

## Community Development Department

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**MINUTES  
JOINT MEETING OF  
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD AND  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
March 11, 2020 at 6:00 pm  
Training Room**

HPC Members Present: Heidi Heinze (Chair), Jayne Hoffman, Mark Anderson, Jeff Bjork, Pam Friede, Michael Page, Denton Anderson (arrived at 6:07)

HPC Members Absent: None

PB Members Present: Patricia LaRue (Chair), Sean Downing, Brandon Dobbertin, Brenda Gaulke, Jim Nordgren, Susan Reese

PB Absent: Melissa Pedrini

Staff Present: Brandy Howe, Cindi Danke, Mike Stifter, Jason Stroud

Others Present: Ben Fochs, 2529 Powell Avenue

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting convened at 6:04 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF HPC MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19, 2020**

Bjork made a motion to approve the minutes.

M/Bjork, S/Friede – motion carried 6-0

### **APPROVAL OF PARK BOARD MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19, 2020**

Reese made a motion to approve the minutes.

M/Reese, S/Gaulke – motion carried 6-0

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ben Fochs requested that the Park Board review the park master plans and work to complete updates as there is significant development around all three regional parks and they are each more than five years old. Reese reported that the Community Development Department has initiated a project to do just that.

Heinze reported that she received an email from Chad Smurawa from the River Falls School District asking if the Preservation Commission would be interested in taking a stone piece from the original academy building. She noted that the Commission is not the entity to take this on as they do not have

storage capacity, however, Jeff Bjork, who also represents the River Falls High School Alumni Association has indicated that they would be happy to take ownership of the item.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **1. Glen Park**

#### **a. New Glen Park Pavilion opening day**

Heinze announced that the new Glen Park pavilion opening day reception is scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. She asked the Park Board what the HPC could do to help out during the reception. Danke reported that a projector and screen will be available in the pavilion if the HPC is interested in providing a presentation. Danke did note that it can get fairly sunny in the pavilion at times, which may make it difficult to see the screen. Danke also mentioned that she is working on a schedule of speeches and other activities for the event.

#### **b. Pavilion board images and captions**

The HPC proposed to present each caption and then approve on any changes one by one so they can be finalized and ready to be sent to the fabricator.

- Swinging Bridge – no changes suggested. Friede made a motion to approve the caption as written. M/Friede, S/Page – passed 13-0.
- Zoo at Glen Park – no changes suggested. Friede made a motion to approve the caption as written. M/Friede, S/Page – passed 13-0.
- River Falls Improvement League – Hoffman proposed removing the sentence that begins with “In 1901, these women...”. Hoffman also suggested the next sentence read: “For over 25 years, they devoted their energies to maintenance and beautification efforts in the park and the River Falls community.” She also suggested switching the word “efforts” in the 7<sup>th</sup> line to “projects.” Bjork made a motion to approve the caption as edited. M/Bjork, S/Page – passed 13-0.
- Glen Park Pool and Bathhouse – no changes suggested. Friede made a motion to approve the caption as written. M/Friede, S/Page – passed 13-0.
- Glen Park Lodge – Hoffman suggested a change to the last line to delete “will” and change “serve” to “serves.” Friede made a motion to approve the caption as edited. M/Friede, S/Gaulke – passed 13-0.
- Summer Days – D. Anderson suggested adding “baseball” to the list of activities at the park. D. Anderson made a motion to approve the caption as edited. M/D. Anderson, S/Gaulke – passed 13-0.
- Glen Park – It was suggested that the second to last sentence be revised as follows: “Over time, playground areas, an ice rink, toboggan run, and bike and walking trails were added.” Friede made a motion to approve the caption as edited. M/Friede, S/Gaulke – passed 13-0.

The HPC then shared the images to accompany the above descriptions.

#### **c. Postcards**

Heinze reported that every year the HPC produces a postcard to distribute at the River Falls Days parade. This year, Mary Zimmerman, the City’s Communications Manager, had asked if

the pavilion images could be used to make either postcards or notecards as a giveaway for the grand opening of the pavilion. Howe updated her communications with Mary, indicating that she will likely be looking to create notecard packages featuring each of the seven images. Mary will work to secure permission to use the images in this way from Pierce County Historical Society, UWRF Archives, and Jayne Hoffman of the HPC. After some discussion on various options, Heinze asked for an endorsement of the use of the seven selected images for notecards. Reese made a motion to endorse. Gaulke seconded – passed 12-1.

**d. HPC slideshow/presentation**

It was determined that a presentation was not necessary as it was provided to the same group last year.

**e. The Glen interpretive sign**

Heinze reported that for the past few months the HPC has been working on a project to improve the Cascade Mill sign at Glen Park. The HPC then shared the image of the draft Glen interpretive sign (included in the agenda packet). The sign is proposed to have graphic images, including Sanborn map background, and be significantly smaller and mounted at an angle so a viewer can stand next to the sign and read it while also viewing the area of the park formerly known as The Glen. Heinze reported that it is the HPC's hope that this sign is the first of a series of "heritage" signs that will be created by the HPC and located throughout the historic parts of the downtown. There was some discussion about removal of some of trees in the area to enhance the view. Stifter noted that it may be a challenge to remove trees from the steep bank in the area. Further, if removed, the view is really of a house on the other side of the river, which isn't the effect that the HPC is hoping to achieve.

**2. Heritage Park**

Heinze reported that Heritage Park may be the next interpretive sign that the HPC works on after the Glen. Reese presented a 5-page, narrative poem that was written by Ed Peterson (Ursula Peterson's husband), a former long-time resident of River Falls regarding the planning and creation of Heritage Park.

**3. Partnership Opportunities**

No discussion.

**CALENDAR**

Next Historic Preservation Commission meeting is April 8, 2020.

Next Park and Recreation Advisory Board meeting is April 15, 2020.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Friede made a motion to adjourn at 7:03 p.m. Page seconded.

M/Friede, S/Page – motion carried 13-0