

Town of Rib Mountain

Park Commission *April 12, 2006*

Chairperson Lette Becker called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Roll was taken. Members present included Shelley Hertz, Duane Zeichert, Chuck Kickbusch, George Snyder, and Daniel Schneider. Berland Meyer was excused. Also present were Streets/Parks Superintendent Scott Schatschneider, Summer Program Director Mary Timm and Summer Program Assistant Director Megan Thompson.

Minutes:

The Commission reviewed minutes from the March 14, 2006 meeting. George Snyder moved to approve the March 2006 minutes and Duane Zeichert seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Summer Program:

Mary Timm and Megan Thompson spoke to the Park Commission regarding the 2006 Summer Program. Discussion included the decline in registrations, suggestions to increase those numbers, as well as the cost effectiveness of the program with regard to the declining number of enrollees. Mary suggested the children are presented with too many choices for different summer recreation activities: soccer camps, scout camps, etc.

Decreasing the hours of the program was discussed and rejected. It was felt that decreasing hours would most probably decrease the number of registrants. Field trips will be shorter this year and an additional trip to Clay Corner in Wausau is planned.

Megan reported that Rib Mountain's fees were comparatively low at \$25 for the first registered child and \$20 for siblings. Fees for Wausau residents are \$35 and \$25 for non-residents. Chuck asked to set the cost for the program. An increase of \$10 was suggested. Chuck suggested \$10 increase first child and \$5 for second child. The motion was made to increase fees from \$25/first child to \$35 and from \$20/sibling to \$25. Non-resident fees would go up to \$45 and \$35 for second child. The motion carried.

Megan will be attending the PTO meeting on May 19th at Rib Mountain elementary school and setting up a table with posters and handouts for the 2006 Summer Program. Daniel suggested a weekly posting in the paper of summer programs. Mary and Megan will also submit public service announcements regarding the program activities to the media and to the newspaper.

Chuck requested that the tornado and severe thunderstorm procedures be reviewed. Mary stated there is a safe area inside the school and the parents are informed that if there is a thunderstorm warning or tornado watch, the children must be picked up.

Streets and Parks Report:

Scott stated that construction on the park pavilion would be started on Monday the 17th. He anticipated completion in seven or eight weeks. Chuck asked for a list of what needed to be done to satisfy the grant money. Scott reported that the trails, pavilion, landscaping, and parking lot would satisfy grant. Work is to be completed by June 30th. An extension will be requested if necessary. Scott reported that the park has been cleaned up and the liner from the rinks put away. The lights on the skate rinks were vandalized and both broken. A claim has been turned submitted to the Town's insurance carrier and the lights will be replaced. The ball diamond low spots were fixed and the infield worked on. Portable toilets were ordered for all parks. Property near the south end of the new McCleary Bridge was accepted by the Town Board for a park. The Park Commission needs to come up with a new name for it. A toilet on the site is possible. No cars will be allowed to park on the site.

Fritz Deopke Park Shelter: Scott suggested that motion sensor lights be added to the new pavilion to deter vandalism. A motion was made by Chuck to approve Scott's recommendation for lights on the pavilion. The motion carried.

Benches: George will talk about benches at the next meeting.

Walkway: Chuck requested dimensions of the proposed walkway around the pavilion. He reported that 120 pavers were sold. Wausau Tile will provide the pavers for the walkway. A price for the installation will be looked into. It will be done after the dimensions are determined.

Volleyball: Sand volleyball will not be feasible at this time because of the cost of sand as reported by Shelley. Seeding the area where the skating rinks were was discussed.

Hiking Trail: Daniel asked that the hiking trail be continued around the ice rinks as planned. He asked about erosion on the trail and Scott said they will be using a different rock that compacts better. It may be an ongoing problem for now. Chuck reported that the bluebird houses have been successful. They will be maintained by Bill Paul. The possibility of flag poles with various flags was discussed.

Building and Grounds: Chuck is working on a plan to organize the red shed. Scott would like to build a storage shed at Doepke Park.

Fundraising:

George said he was looking into a grant through Peach Tree Companies. He asked for permission to apply for the grant. He would ask for \$30,000 for playground equipment. Chuck made a motion that he be allowed to apply for the grant. Daniel seconded it. The

motion carried. No new fundraising report. Dan asked about the funding for the soccer field. Calls were made to the donor with no response. They will continue to try. The wall of honor meeting will be the 19th or 22nd. It should be on the agenda for next month. He hoped to have a proposal then.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting was set for May 9th. Daniel moved for adjournment and Chuck seconded it. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Shelley Hertz