase some dirt, have it delivered by Bettendorf Trucking with permission (granted) through the Johnson farm road, rent a skid loader, and use KORC and middle school volunteers to do the hand work. This will not interfere with the Johnson's farming activity. They will plan to move ahead with their

plans and get an official motion from Park Board on April 18th. At some point in the future, KORC would like the City to add an all-season frost-free water spigot near the trailhead, and for the City to add a trail from the cul-de-sac/parking area near the day care to the start of the mountain bike trail system, preferably made of a porous material (approximately 100 linear feet). Wronski indicated that sewer and water are available at that location. KORC does not currently have the funds to build a bathroom/water fountain. Cleary will come back next month for a motion about the new path around the field, and to bring more information about the water spigot.

Aaron Larson and Martin Wolf, students at Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC), spoke about saving bats, because of the wide-spread white-nose syndrome, which is a disease that kills hibernating bats. Bats eat insects and mosquitoes, which makes them beneficial for humans. These students would like to put up three bat houses in parks around River Falls. They included a map with three very general locations for the houses (south of Lake Louise, somewhere at Glen Park, and north of Lake George in the White Pathway area). There will be a fourth house on CVTC property. They were planning to attach them to a tree, but they can be put on a post instead if Nate Croes prefers. About 72 bats fit per house. All maintenance and care will be done by Kristina Novek's Environment Science classes now and in the future. The students may put up signs to encourage people to leave the bats alone. The height is still to be determined, but they are typically put up high. Park Board would prefer having one near the sewage plant instead of near the White Pathway.

OLD BUSINESS

City Engineer Reid Wronski gave an update about Glen Park. Four bids for the Glen Park Pavilion were received and opened last week. All four bids were over ISG's estimate of \$1.4M. The lowest was \$1.6M by Ross & Associates Ltd. Staff is working with Ross and ISG on some value engineering proposals that may reduce the \$1.6M. This goes to City Council on April 10th. Reid also received an updated Glen Park plan from ISG today with a slightly different road and parking configuration, a new plan to re-use some pavement, and some paths were moved to keep the existing playgrounds until their useful lives end. There was consensus among Board members to move forward with the proposed changes. ISG gave an updated estimate of \$4.4M including the pavilion with patio, A/C, and splash pad.

MSC Zielski/Watson to recommend to City Council awards the bid to Ross & Associates for their base bid total with alternate A-5 accepted at staff discretion. Passed 7-0.

The next Park Board meeting will be Wednesday, April 18th, 2018 at 5:15PM

ADJOURNMENT MSC Dobbertin/LaRue to adjourn the meeting at 7:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Rundle, Recreation Assistant