

**PEQUOT LAKES PARK COMMISSION  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2020  
CITY HALL**

Members Present: Chair Ronning, Commissioners Boucher, Churack, Johnson, Melby, Sjoblad, and Schweinler

Members Absent: none

Also Present: Dawn Bittner, Zoning Specialist; Jack Schmidt, guest; and Nancy Malecha, City Administrator

1. Call Meeting to Order

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

2. Elect Chair and Vice Chair

Commissioner Churack nominated Dan Ronning for Chair and Commissioner Sjoblad nominated Kent Johnson for Vice Chair.

3. Consider Agenda

**COMMISSIONER JOHNSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER MELBY SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.**

4. Park Commission Minutes

**COMMISSIONER SJOBLAD MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 14, 2019, PARK COMMISSION MINUTES AS READ. COMMISSIONER CHURACK SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.**

5. Trailside Park Veterans Memorial Walkway – Update

Chair Ronning gave a history of the possibility of extending the walkway to the Paul Bunyan Trail. The DNR has been contacted and they did respond with a few options for the walkway that does not connect to the Paul Bunyan Trail. Chair Ronning presented the options to the Commission.

Discussion ensued regarding the options for a purposeful design, adding new flags, economic value, accessibility from Paul Bunyan Trail, and what can be done in the trail right-of-way.

6. Project Priorities / Capital Improvement Plan / Budget

Ms. Malecha presented the project priorities for the Park Commission. Discussion ensued regarding options and finalizing the project priorities for 2020.

1. Trailside Park

- a. Install splash pad on north side
- b. Work with the Bean Hole Days Committee to improve the Bean Hole pot area
- c. Install electrical outlets along Government Drive for holiday decorating
- d. Improve the parking lot by the playground

2. Dog Park

- a. Add silhouettes
- b. Add trees

7. Splash Pad

Chair Ronning gave a history, possible design and price of a splash pad. Ms. Malecha stated she and Jason Gorr visited the Deerwood splash pad in September so they could see how it worked. Discussion ensued regarding moving forward with building the splash pad. General consensus is to move forward with plans for the splash pad.

8. American Flag Light

Chair Ronning gave a background on the light for the American Flag in the Trailside Park flag display. Ms. Bittner stated the Planning & Zoning Commission is discussing a possible amendment for allowing upward lighting in the Public Property at their next meeting on January 16, 2020. Discussion ensued regarding upward lighting and the lighting of the American Flag. Park Commission members will attend the Planning & Zoning commission meeting.

9. Santa's Bobbin into Town Parade Float – Recap

Chair Ronning stated the parade float won first place. First place received a trophy and \$100. Discussion ensued regarding decorating the float, improvements, and/or changes for next year.

10. Quarterly Budget Information

Ms. Malecha gave an overview of the budget for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2019. Ms. Malecha also gave an overview of the 2020 budget. Ms. Malecha explained the City Council earmarked \$11,000 from the Excel Energy Franchise fees to the Park Board in 2020.

11. Next Meeting

Chair Ronning asked the commission for attendance for the February 13, 2020 meeting. All members present will attend.

12. Other Business

Ms. Bittner stated that Park Board received 2 donations in memory of Sal Peterson and 1 from Community Action.

Discussion ensued regarding when the lights in Trailside Park should be turned off. Consensus was lights should be in conjunction with the City lights.

Chair Ronning stated that Katie Wasserman from the Chamber has benches that can be placed in the "bump" out areas of the flag display at Trailside Park.

Chair Ronning would like to see an official lighting ceremony for the Trailside Park lights in 2020.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, **COMMISSIONER JOHNSON MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER CHURACK SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Peterson  
Administrative Assistant