

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

April 11, 2018

The Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at 4:15 p.m. at the Merrill City Hall.

Members Present: Brian Artac, Dave Sukow, Jean Ravn, Joan Tabor, Melissa Schroeder, Mike Willman

Members Excused Absent: John Burgener

Department Staff Present: Dan Wendorf and Dawn Smith

Visitors: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Kyle Gulke, Erik Pfantz, Bill Heideman

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

Sukow stated that he would like to have minutes amended showing that he commented at the last meeting during public comment that he was concerned on where the Skate Board Park would be relocated since the commission has spent a lot of time and effort over the last 2 years trying to figure out a place where the skate board park could be relocated.

***Carried unanimously.

***Motion by Sukow, seconded by Ravn, to approve the claims from March 2018

Sukow asked about the payment for the 8.5 acres of alder if that was at the City Forest. Wendorf stated it was and that the State of Wisconsin DNR performed the work and Roughed Grouse Society paid 100% of the bill.

***Carried unanimously.

The first item on the agenda was to discuss potential Bike Route designations as alternative River Bend Trail routes at the following approximate locations. Cooper Street loop back to Park Street and Cooper Street extension to Park Street. Wendorf stated that speaking with the River Bend Trail people they would like to designate some streets to continue with the River Bend Trail. Wendorf stated that some signs could be made up to use for designation purposes. Cooper Street loop back to Park Street would be easy to set up for the bike route but Cooper Street extension to Pine Ridge Avenue would be a little more difficult because there is not side walk going all the way up to Pine Ridge Ave. Sukow stated that Wausau bike routes are right on the roads and people utilize them with much more traffic. Willman asked if any construction was planned for Hwy 64 in the upcoming year. City Administrator Dave Johnson stated that there was no construction planned at least for the next 5 years. Sukow stated that he would really like to see this bike route completed.

***Motion by Sukow, seconded by Artac to send the Bike Route designations as presented as alternative River Bend Trail. (Cooper Street loop back to Park Street and Cooper Street extension to Pine Ridge Avenue) to the Board of Public Works.

***Carried Unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to get permission to dispose of Water Wheel and miscellaneous items. Wendorf stated that they have been cleaning the storage shed out and there are a couple items that they do not use anymore. He will get the items to Dustin from the Street Department and they will place the items on the Wisconsin Surplus website.

***Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Ravn to dispose of water wheel and miscellaneous items.

***Carried Unanimously.

The next item on the agenda is monthly reports. Wendorf asked if anyone had any questions. Sukow stated that it was nice to see that we were working with schools on a grant for Athletic Park and questioned if we heard anything back from the grant. Wendorf stated that he has not heard anything back yet and is hoping to hear something by end of May. Wendorf stated that everything went good with the dog show this past weekend at the Smith Center. People were very happy with the facility. Easter Egg hunt went good and there was a great turn out. Sukow asked if there were any problems with the water at Normal Park this past winter with freezing. Wendorf stated it did freeze from 7th Street to the building but they fixed it fairly quickly. Wendorf stated that if the weather does not cooperate he might have to change the date for the Arbor Day planting but he will let everyone know ahead of time.

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

***Carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at 4:15 p.m. at the Merrill City Hall.

Public comment: none.

***Motion by Sukow, seconded by Ravn to adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

***Carried unanimously.

Dawn Smith
Recording Secretary