

Town of Rib Mountain
Park Commission
Tuesday, June 12, 2012

Call to order:

George Snyder called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. Roll was taken. Members present: Bill Bursaw, Liesle Dille-Markevitch, Bert Nitzke, George Snyder and Scott Miles. Duane Zeichert was absent. Gaylene Rhoden, Town Administrator, was also present.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes from May 8, 2012 was made by Bill B. and seconded by Liesle M. The motion passed.

Town Administrator Report (Gaylene reported)

- A. Daryl Peterson is serving as the Interim Streets & Parks Superintendent. He will work Monday, Wednesday and Friday with his primary responsibility being to prepare work assignments for the Town crew. Daryl has a civil engineering background.
- B. As of this week, over twenty applications have been received for the Streets and Park Superintendent position. Gaylene described the process that will be used to narrow the applicants and select those to be interviewed. She hopes to fill the position by early August.
- C. The Wausau Youth Baseball contract was approved by the Town Board.
- D. Strong winds damaged the doors on the Doepke Park dumpster. A crew will be working to realign and re-engineer the doors to eliminate this problem.
- E. The shelter locks were examined by RMM and it was suggested that the software be reinstalled. Gaylene will be working on it.
- F. The bridge over Highway 29 (Sunrise Drive) will be shut down for repairs in 2014. It is possible that the road will be closed for three months. In addition, access to Liberty Park (tennis court lot) may have to be altered. Gaylene has asked that she be included in planning with the WDOT and Sanitary District (which owns the parkland).

Liberty Park Playground Equipment

Liesle reported on the census figures for the neighborhood surrounding Liberty Park. It indicated very few children reside in that area. However, an earlier letter from a parent stated that the park is regularly used by families. Scott M has observed numerous groups using the basketball courts, tennis courts and volleyball area on a regular basis. The census numbers may not be accurate according to Gaylene. Lisa Willesden (Town resident) has been asked to meet with Liesle M, Scott M and Lana (playground equip rep) to discuss plans for new equipment. Money may be available for equipment in this budget. Gaylene will contact Lana and set up a meeting for the small group.

Doepke Park Historical Marker

George, Jim Legner and Gaylene met with Marjorie at Doepke Park to discuss her vision for the marker. The idea of placing a plaque on a rock below the current signage was discussed. Marjorie said her family would be willing to pay for the costs of the rock and plaque. The wording approved by the Park Commission at our last meeting (see below) was not satisfactory for Marjorie.

“The Doepke family farmed this parcel of land, as well as the acreage directly south of the park, from 1803 until the death of Fred Doepke in 2008. At that time, the land was purchased by the Town and named Doepke Park.”

Scott M made the motion to make no recommendation to the Town Board on this issue. Bert N seconded it. The motion passed.

Non-profit status

We are still waiting final approval of the 501 (c) 3 tax exempt status. It may take until the end of summer before it is approved.

Financial Statement

The summer program and shelter rentals were noted on the handouts. Final numbers for the summer program were not available.

Park Commission Vacancy

Shelley Hertz's resignation left an opening on the Park Commission. Bill B recommended Mai Herr who had submitted her name earlier and was still interested in serving on the Commission. Bill B made the motion and Scott M seconded it to recommend Mai Herr to Al Opal. The motion passed.

Open Discussion

Scott M reported that the after-school tennis program run by Theresa Miles was very successful. Over 65 children participated in the program. George acknowledged Mrs. Miles' effort and thanked her for offering such a valuable program to the children in the area.

Scott Schatschneider was recognized and thanked for his service as Streets and Park Superintendent. The Commission wished him well in his new position.

If no new items are brought forward, George suggested that the July 10th meeting be cancelled. He will let us know.

Adjournment

Scott M moved for adjournment at 6:06 PM. Bill B. seconded it and the motion passed.