

Rib Mountain Park Commission
February 11, 2020
5:00 P.M.
Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Chairman Brad Conklin, Bill Bursaw, Chad Grundmann, Pete McCarthy, Marne' Bruner, and Jerry Muehlbauer

EXCUSED: Andrea Larson

GUESTS:

Also present was Street and Park Superintendent Scott Turner and Town Clerk Joanne Ruechel.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Bursaw/McCarthy to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2020 meeting. Questioned and carried 6:0.

Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson- Motion by Grundmann/Bruner to nominate Brad Conklin for Chairperson and Bill Bursaw for Vice-Chairperson. Chairman Conklin asked three times for nominations. Questioned and carried 6:0.

STREET AND PARK REPORT: Superintendent Turner stated that the winter recreation activities are going well. The Town has had to close the ice rink a few days due to weather conditions. The Commission discussed a bad smell and brown sludge that is coming from organic material in the ground under the ice rink. They have not found a solution to this issue yet.

Christian Koepke has agreed to return as the Summer Recreation Program Director. Superintendent Turner said that 2 of the 3 Summer Recreation employees will be returning in 2020.

The Wausau Noon Optimist youth fisheree that was scheduled for February 9, 2020, was canceled due to the ice not being safe. It has not been rescheduled at this time.

Chairman Conklin mentioned that he had a complaint about a snowmobiler at Doepke Park. Bill Bursaw said that he asked the State Park Wordens to watch for any snowmobilers at the Park, but he has not heard anything back yet. The Code Enforcement Officer for the Town will also keep a lookout for snowmobilers at the parks.

Superintendent Turner is putting up new signage at the Dog Park to remind people to clean up after their dogs. He is looking at getting some dumpsters that are on wheels to make it easier to take the dumpsters to the front of the park. There was also some minor vandalism that occurred recently at the park.

The Trillium Trail bids have been submitted and Superintendent Turner is waiting on the funds from the State. There will be parking available on Foxglove and Buttercup for people wishing to use the trail.

Comprehensive Plan Update- This item was removed from this agenda and will be presented at the meeting in March.

Rib Mountain State Park Master Plan Discussion: Bill Bursaw announced that he would be recusing himself from this discussion. Superintendent Turner mentioned that the Town will be submitting a letter to the DNR planner with the wishes of the Town. The Town is asking for more trails, ending the muzzleloader gun hunting in the Park, and bringing back camping to the Park. The Town Board also discussed where they would like to see trail connections in and around the Park. The Board also asked for more signage to make it easier for the residents to find the trails that lead into the Park.

Easter Egg Hunt Planning and Donation Requests: The Parks Commission discussed the letter that Street and Park Superintendent Turner put together seeking donations from various businesses. It was decided that the Park's Commission members would seek donations from the same businesses that they worked with last year. Pete McCarthy will be taking Dana Lahar's businesses. Marne' Bruner asked that the Commission members bring their donations to the next meeting. Superintendent Turner will be writing an article regarding the Easter egg hunt for the next Town Beat newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS:

Lions Club Park- Municipal Center- Superintendent Turner stated that the bid opening was completed and that the Lions Club wishes to move forward with the building of the garage. A memorandum of understanding will be signed soon by the Lions Club and the Town of Rib Mountain.

Tennis Court Repairs- No new information.

Liberty Park Improvements- disk golf- Chad Grundmann stated that he is still working on the plans. There is \$10,000 set aside in the budget for a disc golf course. The Commission would like to see a 9-hole disk golf course be placed at Liberty Park. There is a piece of land that the DOT owns and the Commission would like to use that land in the course as well. Chad Grundmann will be working to get prices for the equipment for the disk golf course.

Dog Park Phase II-Concept Planning- There are no new updates. Jerry Muehlbauer mentioned cutting down the dead trees along County Road R.

PARK PROJECT LIST- REVIEW AND DISCUSSION- Chairman Conklin asked if any Park Commission members have anything to add or delete from the list. He's going to look into simplifying the list.

PARK EXPENSE REPORT- The Parkland Fund balance was added to this report. Superintendent Turner reported the current fund balance totals.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS- Bill Bursaw stated that he is working with 5-6 Eagle Scouts for improvements at Rib Mountain State Park. He asked that any comments about the State Park be directed to him.

Jerry Muehlbauer spoke with Bill Bertram regarding placing a large sculpture on the Highway as you enter the Town of Rib Mountain.

Marne' Bruner stated that in May, Appleton is having a "No Mow May." They are letting the grass and weeds grow to help the bee population.

**ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bursaw/Conklin to adjourn. Questioned and carried 6:0.
Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.**