

**PEQUOT LAKES PARK COMMISSION
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2016
CITY HALL**

Members Present: Chair Ronning, Commissioners Adams, Bruch, Bryan, Caouette, and Pearson

Members Absent: Commissioner Nagel

Also Present: Mike Loven, Public Works Supervisor; 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

Commissioner Adams added "Art in the Park Art Show", proposal from High School Art Teacher, as Number 9.

Chair Ronning added "Water Tower Lights" under Other Business.

COMMISSIONER BRUCH MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER BRYAN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

3. Park Commission Minutes

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 13, 2016, PARK COMMISSION MINUTES. COMMISSIONER BRUCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

4. Park Bench Donation/Memorial Wall

Chair Ronning and Commissioner Adams developed a proposal for requesting a memorial plaque on a bench. The plaques would be 3" X 10" made of brass; these would look nice and be long lasting. They presented 2 options:

- Option One: Community Action of Pequot Lakes (CAPL) will be in charge of this program. The City will refer requests for a plaque to CAPL. CAPL will charge approximately \$250 for the plaque, with any extra money going into a savings account labeled "Park Funds" to be dispersed when appropriate. CAPL is a 501.c3, allowing gifts to be deducted by the donor.
- Option Two: The City will be in charge of this program. The fee would be \$100 for the brass plaque and \$50 for installation, a total of \$150. On the

sign-up sheet, there will be an option for making an additional donation to the Parks. The City will order and install the plaque.

When all benches have a plaque attached, new benches will be built with the requesting party paying not only for the plaque, but for the bench. Chair Ronning and Commissioner Adams recommend Option One be selected.

When asked, Commissioner Adams stated CAPL will order and install the plaques.

Chair Ronning stated the main difference in the two options is that CAPL can solicit funds.

When asked who makes the decision on when and where the funds are spent, Commissioner Adams stated it would be CAPL. Dawn Bittner reminded the Commission that a recommendation needs to be made to the City Council; the Council makes the decision on how the funds are spent. Commissioner Adams stated CAPL would make a donation to the City and request the funds go to a certain project.

Commissioner Pearson asked if people will be aware that part of the \$250 in Option One will be spent on other projects.

Dawn Bittner pointed out that someone who spent \$250 for a plaque, may point out that the plaque doesn't look like a \$250 plaque. How will we explain that only "X" was spent on a plaque and the remainder was placed in a Park Fund. Commissioner Pearson stated people could have an issue with this.

Chair Ronning pointed out if someone is interested in a plaque, the cost won't be an issue.

It was the consensus of the Park Commission that the City should not be burdened with this project.

COMMISSIONER BRUCH MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE OPTION ONE FOR PARK BENCH MEMORIAL PLAQUES. COMMISSIONER BRYAN SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 6-0.

5. Skateboard Park

Chair Ronning and Commissioner Adams met with the students that had contacted the City with 4 families represented at the meeting. The kids were very enthusiastic, but were told this will be a long process and it will not happen tomorrow. The general consensus for size was 100' X 100'. The City Hall

parking lot was suggested as a location as it would show passing traffic Pequot Lakes is a family friendly environment. Other locations discussed was Gildner Park, Sibley Lake Park, Baptist Church (isolated), Gloria Dei Church and Grace United Methodist Church (out of the way). The kids would like it centrally located. It would need to be constructed of cement, although nature would be attractive. Each parent took an assignment and they will meet in January for a second meeting.

The next steps will be to get more people involved and collect ideas about location, fundraisers and donations.

6. Mayor's Monarch Pledge

Dawn Bittner reported she had done more research into the Mayor's Monarch Pledge. Once the Pledge is taken, there are specific actions that need to take place, as well as quarterly reporting. To provide the plants/plugs would be expensive for the City. Alternative actions could replace the Pledge with successful outcomes.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MOVED TO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE MAYOR'S MONARCH PLEDGE AND THE CITY WILL PROMOTE ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS TO ESTABLISH MONARCH HABITAT. COMMISSIONER BRUCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

7. Winter Park Commission Meetings

Dawn Bittner noted the Park Commission did not meet in January and February and asked what the Commissioners would like to do in 2017. It was the general consensus of the Park Commission to meet in January and February, 2017, due to implementation of the Master Trailside Park Plan and the Thriving Communities Initiative.

8. Santa's Bobbin Into Town

Mike Loven stated the trees from last year are stored in the back. Chair Ronning had an inflatable Santa and Commissioner Bruch had the equipment to run the lights. Chair Ronning has a trailer that could be used, as well as Commissioner Bruch's neighbor. The float will be decorated after the December Park Commission meeting.

9. Art In The Park Art Show

Commissioner Adams met with the High School Art Teacher who would like to have student art out in the community. She suggested having paintings along the DNR Trail during the months of June, July and August, maybe September, 2017. The Industrial Arts students would build the signs and the Art Students would paint the signs, with paintings on both sides. The paintings would be painted with acrylic paint and sprayed so they would last the summer. They

could be staggered along the trail between East Woodman Street and East Sibley Street; there would be approximately 20 signs. There would be a brochure designed by the Graphic Art Department explaining the art. The materials would cost approximately \$3,000 and Commissioner Adams will help write for a grant.

Mike Loven noted that the signs would need to be 16 feet off the trail and be kept out of sprinkler areas so there are no dead spots. Commissioner Pearson noted the signs may be in the way for the vendor booths for Market in the Park.

Mike Loven suggested the signs could be placed along the Walking Path instead. There would be no DNR right-of-way issues or bike traffic to contend with.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL WORK WITH THE ART DEPARTMENT TO SUPPORT ART IN THE PARK THE SUMMER OF 2017. THE PARK COMMISSION SUPPORTS THIS ENDEAVOR ALONG THE WALKING PATH. COMMISSIONER CAQUETTE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 6-0.

10. Other Business

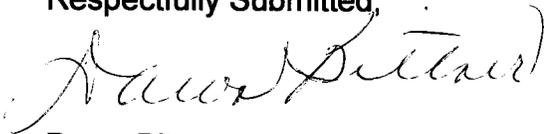
Chair Ronning noted the Water Tower lights are on. He asked Mike Loven if the timer could be adjusted so the lights would come on at 5:00 or 5:30 p.m. and turn off at 10:00 p.m. Mr. Loven stated he would have the timer changed.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, **COMISSIONER BRUCH MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMISSIONER CAQUETTE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist