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PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.
City Hall Training Room

Members Present: Patricia LaRue (chair), Brandon Dobbertin, Brenda Gaulke, Matt Janquart, Alyssa Mueller (Council Rep, virtually), and Melissa Pedrini (virtually).

Members Absent: Natasha Schaefer

Staff Present: Cindi Danke-Recreation Manager; Brenda Rundle-Recreation Assistant; Mike Stifter-Public Works Director; Amy Peterson-Community Development Director; Emily Shively-City Planner; Kendra Ellner-Planner; Sam Burns-Planner; Amy White-Administrative Services Manager/City Clerk; and Ellen Fredrich-Administrative Assistant, Public Services.

Others Present: Stephanie Falkers-SRF Consulting, and Sean Downing

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 5:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSC Gaulke/Dobbertin to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2022 Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting. Carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items

Mike Stifter let Park Board know that he will be leaving River Falls in early January for a public works director position in Minnesota to relocate closer to family.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Stephanie Falkers of SRF Consulting gave a presentation and facilitated a discussion about the Focus River Falls Outdoor Recreation Plan. She reminded us that we need to be sure our outdoor recreation plan follows DNR requirements for an outdoor recreation plan so we may be qualified for future DNR grant funding. After hearing Park Board comments, this plan goes to Plan Commission next then Council, but modifications can still be made before City Council passes it. LaRue felt to be called a regional park, it should have bathrooms and a water fountain, due to the definition that regional parks meet needs of all age groups. The needs assessment shows that the community desires outdoor opportunities in all seasons, and there is a positive perspective of the recreation opportunities but there needs to be more room to grow. There are not many amenities that are not available to the community. By 2030 we will likely need another pool, based on population, and there is support for indoor investments The public plan review (for all three plans) will be in February 2023 and the plan is scheduled to be adopted in March 2023.

MSC Dobbertin/Gaulke to move the outdoor recreation plan to the Planning Commission. Carried 6-0.

ACTION ITEMS

2. After verifying that park rules and that park categories and names can still be changed, Park Board approved the resolution recognizing the included list of parks as those falling under the jurisdiction of the park and recreation board for the purposes of Ch.12.20 of city ordinances (which is park rules). The memo was based on a draft of the outdoor recreation plan, which is still subject to changes. This resolution recognizing the park inventory will allow rules to be uniformly enforced across all parks.

MSC Janquart/Gaulke to pass the resolution recognizing the park inventory. Carried 6-0.

3. Action Item #3 regarding adding a holiday tree in Glen Park Pavilion was pulled off the agenda. Decorations will be left to the renter of the shelter.

CALENDAR

The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting will be January 18, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

MSC Janquart/Dobbertin to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Rundle
Customer Service Representative