

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

September 4, 2013

The Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, September 4, 2013 at 4:15 p.m. at the City Hall.

Members Present: Dan Novitch, Ralph Sturm, Dorwin Harris, Brian Artac, Melissa Schroeder

Members Excused Absent: Anne Caylor, Mike Willman

Department Staff Present: Dan Wendorf and Dawn Smith

Visitors: Dave Johnson and Candy Peterson

***Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Artac, to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

***Carried unanimously.

***Motion by Sturm, seconded by Harris, to approve the claims.

Sturm questioned the bill from Parisi Speed School. Wendorf explained that it was an addition on summer playground and it was paid for through Merrill Park and Recreation fees, than reimbursed to Parisi Speed School.

***Carried Unanimously.

The first item on the agenda was to revisit the parking at the MARC. Wendorf stated that he spoke with Merrill Pavers on what the cost would be to put a new drive way and some more parking stalls in along side the north side of the building by the storage shed. Wendorf stated that there would be extra 35 to 40 stalls added with the new parking lot. The cost from Merrill Pavers to complete the work would be around \$21,000. Wendorf also stated that it would be a one way drive in and than you would need to circle around and use the one way exit drive out. This would make in and out easier at the MARC. Harris questioned why we would not put the parking lot on the side where the soccer fields are and make the parking lot an area for only elderly and handicapped parking. After some discussion it was decided that Wendorf should come back to next months meeting on how much the cost would be from Merrill Street Department and Lincoln County to perform the work and to come in with some drawing on where the new parking lot would be most beneficial. Schroeder also requested that Wendorf bring in some funding options for the new parking lot. This agenda item will be placed on the October agenda.

The next item on the agenda was the pool location discussion continued. Wendorf stated that at the August meeting Sturm suggested putting the pool over by Lions Park by the southeast parking lot. Wendorf stated that he and Dave Johnson worked on a good location and setting for the pool and it was decided that they could utilize half the parking lot and some grass area to put the pool and none of the ball diamonds would be disturbed. Johnson stated that he reconfigured the pool but would have the same square footage as originally planned. Sturm and Harris were concerned with the dimension of the pool, stating the pool looks bigger than planned. Wendorf stated it was same size as indicated from previous plans and wanted to focus on location. Wendorf was asked to bring back the dimensions of the pool at next months meeting. Schroeder suggested that the final location for the pool should be made by Decembers meeting so that planning and fund raising can begin on the pool. Wendorf was asked to bring more information back to the October meeting regarding the pool.

***Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Sturm to eliminate Streeter Square and the MARC as locations for the future site of the Merrill Outdoor Pool.

***Sturm, Schroeder, Novitch, and Harris voted yes

***Artac opposed.

The next item on the agenda was preliminary discussion on Capital Equipment and Improvements. Novitch asked if Kathy Unertl would be giving us guidance and direction again on the budget. Johnson stated that you will be receiving the same budget as 2013; no changes will be made in the budget. Wendorf stated that he will be putting together a list of capital improvements for next months meeting and hopefully go over some of the budget if it will be prepared by then.

The next item on the agenda was monthly reports by Wendorf. Wendorf asked if anyone had any questions. Wendorf stated that the Labor Day celebration went good. Fair grounds was busy, car show turned out great and it seemed everyone had a good time. Wendorf also stated that the 1st annual Summer Stride went well, about 72 runners for the first year. Wendorf stated that our parks have been getting vandalized a lot and clean up and repairs and costing the department some money to fix. Wendorf stated that Kitchenette and Stanges have been getting vandalized the worst. Wendorf stated that he would also like to get Normal Park on the agenda so that planning can begin with the park. Wendorf would like to be able to start renting Normal Park instead of first come first serve basis.

***Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Artac to approve the monthly report.

***Carried Unanimously

The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2013 at 4:15 p.m.

No public comment. Sturm requested to see the concession contract between the City of Merrill and Merrill Youth Hockey. Wendorf stated that the contract would have to be done in closed session. Sturm stated that he would still like to see it. This agenda item will be on the October agenda in closed session. Schroeder questioned if all the vendors at the Labor Day Celebration needed to have proof of insurance. Wendorf stated they did, Schroeder feels there was one party down there who did not display proof of insurance, she explained to Wendorf in private who that party was.

***Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Artac, to adjourn at 5:40 p.m.

***Carried unanimously.

Dawn Smith
Recording Secretary