

Town of Rib Mountain  
Park Commission  
October 8, 2013

I. Call to Order: Acting Chairperson Scott Miles called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM.

II. Roll Call: Brad Conklin, Chad Gundermann, Mai Herr and Scott Miles were present. Bill Bursaw, Leisle Dille-Markavitch and Duane Zeichert were excused. Also in attendance was Becky Paul (and her newborn baby, Nora Paul), Summer Program Coordinator, Matt Block representing CWOCC, Fred Heider from NCWRPC, Dan Abt (CWOCC), Jerry Klein (CWOCC) and Andrea Larson (Rib Mountain Bike/Ped Comm). Scott Turner, Superintendent of Streets and Parks was present.

III. Approval of Minutes: Brad C made the motion to approve the minutes from the Sept 10, 2013 Park Commission meeting. Mai H seconded it. The motion passed.

IV. Summer Recreation Program: Becky P passed out her complete report to the Commission. (Copies will be on file at the Town Municipal Building.) In summary she reported that numbers for the summer program remained constant (96 in '12 and 97 in '13). Afternoon numbers were higher because summer school is over and the nine year olds were the largest age group attending the summer program. The additional half-time staff member was a big help when it came to the larger enrollments in the PM and on field trips. Post-summer program survey of parents indicated they were pleased with the program. Overall costs were up slightly because of the increase in staff. The program cost \$15,738 in '13 compared to \$14,165 in '12. See the report on file at the Municipal Building for further details about another successful summer program. Scott M on behalf of the Park Commission, thanked Becky for another excellent year!

V. Eagles Scout Project – Rookery Park Viewing Platform: Scott T provided the Commission with sketches and a brief overview of the proposal from Bobby McGucken. The proposed viewing platform and its site location was discussed. Scott M mentioned his concern with more activity for the Rookery Park and the danger increased traffic into and out of that park may cause. Scott T will bring this back at a later meeting for further action.

VI. IMBA: Matt Block representing the CWOCC (Central WI Off-road Cycling Coalition) presented information about his groups interest in promoting sustainable, environmentally sound, cost effective trails in the Town. With the help of the IMBA (International Mountain Bike Association), the CWOCC would like to make Rib Mountain a "ride center" similar to other sites in the upper Midwest. Rib Mountain would be the site for top quality, large scale off-road tracks. Similar "ride centers" have been or are being created in Copper Harbor, MI and Cuyana Lakes, MN and have drawn over 20,000 riders to their trails. Matt explained that Rib Mountain's topography and ski hill area make it a natural site for off-road trails. He has discussed the concept with ski hill owners and they are interested at this point. Because biking is a relatively cheap outdoor activity, ride centers are becoming quite popular. (A full report on the CWOCC master plan is available at the Municipal Building.) An IMBA rep toured the area with Matt and came up with several sites in the town that would be good sites for development. Over time, Matt would like to work with the Town to get grant money to develop these sites. In addition to money, zoning issues would require Town approval before these sites could move forward. Several members of the Commission spoke in favor of the plan and asked questions of Matt. He would be willing to return to our group and will continue to work with the Rib Mountain Bike/Ped Committee to move forward with plans for off-road trails for the Town.

VII. Streets and Parks Report: There were no updates on the Doepke North Trail. Scott T has a meeting with the DNR and Army Corps next week. The expansion of the parking area to the east of the ball park is the topic of the meeting. It would provide an additional 100 parking sites in an area close to the wetlands.

VIII. Ground breaking was held for the 51/39 bike trail last week. The trail is now open and being used by bikers along that corridor.

IX. Election of Officers was tabled until the November meeting.

X. Scott T reviewed the financial statement.

XI. Open Discussion: Fred Heider representing NCWRPC (hired by the Town to help develop a new long range plan) asked questions and presented several ideas to the Commission. He hopes to move forward on a survey of town residents using the web page, Facebook and the Town Beat. He plans to keep the Commission informed of information he gathers and will attend later meetings. The target date for a completed plan is 2015.

XII. Motion to adjourn was made by Brad C and seconded by Chad G. The motion passed.