



Parks/Recreation/Buildings
444 West Grand Avenue
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes

March 9, 2020

The Parks & Recreation Commission met on Monday, March 9, 2020, at 4:00 p.m., in the first floor conference room at City Hall, 444 West Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids, WI.

Commission members in attendance: Kelly Rosecrans, Craig Broeren, Tom Ekelin,Carolynn Martin, and Lee Thao. Staff attending were Matt Heideman, Joe Terry, and Mary Wolosek. Also in attendance were Dennis Polach and Elizabeth Whelan.

1. **Call to Order.**
Commissioner Rosecrans called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. **Approve February 10, 2020 meeting minutes.**
A motion was made by Commissioner Broeren, seconded by Commissioner Thao, to approve the February 10, 2020, meeting minutes. Motion carried.
3. **Consider request for benches to be placed on the bike path that runs from the Zoo to Port Edwards.**
Replacement and additional benches will be placed in this area through the Parks & Recreation Celebration Bench program.
4. **Update on Bear Pen construction at the Zoo.**
As part of the master plan, the bear pen will be re-designed. The bear pen will be covered by a new roof top, black mesh fencing, and clearances, following state guidelines.
5. **Update on Witter Field improvements (Rafters).**
Restrooms at Witter Field are being updated, completed by spring. Commissioner Ekelin requests a referral for clarification of the Park & Recreation Commission's role regarding the financial process.
6. **Update on fence at Witter Field.**
Bids accepted for outfield safety net. The net will be elevated at the beginning of the season, and lowered at the end of the season.
7. **Update on Aquatic Recreational Center.**
The Commission will be taking a tour of the facility on Friday, March 13, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. Surrounding municipalities were sent an invitation to participate in the Aquatic Recreational Center as residents. Staff also presented a draft on the staffing needs of the Aquatic Recreational Center.
8. **Update on Urban Forestry Grant.**
One hundred trees from the DNR approved species list will be planted in Robinson Park and along the Expressway. Project to begin this spring and completed by fall.
9. **Bills.**
A motion was made by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Broeren, to approve the bills. Motion carried.
10. **Staff Reports.**
Mary provided a verbal report. Matt provided a verbal and written report.
11. **Adjourn.**
A motion was made by Commissioner Thao, seconded by Commissioner Broeren, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Mary Wolosek, Recording Secretary