

**TOWN OF RIB MOUNTAIN
PARK COMMISSION
November 13, 2012**

Chairperson George Snyder called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM.

Roll Call was taken. Bill Bursaw, Mai Herr, Scott Miles, George Snyder and Duane Zeichert were present. Bert Nitzke was excused. Liesle Dille-Markavitch was not present. Scott Turner, Streets and Parks Superintendent, attended the meeting also.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the October 9, 2012 meeting were corrected. The spelling of Duane's name was incorrect. The corrected minutes were approved on a motion by Bill B and a second by Duane Z.

Streets and Parks Superintendent Report:

Scott T gave us updates on several projects:

1. New boards have been painted for the Doepke Park hockey rink. They will be installed in the near future.
2. The parks were fertilized and aerated (where allowed).
3. Doepke shelter's heating system was checked. (Scott T refunded half the shelter rental fee to a group that could not get the heating unit to work during their rental.)
4. The locks at the Doepke shelter are still not working. Scott T will contact the lock company to explain the problem. They will need to properly install them so they can work.
5. The exterior lighting upgrade still needs to be done. Scott T will contact the electrician and replace some broken/worn lights to help provide enough light so the security camera can be effective.
6. Scott T asked if there was a group that maintained the flower beds at Doepke Park. Bill B mentioned that some volunteers can be very helpful. Scott T will explore the possibility of getting someone or some group to maintain the flower beds at our parks.
7. Rookery Park's entrance was paved/blacktopped so as to prevent gravel from being carried out into the highway.
8. Clean up of parks – soccer nets, tennis nets, drinking fountains – were completed so they are ready for the winter season.

Scott T discussed the winter recreational staff. Jason will continue his work at the shelter. Another worker will assist him. Scott will check on the person that assisted Jason last season.

Budget and 2013 Borrowing Note:

George S reviewed the print out of the budget provided by Gaylene. We also reviewed the summary provided by Scott T. There were questions on the seemingly repetitive categories and Scott gave explanations on the utilities, wages and contractual services listed on the print out. More detail for each category would help the Park Commission understand expenditures. Scott T will work on that format. A motion was made by Scott M and seconded by Bill B to approve of the park budget. The motion passed. The Town Board will vote on a final town budget at its November 20th meeting.

An update on the borrowing note was provided. This money will be matched by the DNR to help the Town complete the trail at Doepke Park. Once permits are granted, construction is expected to begin in the fall ('13).

Park Commission Projects:

George asked for ideas for our parks in 2013. The cracks in the Liberty Park tennis courts and picnic tables for Rookery Park were mentioned. For the most part, our parks are in very good shape. Scott T's "to do list" will be a working guide for us with updates provided as projects are completed. Scott T did mention the enclosing of the two non-insulated doors at the Doepke Park shelter. The Commission thought this had been brought up before and Scott will go back in the files to see if estimates available.

Communications:

Commission members have received messages (letters and e-mails) about the new law that will take effect in January, 2013. The Heritage Hunting Bill (Act 168) will allow hunting in all state parks. Residents in close proximity to the park are concerned about the danger of this new law. Town Chairperson Al Opal and Gaylene Rhoden attended the DNR listening session in Merrill on how the rules will be interpreted. It was suggested contacting our area's state legislators about any concerns on this issue.

A motion to adjourn was made by Bill B and seconded by Mai H. It passed.

(Unless urgent business needs to be done by the end of the year, there may not be a December meeting. George will contact us.)