

**PEQUOT LAKES PARK COMMISSION
THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2016
CITY HALL**

Members Present: Chair Ronning, Commissioners Adams, Bryan (arrived at 5:08 p.m.), Caouette, and Nagel

Members Absent: Commissioner Bruch

Also Present: Mike Loven, Public Works Supervisor; Mark Jurchen, Sibley Lake Association; and Dawn Bittner, Zoning Specialist

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Ronning called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

2. Consider Agenda

Dawn Bittner added Trailside Park Donation as Number 8.

Chair Ronning added the following under Other Business: Trailside Park flowers and plants, Bands in the Park information and miscellaneous follow-up items.

COMMISSIONER NAGEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

3. Park Commission Minutes

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE JUNE 9, 2016 PARK COMMISSION MINUTES. COMMISSIONER CAOUCETTE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

4. Sibley Lake Park Improvements

a. Stair Removal Update – Mark Jurchen

Mr. Jurchen informed the Park Commission the Lake Association has received the estimates that will cover the majority of the work. The lake association will provide the in-kind labor, as well as maybe some help from the City.

The estimate indicates \$11,600 to remove the steps below the old road bed, fill and install erosion control mat. Mr. Jurchen stated the project should begin in September/October and have the bulk of the work completed by November 15.

The Association does have money to contribute to the project, as the estimates do not include any seeds or plants.

Mr. Jurchen visited the park earlier in the day and stated the upper steps from the park to the old road bed are in fairly good condition and suggested some minor repair could be done to allow access from the park to the old road bed, the pathway to the new fishing pier location. These steps could be improved over time.

(Commissioner Bryan arrived at 5:08 p.m.)

Mr. Jurchen further stated the south end of the path could begin eroding with new foot traffic. Plantings could be used and leave that area natural. Earlier discussions included adding steps to access the south end; easier access to the path would be to use the existing steps at the top. Replacement of those steps in the future could cost between \$20,000 and \$30,000.

The majority of the work will be provided by Schrupp Excavating and the in-kind labor will be needed over a couple of weekends for planting of the shrubs and trees. The Park Commission will gather a list of volunteers. Chair Ronning reminded the Commission that the Lions Club has indicated they want to promote their group and may wish to volunteer.

b. Babinski Family Playground Dedication July 16

Commissioner Adams reminded the Commission the dedication is this coming Saturday at 2:00 p.m. and would appreciate their attendance. Community Action is coordinating the refreshments and providing the necessary items for the ribbon cutting.

5. Healthy Community Grant – Update

Dawn Bittner informed the Park Commission that the narrative due July 15 had been submitted, along with photos, the Mayo Park brochure with logos added and the newspaper article.

Dawn Bittner presented a photograph of the new Mayo Park directional sign which has been placed along Hurtig Road.

Commissioner Adams informed Mike Loven that a bench needs to be added by the climbing dome and updated the Commission that St. Croix Recreation donated 4 bike racks. The City has 2 Curly-Q bike racks. Mike Loven stated concrete will be placed under the benches, picnic table and bike racks; funds for the concrete will come from the grant. It was the consensus of the Park

Commission to place two of the new bike racks at Sibley Lake Park and one of the Curly-Q bike racks at the Mayo Lake Park by the parking lot. The two free bike racks from St. Croix Recreation can be used as in-kind and the Curly one can be in-kind from the City for the grant. The other two bike racks will be saved until a decision is made where to use them.

6. Park Commission Vacancy

Dawn Bittner provided Applications for Appointment to Boards or Commissions if any Commissioners had anyone in mind to fill the vacancy. The Park Commission would like to see the City Code changed to reflect anyone missing 3 meetings can be removed from the Park Commission. Dawn Bittner will confer with Nancy Malecha, City Administrator/Clerk.

7. Discover Rack Locations

Dawn Bittner informed the Park Commission that the Events Brochures are located at 31 local businesses, in addition to the 18 Discover rack locations.

Commissioner Adams asked if the calendar could be placed on the back of the brochure next year rather than on the inside. The brochure needs to be opened to view the events.

8. Trailside Park Donation

Chair Ronning explained the City has been notified an anonymous donor wishes to donate \$250,000 for the creation of a State Flag Display and a splash park at Trailside Park.

The Park Commission unanimously supports the City Council's acceptance of this money for the State Flag Display and splash park for Trailside Park.

Commissioner Adams informed Mike Loven that Royalton used under 1.4 million gallons of water last year for their splash park.

9. Other Business

Trailside Park Flowers & Plants:

Chair Ronning recently learned that area churches had maintained the gardens in the south end of Trailside Park and wondered if the churches could be contacted again to maintain them. Commission Members explained many of the church volunteers are elderly and unable to do the maintenance. Discussion included replanting with maintenance free shrubs and adding mulch. This may be a moot point as the area may be a flag display in the future.

Bands in the Park Information:

Commissioner Adams stated she contacts the bands in advance and sends the information into the newspaper; this provides more publicity. A band recently cancelled their appearance due to a family emergency; this is the first time a band has cancelled.

Follow up:

Chair Ronning inquired how the hot dog sales had been for the Pet Parade; proceeds were to raise money for trees at the Dog Park. Commissioner Adams stated the funds raised would have paid for 1 tree. The Wilson's were contacted and they may use the funds for another project at the Dog Park.

Commissioner Adams stated Dr. Deb Brown from Pequot Animal Hospital has offered to donate doggy bags for the Dog Park.

Mike Loven reported that the Dog Park in Motley has silhouettes all around the fencing making it very visible.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, **COMMISSIONER ADAMS MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER NAGEL SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist