

Community Development Department

222 Lewis Street
River Falls, WI 54022
715.425.0900
www.rfcity.org



**MINUTES
PLAN COMMISSION COMPREHENSIVE PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE WORKSHOP
JANUARY 3, 2023
VIRTUAL**

- Members Present:** Lisa Moody, Patricia LaRue, Chris Holtkamp, Dan Toland, Mike Woolsey, Rebecca Prendergast
- Members Absent:** Diane Odeen
- Staff Present:** Amy Peterson, Emily Shively, Kendra Ellner, Sterling Hackney
- Others Present:** Stephanie Falkers, SRF Consulting

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 7:05 p.m.

DISCUSSION

SRF Consultant Stephanie Falkers reviewed the agenda for the meeting which focuses on the Outdoor Recreation Plan, reviewing the Plan, going over any questions or comments and then acting on the Plan.

She then stated there are six chapters included Outdoor Recreation Plan. These chapters are WI DNR requirements. Ms. Falkers reviewed each chapter which include Introduction, Key Themes and Goals, Community Context, Existing Park Inventory and Trail Network, Needs Assessment, and Recommendations and Implementation.

Ms. Falkers discussed the next steps for the Plan and went over a few changes and updates that were made to the plan.

After review of the plan, Ms. Falkers opened for comments and questions. LaRue mentioned that Sean Downing is listed on the Recreation Advisory Board, and he is not currently on the board. Alyssa Mueller is the representative. Falkers stated at the start of the plan, Mr. Downing was on the board, so they want to recognize that. LaRue also commented on DeSanctis Park does not have the native plant area listed, Glen Park does not have drinking fountains listed and the Kinnikinnic Pathway key features is missing that there is access to the river and kayaking.

Holtkamp commented on the new residential areas on the northwest area of town an whether the paths will be open to the public and if there are plans for other park development in that area. Shively and Peterson stated that area is being considered and the paths and trails will not be maintained as City parks but are publicly accessible. Falkner explained that they are not inventoried as City parks but are recognized as available.

With no other comments or questions, Falkner stated that a motion could be made for recommendation to forward the Plan to City Council for approval. She mentioned Patricia’s comments and changes can be added to the recommendation. The plan is to have the Bike and Pedestrian Plan and Outdoor Recreation

Plan posted on Engage RF in mid-January and have public review and open house in February with final adoption in March.

Woolsey commented on the maintenance part of the Plan regarding pocket parks. The resources and staff issues are a concern. Falkers discussed the partnerships that allow for some of these amenities to exist. Collaboration with outside groups helps to provide maintenance and existing relationships with those groups are important.

Holtkamp asked for clarification on the process once the public comments on the plan. Falkner stated the plan could get adjusted after the public reviews it and before the City Council approves it. If there are changes, staff and SRF would work together to adjust.

M/Holtkamp to approve the Outdoor Recreation plan and forward to City Council with a favorable recommendation. S/Toland. Motion carried 6/0.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Bond, Community Development Assistant