

Town of Rib Mountain Park Commission Tuesday, December 13, 2005

Chuck Kickbusch, acting chair in George's absence, called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken. Members present: Daniel Schneider, Shelley Hertz, Duane Zeichert, Berland Meyer and Lette Becker. Also present: Gaylene Rhoden, Town Administrator and Scott Schatschneider, Street and Park Superintendent. Excused: George Snyder.

Chuck called for approval of the minutes. Berland moved the minutes be approved as written and Daniel seconded it. The motion was carried.

Election of Park Chairman: Daniel asked for nominations from the floor. Those nominated from the floor were either absent or declined, Daniel put forth the nomination of Lette Becker. Berland moved to close nominations and Shelley seconded it. Election was by paper ballot. Daniel read the tally for Chairperson as 5-1 and Lette was elected to fill out the term of office. This leaves the position of recording secretary open. We will elect a new recording secretary at next month's meeting.

Hiring of Rink Attendants: Scott received an application for the rink attendant. The position open is in addition to the rink manager position. Daniel recommended we hire this applicant contingent on his passing the criminal check. The salary of the rink manager will be \$9.86 with an annual raise coming in January consistent with wage increases for the rest of the Town employees. Shelley moved the new hire be paid \$7.50 for the winter season. Duane seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Carol Smith Property: The County has offered this property to the Town. Gaylene went over the stipulations governing our acceptance of this property. The property is a peninsula next to the new "snake" bridge and was used by the County Highway Department to store materials when the road and bridge were reconstructed. A house that was formerly on the property was torn down. There is water and sewer connection on the property. This property cannot be used for boat landing purposes. A passive park, picnic area is the recommended use. The Lion's Club stated an interest to support the recommended use of this park. Signs will be posted in the future stating how the community is to use the park. Chuck moved we accept the deed to the property and Daniel seconded it. Questions were raised regarding any possible hazardous waste remaining on the land. Lette amended the motion to state acceptance of the deed is contingent on the property being free of environmental hazards. The motion was carried.

Street/Park Superintendent Report: Scott reported the recreational rink is flooded, the lights are up, and warming hut border surround and ramp are in place. The boards for the hockey rink are there however there hasn't been time for the Town crew to set up the hockey rink. Some children have been on the site shoveling the snow off the rink and using it. Daniel questioned when the warming hut could open. A notice will be put in the paper and Gaylene will work with Scott on getting this information out. At this time there is no phone available for the rink attendant's use in case of emergency. Also, the Town crew hasn't had an opportunity to move the small tractor with the brush to Doepke. This tractor is used to clear snow off the rinks. Scott hopes to have the tractor moved to Doepke Park on Monday. He will ask the rink manager to clean the warming hut and get it ready for next week. There used to be a sign that said, "skate at your own risk" when the rinks were unsupervised. Scott will look into this and the site will be posted again.

One of the two speakers is aimed in the direction of the hockey rink. Berland suggested we turn off the one for the hockey rink. The key point is that the hockey rink does not need sound piped in. Scott will get this taken care of so that music played is only directed toward the recreational rink.

Fritz Doepke Recreation Area Update: Chuck reported that Wausau Youth Baseball is planning on construction of dugouts and a concession stand next year. The Town approved \$125,000 for the building of a shelter. Gaylene, Scott and Doug O'Donnell of O'Donnell Engineering will meet on Tuesday, December 20, at 9:30 to go over the shelter plans before it is sent out for bid. There is nothing happening with the soccer fields at this time. Daniel mentioned that there is a lean-to he'd like moved to the area near the hockey rink. The hockey players liked to use this in lieu of going into the warming hut to change skates. Scott will check into the possibility of having this moved to this area. There is one portapotty on the property already. Daniel asked that it be moved close to the light. If that is not feasible, as it is quite dark in the potty when the door is closed, a battery operated light may be installed in or nearby.

Fund Raising Committee Report: As George was unable to be at the meeting, Chuck reported on his behalf. The committee asked for approval of \$300 to fund designing the "wall of honor" for the shelter. Drawings were distributed and the committee estimated the cost for the wall to be around \$15,000. They asked that it be incorporated into the design of the shelter. The Fund-Raising committee feels the need for its approval at this time, as it has been two years since monies were donated and held for this project. The commission discussed this at length and declined to include the proposal in the shelter bid process. They felt the cost of the proposal too high. However, the commission does support the concept of having an area set aside to honor donors to the shelter. The Fund-Raising Committee will be invited to the next Park Commission meeting. Additional funds of \$1500 have been received for the shelter from two sources.

Summer Program: Chuck received the report of the summer program from Mary Timm, Director. There is a concern regarding the decrease in attendance. This year's enrollment was 73, slightly down from last year, however, considerably down from 4-5 years ago. Mary is looking for ways to modify the program to hold the children's interest. We will invite Mary to a meeting to listen to her ideas.

Winter Program: Daniel asked for clarification of his role with the winter program. Scott, as the Town employee, will oversee the details of the operation of the rinks including supervision of the employees. Daniel will act as liaison and communicate with Scott on any issues that need to be addressed.

Building and Grounds: Chuck reported that the Park Commission's responsibility lies in their being custodians of building and grounds designated as recreational. As such, the commission must continue to check on the property along with any equipment needed for maintenance. The red shed located by the Public Works building is needed for storage of such equipment particularly if the warming hut is going to be disposed of.

The next meeting is set for January 10, 2005, at 7:00 PM. Daniel moved for adjournment and Shelley seconded it. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lette Becker, Recording Secretary