

**PEQUOT LAKES PARK COMMISSION
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2013
CITY HALL**

Members Present: Chair Malecha, Commissioners Nagel, Gibbons, and Ettesvold

Members Absent: Commissioner Bruch

Also Present: Nancy Malecha, Finance Administrator/Deputy City Clerk; Mike Loven, Public Works Supervisor; Council Member Gardner; and Mayor Adams

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Malecha called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

2. Consider Agenda

COMMISSIONER NAGEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. COMMISSIONER GIBBONS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

3. Park Commission Minutes

COMMISSIONER GIBBONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE 10/10/2013 PARK COMMISSION MINUTES. COMMISSIONER NAGEL SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

4. Splash Park

Chair Malecha updated the Commission that due to high water consumption on the original splash park plan, the project will be downsized. She indicated that Superior Plumbing has agreed to offer their services pro-bono and Water Wars will donate their new game. Chair Malecha will send out letters of intent to select businesses this week. She stated that due to the downsized splash park, the new idea would be to create a playground and splash park at the same time as a total concept plan.

Commissioner Nagel stated that he has received positive feedback on the splash park idea. He was shocked at the water usage numbers for the original plan and the downsized splash park will have manageable water usage.

Commissioner Ettesvold arrived at the meeting.

5. Sibley Lake Park

Mike Loven informed the Commission that a proposal was received from Widseth Smith Nolting to map Sibley Lake Park. This map would incorporate the whole park and it would show definitions of terrain, boundaries, and elevations. Mr.

Loven indicated that the cost would be \$1,900 of which \$1,600 could come from the park budget and \$300 could come from the roads and streets budget.

COMMISSIONER NAGEL MOVED TO ACCEPT THE SIBLEY LAKE PARK MAPPING PROPOSAL FROM WSN FOR \$1,900 TO BE PAID FROM THE PARK AND ROADS & STREETS BUDGETS. COMMISSIONER GIBBONS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

6. Dog Park

Per the City Council's direction, the Commission discussed other locations for the dog park which included areas by the City's water plant, water tower, and Mayo Lake Nature Preserve. Mike Loven had a concern with the water plant location because it will be affected by the future Highway 371 realignment.

Commissioner Nagel stated that the Mayo Lake Nature Preserve location would be nice for water dogs. Council Member Gardner preferred that the dog park remain in town. Commissioner Gibbons liked the water tower location. Mayor Adams noted that she just returned from New York and the proposed dog park at Sibley Lake Park is big in comparison to New York's dog park. The consensus of the Park Commission was to visit the other sites before a proposal is re-submitted to the City Council.

7. Mayo Lake Nature Preserve

Mike Loven informed the Commission that a request was received from a private individual who would like to cut wood in the Mayo Lake Nature Preserve. Mr. Loven stated that he is not in favor of allowing this due to regulation, safety, and training concerns. He also noted that weekend regulating would be difficult and this is not allowed in any other City parks. The consensus of the Commission was to deny this request.

Mayor Adams discussed the possibility of logging in parts of the park with DNR oversight. She noted that this could bring in additional revenue for the City. Mayor Adams stated that the Park Commission members should review the Forest Management Plan for the Mayo Lake Nature Preserve which is located on the City's website.

8. Other Business

The playground system, lighting, vandalism, and attracting people to Sibley Lake Park were discussed. Commissioner Ettesvold stated that the Commission needs to go back to the original idea of creating the dog park at Sibley Lake Park to attract people to this park. It was noted that the City Council did not like the size of the dog park proposed. Council Member Gardner stated that it is better to start small with the dog park to see how much it is used versus starting too big. Chair Malecha stated that she likes the dog park at Sibley Lake Park because it would get people to use this park. Mike Loven stated that putting the fence on

lakeside property is a deterrent and in order to use the park's steps you must go around the dog park fence. Commissioner Nagel asked if the playground equipment and the dog park could flip-flop locations at the Park because the north side is deeper with less trees. The consensus of the Park Commission was to move forward with the idea of moving the playground equipment to the south side and the dog park to the north side of Sibley Lake Park. Commissioner Gibbons and Council Member Gardner will visit the park to see if this is a viable option and if so, Council Member Gardner will recommend this to the City Council at their next meeting.

Commissioner Ettesvold informed the Commission that she has contacted the Build Your Own Playground Company and they will send an estimate for a playground in the Trailside Park. She also noted that her friends may be interested in spearheading this project.

Mayor Adams stated that the Park Commission will need to present a drawing and conceptual plan of the Trailside Park additions to the City Council.

Chair Malecha stated that a vice chair should be appointed to fill in during her absence. **COMMISSIONER ETTESVOLD MOVED TO APPOINT JOSH GIBBONS AS THE VICE CHAIR FOR THE PARK COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER NAGEL SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**

Chair Malecha inquired if the Park Commission needed to meet in January and February. The consensus of the Commission was to continue with scheduled meetings as long as a quorum is able to be present.

9. Adjournment

COMMISSIONER ETTESVOLD MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER NAGEL SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Malecha
Finance Administrator/Deputy City Clerk