

**PEQUOT LAKES PARK COMMISSION
THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016
CITY HALL**

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

Members Absent: Commissioners Caouette and Nordby.

Also Present: Mark Jurchen and Dave Lind, Sibley Lake Association; and Dawn Bittner, Zoning Specialist

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Ronning called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

2. Consider Agenda

Commissioner Adams asked to add Sibley Lake Park Playground Ribbon Cutting and Bands in the Park to the Agenda.

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 APRIL 14, 2016, PARK COMMISSION MINUTES. COMMISSIONER BRUCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

4. Sibley Lake Park Improvements

Playground Update:

Commissioner Adams reported the installation of the new playground went well, despite the weather. She has sent photos to Nancy Vogt at the Echo. Cemstone donated all of the cement for the project.

The climbing dome needs to have a border installed and the Babinski Family has agreed to pay for it; it should arrive in about 10 days. Commissioner Adams will meet with the Babinski Family to choose a date for the ribbon cutting and playground dedication. The sign should be similar to the one at Trailside Park with input from the Babinski Family. The sign will be a City cost.

Commissioner Adams noted it would be nice to have the picnic shelter stained prior to the ribbon cutting. Teen Challenge may be able to do the staining.

There are 5 gallons of stain left from the Library. It would also be nice if the park could be raked prior to the ribbon cutting. Commissioner Adams will discuss these items with City Administrator Malecha.

Commissioner Adams will write the thank you notes to Cemstone for the cement and Jeremy Fyle for the portable restroom.

An option for improved lighting could include a metal cage to reduce broken bulbs. This will be discussed when lighting improvements are discussed at a later date.

Invitations should be sent out for the ribbon cutting to the Park Commission, Planning Commission and City Council. Refreshments should be served, such as cookies, brownies and punch. Community Action may coordinate this with the City.

Sibley Lake Association Update:

Mark Jurchen and Dave Lind were present to explain the \$22,000 grant received to remove the steps at Sibley Lake Park and revegetate the hillside to reduce runoff. There are also areas along the pathway that will need erosion control work. Mr. Jurchen emphasized the need for in-kind labor. Mr. Jurchen and Mr. Lind will Chair this restoration project.

The Park Commission thanked them for all of their work.

5. Mayo Lake Park

Dawn Bittner stated the Public Works Department has not had the opportunity to brush the trails yet.

Commissioner Adams reported the article on Mayo Lake Park is in an insert in the Echo this week.

6. Healthy Community Grant

Commissioner Adams and Dawn Bittner reported on their testimony May 10 explaining what the grant funds would be used for if they were received. The City will be notified May 17 of their decision.

Commissioner Adams stated the City should consider putting a bike/walking path on West Sibley Street this year when it is repaved. The parks need to be connected and people walk West Sibley Street often. It was the consensus of the Park Commission for Chair Ronning to contact City Administrator Malecha to

be placed on the upcoming June City Council Agenda to request the path be considered.

7. St. Croix Recreation

Commissioner Adams explained Chris Johnson had offered free equipment for our parks, such as a water fountain, bike racks and picnic table. Shipping would also be free.

The consensus of the Park Commission was:

- Accept the water fountain for Trailside Park;
- Wait to make a decision on the bike racks and picnic table until after we receive the decision on the Health Community Grant.

Dawn Bittner reported Mike Loven's concerns with vandalism and maintenance regarding the water fountain.

8. Bands in the Park

Commissioner Adams explained the Bands in the Park is not advertised and promoted enough. She suggested each band be contacted to collect additional information and place a promotional piece in the Echo where other happenings are advertised weekly. The Park Commission should do this as City Staff does not have the time. Radio advertising could also be an option as the concerts are free it could be a free public service announcement.

She also suggested collecting 3 reviews each week and submitting them to City Hall. City Staff could consider the reviews when booking the bands for next summer. It was the consensus of the Park Commission to look over the reviews at their November meeting and make a recommendation to Staff.

Business sponsorship could be an option to raise additional funds for the bands.

In the event of rain the concerts will be held at Grace United Methodist Church. The rain location needs to be included in the advertising.

9. Other Business

Denise from the Pequot Lakes/Breezy Point Lions Club has indicated the Lions are interested in promoting their group and are interested to work with the City on future projects.

Money raised from the sale of hot dogs at the Pet Parade will go toward trees at the Dog Park.

Dawn Bittner was directed to provide a list of the Discover Rack locations next month.

Commissioner Bruch inquired if the City had reached out to the family of Faye Tweed, former Park Commission Chair, after her passing. Bittner stated the City Administrator had sent a note.

Chair Ronning will contact Commissioner Nordby to see what her plans are regarding membership on the Park Commission.

11. Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist