

**PEQUOT LAKES PARK COMMISSION
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2016
CITY HALL**

Members Present: Chair Ronning, Commissioners Adams, Bruch, Bryan, Nagel

Members Absent: Commissioner Caouette

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 5:00 p.m.

2. Consider Agenda

Chair Ronning added Update on Sibley Lake Park by Mark Jurchen.

COMMISSIONER NAGEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER BRUCH SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

3. Park Commission Minutes

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 11, 2016 PARK COMMISSION MINUTES. COMMISSIONER BRUCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

4. Sibley Lake Park Update

Mr. Jurchen stated there has been no work done over the summer; the amount of rain received would have had negative results. They have received the necessary permits and have decided to leave the steps at the top for access to the walking path. That area will need to be repaired so it doesn't erode further. This area will need to be included on an Agenda in a couple of years to replace the steps. This fall the bottom steps will be removed, grass will be planted, fill will be added where necessary, rock placed on the path and erosion on the top steps will be repaired.

The Association is finishing the water quality testing. The results were getting better until the large rains which prove the watershed is causing the problem. Mr. Jurchen would like to be included on an upcoming Agenda to discuss the results of the testing.

When asked if they needed help with labor, Mr. Jurchen stated the work being done this fall is contracted with Schrupp Excavating. Volunteer labor will be needed next spring.

5. Skateboard Park Letter

Dawn Bittner read a letter the Mayor received from Jack Martin requesting a Skateboard Park. Commission Adams stated she had received a request from Cindy Couture's son and planned to meet with him next week. She further stated she had met with a group of kids a few years ago that wanted a skate park. She asked them to provide a business plan, a design and how they planned to raise funds for a skate park. They didn't contact her again. Commissioner Adams suggested Gildner Park; it is an underutilized park and kids can get there on their bikes. Staff will need to review the donation to see if there are any restrictions. There is a need for 8 to 15 year old children.

Chair Ronning stated Cooper Andersen had suggested a BMX bike track also. He further noted we should talk to Crosby to see what their rules are, etc. Dawn Bittner stated Nancy Malecha planned to contact the Crosby Clerk to collect more information.

Chair Ronning will contact Jack Martin regarding his letter. He and Commissioner Adams will contact the kids who have shown interest and schedule a meeting in the next couple of weeks.

6. Bobber Park Water Tower

Mike Loven informed the Commission that the lights were turned on after the last meeting. The Commission members had not noticed if they were on or not. Mike Loven stated the timer is set for them to come on at dusk and to go off at either 10:00 PM or midnight. The Commission Members were asked to determine if the lights are on or not and report their findings.

It was agreed that the Bobber is our brand and the lights need to be kept on if the cost is reasonable.

7. Park Bench Donation/Memorial Wall

Dawn Bittner explained she had been contacted again by the gentleman who had suggested the park bench donation or memorial wall. Mike Loven had received a rough estimate on costs for the plaques and lettering. 6" X 6" or 3" X 10" plaques made of chrome, aluminum or silver would cost approximately \$10 each, plus 10 cents per letter. A bronze plaque would cost approximately \$90, plus lettering.

He also noted that the benches by the Historical Museum are routed. The Commission Members concurred plaques would look nicer.

The Commission Members discussed if this was the time to ask the City Council's permission to move forward. It was decided to collect more information and receive a firm quote from GLS on the plaques. They decided to use the 3" X 10" size and the plaques would honor someone. The cost could be a \$100 or \$150 donation to the Park Commission plus the cost of their sign.

Staff was directed to create a draft form and receive a quote and bring back next month. People could make a donation to the Park Fund to support City parks, options \$250, \$500 or \$1,000 donations and would receive a plaque. This would not be soliciting money; it would be a donation. Staff would need to determine what funds the money could be used for.

Plaques would be "In Honor Of" or "In Memory Of" an individual. Only one plaque per bench.

8. Healthy Community Grant

Chair Ronning reported he and Commissioner Adams and City Staff met with Cassie Carey from Crow Wing Energized for the site visit that was part of the grant the City received for Sibley Lake Park and Mayo Lake Nature Preserve. Everything went well.

Dawn Bittner passed out the draft brochure and explained Crow Wing Energized offered to help with the graphics for the brochure. The map needs to be replaced.

The Park Commission concurred it would be nice to have something in Sibley Lake Park denoting the historical aspects of that area, such as being an early travel route.

9. Dog Park

\$140 was raised by Community Action during the Pet Parade for a tree. The individuals who use the park would also like another bench. Community Action will order the tree and supply the material for the bench. The Public Works Department will build the bench.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPT THE DONATION OF A TREE AND A BENCH FROM COMMUNITY ACTION OF PEQUOT LAKES FOR THE DOG PARK. COMMISSIONER NAGEL SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED. 5-0.

10. Park Commission Vacancy

Dawn Bittner informed the Commissioners that an application had been received to fill the Park Commission vacancy from Heather Pearson.

COMMISSIONER BRYAN MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL APPOINT HEATHER PEARSON TO THE PARK COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER BRUCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED. 5-0.

Chair Ronning noted Commissioner Caouette was absent again.

10. Other Business

The October meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist