

Rib Mountain Park Commission
May 13, 2014 Meeting

Chairman Bill Bursaw called Park Commission to order at 5:07.

Present: Chariman Bursaw, Chad Grundemann, Brad Conklin and Liesle Markevitch. Scott Turner and Deputy Clerk Michelle Peter were also present. Mai Herr was excused. Duane Zeichert was absent.

Minutes: Motion by Chad Grundemann seconded by Liesle Markevitch to approve the April 8, 2014 minutes with the noted correction for the spelling of Scott Turner on the second page, first paragraph. Motion carried.

Chairman Bursaw noted that committee member Scott Miles has resigned.

Street & Park Report:

Park Portable Toilet – Scott Tuner stated that because there is less usage at Chellis Park it was determined last fall to remove the portable toilet. He has received a couple of calls for its return. The porta-potty has returned but would like to the committee to review the need for the continuation versus the cost justification of \$600 per year.

Doepke Park – Recognition Plaque – John Sybeldon, who recently retired as a Town Supervisor has received a recognition plaque from the Town which will be installed on the north wall.

Zoning Text Amendment for Active Uses – The Town Board reviewed this item at its May 6th meeting and has requested that the Planning Commission hold a public hearing for “active uses” in local parks.

Wausau Elks Lodge 248 “Kids Fishing Derby”: Nick Krause appeared representing the Wausau Elks Lodge requesting approval to hold its annual Fishing for Kids at Rookery Park on June 8th. The free event is open to kids from 1 – 15 with the accompaniment of a parent from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.. The Elks will also provide a porta-potty. **Motion by Brad Conklin, seconded by Chad Grundemann to approve the Elk’s annual Fishing for Kids event at Rookery Park on June 8, 2014. Motion carried.**

Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan:

Survey Results – Fred Heider from the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission appeared and presented the Committee with the Park Survey results. Even though he only received about 100 surveys, he was pleased with the results and comments. Fred pointed out the top three items for improvement/continuation included boating, biking and walking facilities.

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Fred also discussed public-right-of- ways that have not marked that would allow for additional usage of Lake Wausau. It was discussed how these areas are lost in property purchases or current owners encroaching on the noted areas.

Fred would like the Park Commission to develop goals, ideas and objections pertaining to the survey. Create a park plan for future usages within the township; develop a project list for the parks and create a wish list.

Letter from residents – Mr. Heider presented two letters from residents. Some of their suggestions included trash pick-up, tennis court resurfacing and the possibility of snowblowing trails through a park during the winter months.

Doepke Park Stewardship Grant Projects:

Proposed Trail Improvements – Chairman Bursaw excused himself from discussion. Chad Grundemann presided as chairman. Scott is currently working with Elizabeth Norquist on the Stewardship Grant contract. The Town has estimates on construction costs and with the present budget figures the boardwalk will be the only item of construction for the year. Gravel for the trail will need to be laid at another time. Scott did however say that woodchips could be put in place for the interim. The actual boardwalk project will go out for bids. Scott is also working with the DNR to create a Land Use Agreement. It was the consensus of the committee to proceed with the project.

Doepke Park Trail – Land Use:

WDNR & Marathon County – Scott is working with the local DNR & Marathon Count officials in securing an agreement for the trail.

Eagle Scout Projects: Scott Turner has been contacted by a prospective Eagle Scout who is seeking to complete an eagle project. The scout indicated the erection of bird and bat houses along the 51/39 trail. Bill Bursaw noted that the scout would need to present the project at the council level before he could proceed.

Request for Memorial Bench at Doepke Park: Scott stated he has received a request from the Doepke Family for a memorial bench. They would like the memorial request to be completed by Laser Technologies. Liesle Markevitch strongly recommended that the family abide by the established bench memorial guidelines.

Request for Baby Swings for Parks: Brad has received a request for baby swings at Chellis Park. It was recommendation of the committee to obtain quotes for the possible purchase of a baby swing.

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Financial Statement: None

Report from Commission Members: None

Motion by Liesle Markevitch, seconded by Chad Grundemann to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 6:29 p.m.

Submitted by:
Michelle Peter, Deputy Clerk