

**Town of Rib Mountain
Park Commission
Tuesday, September 14, 2010**

Call to Order: George Snyder called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM. Members present included Duane Zeichert, Bill Miller, Bill Bursaw and Scott Miles. Shelly Hertz was excused and Sandi Waring was absent. Scott Schatschneider, Streets and Parks Supervisor, was also present.

Approval of Minutes: Bill B made a motion to approve the minutes from 8/10/10 as amended by Duane Z. (The third sentence of the section "Summer Program" is to be deleted.) Bill M seconded the amended motion. The minutes were approved as amended.

Streets and Parks Superintendent's Report: Scott S reported that the locks have been installed at the Doepke Park shelter bathrooms. They will be activated in the near future. A toddler swing has also been installed at Doepke Park. Dan Fiorenza from the Marathon County Park Dept inspected the Liberty Park playground equipment. The equipment, although older, is in good shape and is safe for use. The equipment can be wire brushed and painted to preserve it by Scott's staff in the spring/summer. Rental of a lift to facilitate this work would be required to reach the top of the swing set. In addition, S hooks on swings could use updating as newer hooks are available.

Other park issues include the installation of 11 angle-parking places at the base of Park Road. Fog lines have been put on the road to assure safety. Parking on the south side would require additional grading to the off road site to keep run-off from flowing onto nearby properties. Additional signage may be necessary to make those turning onto Park Road aware of cars that may be backing into traffic as they turn. Scott will monitor that and other issues related to parking in that area.

Stewardship Grant Update: Gaylene informed Scott that the Town received a partial grant for the completion of the Nature Trail at Doepke Park. \$32,500 was awarded. Gaylene suggests we apply for the remaining amount next year.

Park Donor Program: Bill B provided the Commission with revised plans for the Park Donor Program. The handouts were provided and discussed. Costs for cement benches run from \$1500-\$1700 plus labor costs to install the bench, metal benches cost \$700 plus labor and the wooden bench costs \$300 plus labor. Scott S and Bill B will check on costs for picnic tables and recycling/trash receptacles before the next meeting. George asked Commission members to look over the materials prior to our next meeting so we can finalize wording for the brochure or handout to be used for the Park Donor Program and determine how this information will be distributed.

The Town Board has agreed to set up a committee to move ahead on the 501 (c) status for the Donor Program. Gaylene will be working on the paperwork over the next few months.

2011 Park Budget: After some discussion, Bill M made the motion and Duane seconded it to include the following projects to the 2011 Park Budget:

1. Construct an enclosed dumpster facility at Doepke Park. It will be a split-faced block structure with a locked gate and include a light in the dumpster area. Service of the dumpster would be needed from April – September. The approx cost of this facility would be \$3000.
2. Motion eyes for the men’s urinals for the Doepke Park shelter. Approx cost would be \$700.
3. Adding lights to the pavilion area at Doepke Park to help provide greater security at the shelter. The additional lighting would also allow security cameras to be more effective. Approx cost would be under \$1000.
4. Money to complete the 51/29 Trail (in the easement) that was designated in the borrowing note. Approx cost \$45,000.
5. Construct a shelter for picnic tables at Rookery Park. (Cost undetermined.)
6. Additional playground equipment (for older children) added to Doepke Park. This money was in the original borrowing note.

The motion passed unanimously.

A question about who is responsible for the maintenance of the County R’s trail was raised. A motion was made by Scott M and seconded by Bill M for staff to work with local agencies to create a maintenance agreement with the Marathon County Hwy Dept for the long-term maintenance of the County R trail. The motion passed.

Summer Program: Duane presented a report from Becky Miller for the Summer Program. The Commission accepted the document and George will write a thank you note to Becky for her work with the summer program and her report. The report will be left at the Municipal Building for review by interested parties. The Park Commission discussed a safety concern for children crossing County Hwy R at Clover and at the crossing by the fire station. Children coming and going to the summer program and or Doepke Park are at risk at these unregulated intersections. Several times this summer cars came dangerously close to striking children as they crossed the highway. This topic will be put on the Park Commission’s next month agenda.

Wausau Youth Baseball Annual Review: George and Scott S. reported that they had met with Mark Meeks, Pres of the Wausau Youth Baseball Assoc. They discussed security concerns at Doepke Park. There was an attempted break-in at the concession stand after the season ended. Parking concerns are better now that baseball and soccer game times have been staggered. The noise complaint from some residents was explained to Mark. George will remind Mark that the concrete blocks and lawn mower are to be removed ASAP.

Fund Raising Report: The Commission discussed a letter from Marge Erickson-Ongna. Her letter asked us to consider specific donations to identify Fritz Doepke and the family's contributions to Doepke Park. George will contact her and explain that the Park Commission has been working on a donor policy. We will forward her the policy when it is completed and assist her in creating a meaningful donation to the park. George also noted that the Community Foundation will be transferring money to the Doepke Fund at the Town of Rib Mountain. This money from shelter rentals (approx \$18,000) can be used for trail work or plantings at Doepke Park.

Financial Report: Doepke rental fees have about \$2500 in the account.

Other: George will contact Commission members about creating a Nominating Committee for Park Commission elections. Jim Legner has been working on bluebird houses and habitat along the Doepke Park trail.

Adjournment: Bill B made the motion to adjourn and Bill M seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM