

**Rib Mountain Park Commission**  
**January 8, 2019**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Brad Conklin, Bill Bursaw, Jerry Muehlbauer, Dana Lahar, Andrea Larson, Chad Grundemann, Marne Bruner arrived at 5:05 p.m., Town Clerk Joanne Ruechel and Street/Park Superintendent Scott Turner.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Larson/Grundmann to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2018. Questioned and carried 6:0.**

**STREET & PARK REPORT**

- a. **Playground Equipment Signs-** Street and Parks Superintendent Turner looked into putting up signs at the playgrounds designed to inform people about the age groups that should be using the equipment. The City of Wausau recently began doing this. The signs are recommended, but not required. At this point, the Town will not be pursuing putting up signs at the playgrounds.
- b. **Doepke Ice Rinks-** Superintendent Turner stated that it does not look like the ice rinks will be opening soon as we need a layer of snow to make the base. Right now, there is no snow predicted in the near future for our area. We are still hoping to have the ice rinks open by the end of January. There was another ice rink attendant recently hired to help cover shifts if someone needs off or can't make it in.
- c. **Chellis Park Playground Equipment-** It was talked about that the playground equipment is old, but it still works. Superintendent Turned spoke with Lee Recreation Company and the next time that they have a representative in the area, they will stop and look at the playground equipment. The Commission discussed just replacing the swing set but letting the rest of the equipment alone for now. There was a discussion about adding an infant swing, ada swings and possibly a tetherball court. Superintendent Turner stated that he would speak to Lee Recreation Company and get price estimates.
- d. **Doepke Shelter Backstop Fence, Drinking Fountain and Gutters-** There's a backstop net that prevent baseballs from flying into the highway and Superintendent Turner is getting a price for a permanent chain link fence that would replace the net. He's going to compare the prices of each. The exterior drinking fountains at Doepke Park are in need of replacement. Superintendent Turner is looking at getting new drinking fountains and is hoping to use parkland funds to replace the fountains. He also mentioned putting new gutters on the shelter.

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF APPROVAL FOR SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM**

**DIRECTOR-** Last week, Administrator Rhoden and Superintendent Turner interviewed Kristin Senalik to become the new Summer Recreation Program Director. Kristen worked for the recreation program last year as the backup Director. The Commission was concerned about not giving the other

recreation program assistant a chance to apply for the job. Superintendent Turner stated that he would reach out to the former director Emily and the other employees to see if anyone is interested.

**Motion by Bursaw/Bruner to approve the hiring of Kristin Senalik. Motion failed on a vote 2:5**

**Motion by Grundmann/Larson to open up the job opportunity to other Summer Recreation Summer Assistant and if there is no interest in the job by the other Assistant, to then offer the job to Kristin Senalik. If there is interest, it would need to come back to the Parks Commission in February 2019. Questioned and carried 6:1.**

**DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR NUSIANCE GEESE AT ROOKERY PARK-** Superintendent Turned stated that last year there were a lot of complaints about the geese getting to be a nuisance. In the past, people have been feeding the geese and that is why they are going after people. Last year the Town adopted an Ordinance that stated that people cannot feed the wildlife and if they do, they could be cited. One option is to let the Fish and Wildlife Service remove the geese from the park altogether. This has not been a popular option with other municipalities. The Commission discussed that the best option was for people to not feed the geese and for the Town to enforce citations for those people who do feed the geese. Signs will also be placed at the park regarding not feeding the wildlife.

**Motion by Bruner/Laher to move forward with signage and with the Code Enforcement Officer enforcing the Ordinance. Questioned and carried 7:0.**

**DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR TOWN EASTER EGG HUNT-** The Commission discussed if we want to do an Easter egg hunt this year. It was very popular last year. The time of the Easter egg hunt and how to promote the event was also discussed. Marne Bruner volunteered to organize the event. It was decided to do the event Monday thru Saturday. The Commission decided to look at this item again next month.

**Motion by Larson/Conklin that we have a 2019 Town Easter Egg Hunt in our town parks with Marne Bruner acting as the director. Questioned and carried 7:0.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**LIBERTY PARK IMPROVEMENTS-** Superintendent Turned brought up possibly putting a disc golf course at Liberty Park. Chad Grundmann stated that he would get the sketch back out and get price quotes together. It was brought up that it might be an issue between the disk golfers and walkers on the trail. The Town Board also would like this park to be an access point to the water.

**ACCESSORY BUILDINGS AT TOWN PARKS-** No updates

**PARK PROJECT LIST** – Brad Conklin stated that he updated the listing and will be adding items to the list as needed. The Commission discussed having the tennis courts updated and possibly painting lines for pickleball inside the tennis courts.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT** – Superintendent Turner stated that we are in good shape financially. The dog park wages were over in 2018 and we still have some bills coming in from 2018.

**REPORTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS** – Grundmann mentioned that he had updated the information on Google about the dog park. The correct information does not show yet, but it may take awhile before Google is able to update it. The Commission also discussed that the dog park needs reviews added to the google site.

**ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bursaw/Bruner to adjourn. Questioned and carried 7:0.**  
**Meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.**

Submitted by  
Clerk Joanne Ruechel