

CITY OF WISCONSIN RAPIDS
PARKS / RECREATION / BUILDINGS
444 West Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-2780, (715) 421-8240

Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes

June 10, 2019

The Parks & Recreation Commission met on Monday, June 10, 2019, at 4:00 p.m., in the third floor conference room at City Hall, Wisconsin Rapids, WI. (Meeting moved due to earlier meeting running late.)

Members in attendance were Kris Barteck, Craig Broeren, Tom Ekelin, Kelly Rosekrans, Lee Thao, and Mayor Vruwink via conference phone. Absent: Lee Graf, Derek Johnson, and Steven Koth. Staff attending were Dawn Desorcy, Joe Terry, and Mary Wolosek. Also in attendance were Jim Lucas, Sarah Salewski, Alderperson Scott Kellogg, and Alderperson Tom Rayome.

1. Call to order.

Commission Chairperson Rosekrans called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

2. Welcome new Commissioner Kris Barteck.

Members welcomed Kris to the Commission.

3. Approval of April 8, 2019, meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Thao, seconded by Commissioner Ekelin, to approve the minutes of April 8, 2019. Motion carried.

4. Election of officers.

Commissioner Broeren nominated Kelly Rosekrans for chairperson and requested that nominations be closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Kelly Rosekrans as chairperson. There being no objection, Rosekrans was voted Chairperson.

Commissioner Thao nominated Craig Broeren for Vice-Chairperson and requested that nominations be closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Craig Broeren as Vice-Chairperson. There being no objection, Broeren was voted Vice-Chairperson.

5. Election of Parks & Recreation Commission member to Planning Commission.

Commissioner Broeren nominated Lee Thao to be the Parks & Recreation Commission representative for Planning Commission and requested that nominations be closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Lee Thao as Parks & Recreation Commission representative on the Planning Commission. There being no objection, Thao was voted Planning Commission representative.

6. Consider a request from the Sculpture Park Committee for honorariums.

A motion was made by Mayor Vruwink, seconded by Commissioner Broeren, to approve a one-time honorarium in the amount of \$2,250 toward up to three (3) sculptures for one (1) year, and to strike for clarification Attachment B, Item 2, in the Sculpture Park Agreement. Sponsorship for additional sculptures may be sought for the other locations previously approved. The Sculpture Committee will continue to oversee the program in accordance with the lease. The City will establish standards for sculptures (materials, appropriateness, decency). Motion carried.

Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes

June 10, 2019

Page 2

7. Update on Wayfinding project.

Mayor Vruwink shared that the City issued a Request for Proposal for wayfinding navigational design for park, pedestrian, and trail system signs. Stakeholders, including the Convention and Visitor's Bureau, Chamber, County Health and Parks Departments and Ho Chunk have been brought into the discussion given the potential for branding and marketing of the network of parks and trails. There were ten (10) respondents, and, after narrowing down the responses, interviews are being held this week. Next steps include considering recommendation by the City's Finance Committee. A budget for sign implementation is included in the scope of this project.

8. Preliminary discussion on future of Dog Park.

Our lease with Advanced Disposal expires this year, and the City hopes to work with them on a temporary extension until another location can be identified. Dawn and Mayor met with a small group of dog park enthusiasts, and plan to develop a community survey this summer seeking input regarding amenities and locations.

9. Update on Youth Council Movie Night.

The Mayor's Youth Council is hosting movie night on July 18, beginning at 9:15 p.m. There is an online survey to choose the movie. This event is sponsored by McMillan Memorial Library, the Parks & Recreation Department, and the Mayor's Youth Council. The students are hoping this will be something fun to do over the summer and a way to engage youth and families.

10. Update on Aquatic Recreational Center.

There is a lot of activity at Chestnut and 8th Street, and the City is still actively fundraising. There are several naming opportunities available. The City has partnered with a contractor on this project, and have salvaged materials from the warming house and is working on sanitary storm and water service. On-site safety is a concern with access restricted to the construction site. Drone photos and regular updates will be shared by the City and Parks and Recreation Facebook pages. Programming, staffing, and promotion are all items being worked on, as this will be a very different facility from our previous swimming pools. We anticipate opening in spring of 2020, in time for summer swimming with final completion in the fall of 2020. Joe Terry will provide the preliminary calendar to staff and commission members.

11. Update on East Riverbank and Demitz Park improvements.

Restoration from flooding is nearly complete with the work covered by contractor insurance. No major damage occurred and riverbank stabilization/flood mitigation was effective. Landscaping and final completion to the project wrapped up in early June. Demitz Park exercise equipment and fall protection has been installed. Furnishings including picnic tables, trash receptacles, grills and benches will be installed this summer, along with a bicycle repair stand and pump. We strongly encourage the public to check out these renewed riverfront spaces!

Phase 2 for East Riverbank includes Veteran's Park and Mead Rapids View Park. Objectives include safety of the railing, as it has failed in many places and is not up to code in others, as well as addressing storm water erosion. The river wall will have a new concrete cap with a new to-code railing. Additional landscaping and trees will be installed in the park. Tuck-pointing may be done in the future as a standalone maintenance project next year. There will also be additional seating added for the benefit of special events, such as Lunch by the River.

Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes

June 10, 2019

Page 3

12. Update on Legion Park improvements.

Work is remaining that needs to be completed, but was delayed due to flooding in the area. Plan is for small performance stage with concrete work to prevent erosion and damage in the event of flooding in the future. We hope to look at this area later in the year.

13. Bills.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ekelin, seconded by Commissioner Thao, to approve the bills. Motion carried.

14. Staff reports.

Mary provided a written and verbal report.

15. Adjourn.

A motion was made by Commissioner Thao, seconded by Commissioner Barteck, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Dawn Desorcy, Recording Secretary