

Rib Mountain Park Commission

May 9, 2017

Meeting Minutes

Present: Vice Chairman Bill Bursaw, Jerry Muehlbauer, Dana Laher, Chad Grundemann, Marne' Bruner, and Andrea Larson. Chairman Brad Conklin was excused. Deputy Clerk Michelle Peter and Street/Park Superintendent Scott Turner were also present.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Larson/Grundemann to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2017 meeting.

STREET & PARK REPORT – Street/Park Superintendent Turner reported sometime this summer Liberty Park cracking filling project will start. Due to wet conditions, last year the project was halted. Turner purchased a volley net for the park. The map has been installed in the kiosk at Rookery Park. The Town ordered and planted 500 saplings along Paramount Drive which runs parallel to Highway 29. It is the hope some of the trees will grow to provide a future noise barrier. The streets department has started work on the Rib Mountain welcome sign by Rookery Park and are planting perennials. The 51/39 trail railing received some damage due to a tree falling. The end of May will be a kick-off for Emerald Ash awareness. The Town's summer intern will be working with Golden Sands Recourse Conservation and Development in identifying ash trees and using GIS coordinates for mapping purposes. The Town and State of Wisconsin have signed a 15-year agreement for the Doepke Park Trail.

RIB MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY GARDEN DISCUSSION – Dana Laher stated she would like to review this venture later as she would like to see how the project takes off at Church Mutual. Committee members discussed potential locations, possible fencing options and the possibility of reaching out to the City of Wausau community garden contacts.

RIB MOUNTAIN 2018 EASTER EGG HUNT DISCUSSION - Tabled

RECOMMENDATION FOR SUMMER RECREATION POSITION – Emily Norton stated the previously approve candidate had withdrew her application based on salary. She has received one other application from Murphy Marco. He is completing his junior year at Wausau East. Former program director, Becky Paul knows him personally and recommends him along with a teacher at Wausau East. Members also discussed the need to address the lack of interest in the assistant position, whether it is salary related or the need to reach out to college students in either the education or the recreation fields of study. **Motion by Laher/Larson to recommend the hiring of Murphy Marco for the Summer Playground Assistant Position. Questioned and carried.**

RECOMMENDATION OF APPROVAL FOR PARK USE AGREEMENT RENEWAL FOR SOCCER FIELDS – Park Superintendent Turner stated this is the third-year Faith Christian Academy has sought approval. This approval is a basic formality. **Motion by Grundemann/Bruner to approve the Park Use Agreement Renewal for the Soccer Fields by Faith Christian Academy. Questioned and carried.**

OLD BUSINESS –

- A. Dog Park Planning – Turner stated the project is moving forward with fundraising options. The Town and County are presently finalizing paperwork for the land.
- B. Doepke Nature Trail Signs – No updates.
- C. Potential Eagle Scout Projects – Nothing to report.
- D. Domtar Disc Golf – Jerry Muehlbauer stated the project is back on course. Both the Village of Rothschild and Domtar have an approved agreement. He stated the Rothschild Police Department has suggested that all parking be done at Riverside Park.
- E. Kayak Launch – Grant Application – No updates. Chad however, noted the Town's website has been update with the map and pictures at Rookery Park.
- F. Emerald Ash Borer Planning – Spring 2017 – Presented earlier.

PARK PROJECT LIST – REVIEW AND DISCUSSION – Grundemann stated he will provide updated projects to Brad Conklin to incorporate into the project list.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT – Reviewed.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS – Muehlbauer spoke with an engineer at WSAU Channel 7 with regards to camera/s usage at Rookery Park. The engineer provided the requirements that would be needed. Jerry will continue to research this project. Bruner made an enhancement suggestion; the possibility of a fountain in the pond across the street from Bone and Joint (Flamingo Park). Scott Turner stated time trials will be held on June 2nd on Park Road for Badger State Games.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Grundemann/Larson to adjourn at 5:53 p.m. Questioned and carried.

Submitted by
Michelle Peter, Deputy Clerk