

**PEQUOT LAKES PARK COMMISSION
MINUTES
THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2022
CITY HALL**

Members Present: Chair Johnson, Commissioners Boucher, Churack, Clement, Lind, and Moeller

Members Absent: Commissioner Melby

Also Present: Angie Duus, City Clerk/Treasurer; Nick Roy, Public Works Lead; Tim Houle, City Engineer; Cheri Seils, Council Liaison, and Jenni Gonczy, Splash Pad Committee

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Consider Agenda

COMMISSIONER CLEMENT MOVED TO APPROVED THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER LIND SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

3. Park Commission Minutes

COMMISSIONER LIND MOVED TO APPROVE THE MAY 12, 2022; PARK COMMISSION MINUTES AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER CLEMENT SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

4. Splash Pad Fundraising Update

Jenni Gonczy gave an update on the fundraising efforts:

Cash in hand \$93,651; total funds \$149,929.

Ms. Gonczy stated that they are going to continue fundraising. She stated there are six slats sold for the benches.

Discussion ensued about the location of the top of the splash pad bobber.

Nick Roy stated that he is waiting on a call from Schrupp Excavating to determine when the splash pad construction will begin. He also stated that they are going to have issues with the power line therefore it will be moved a little bit northeast, and that will make it closer to the path in the park.

COMMISSIONER LIND MOVED TO APPROVE THE TOP OF THE SPLASHPAD BOBBER TO BUMP UP TO THE EXISTING FOOTPATH. COMMISSIONER CHURACK SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

5. Outdoor Recreation Grant Program

Tim Houle presented the MN DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant Program to the Park Commission. He explained the Widseth gave the Council a proposal to apply for this grant to help with improvements to Trailside Park. He stated there needs to be a primary improvement that is part of the application and then there can be some secondary improvements. He listed the primary improvements listed in the program manual. He talked about current amenities in the park and potential improvements that have been mentioned. Mr. Houle stated that bathrooms could be a secondary improvement.

He said the application deadline is March 31st and the application should include concept sketches and estimated costs. He stated that if the application was awarded the City would find out by the end of the year and the money would be available the next construction season. He explained it is a 50% grant with a \$300,000 maximum award and the City would be responsible for the other \$300,000. Mr. Houle also stated that there are in-kind donations that can be used towards the dollar amount as well. Discussion ensued about using the grant for other parks compared to Trailside Park.

COMMISSIONER CLEMENT MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPLY FOR THE OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT FOR A PICNIC SHELTER AS THE PRIMARY IMPROVEMENT, A BATHROOM AND POTENTIALLY A PARKING LOT FOR THE SECONDARY IMPROVEMENTS. COMMISSIONER CHURACK SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

6. General Parks Update

Angie Duus informed the Park Commission that the rain out shelter for the Bands in the Park will be at Our Saviors Lutheran Church. She also said they sent an email stating they are completing their picnic shelter and that would be available if need as well. She asked the commission members to sign up to volunteer for each of the Bands in the Park and if there are any missing slots to email Jenny Peterson to fill them. Chair Johnson explained as a volunteer they are to go to the popcorn trailer to get surveys to obtain the crowds thoughts on the bands. He also asked the members to try to get there early to help the band with any potential questions. Ms. Duus also asked them to get pictures of the crowds with the bands for the City website.

Ms. Duus stated the City received an email for an Eagle Scout group about building benches to put in Trailside park. Discussion ensued about the benches that will go in relating to the donations for the splash pad and the Park Commission asked City Staff to contact the scouts about building benches for Gildner Park. Chair Johnson stated that it is not a no in Trailside Park but it can be evaluated after the benches for the splash pad are done.

Nick Roy updated the Commission on the status of the parks in the City. He stated lime is needed for the soil and weeds in Gildner Park. He said Trailside Park's band shell siding and rails needs repairing and they are having issues with vandalism. He said he ordered path lighting for \$2,900 and they will sand and paint the bases. He said it will be about \$2,800 for electrical work.

Mr. Roy said the cement path around the Chamber building needs to be repaired. He recommended the community sign be upgraded to a digital sign and he would like to see some landscaping done around the Chamber flag. He stated the new chair and benches should be done in the fall for Bobber Park. Discussion ensued about standing water in the Bobber Park and possible repairs for the pad to alleviate the water issue.

He said improvements to Sibley bathrooms would be great and the steps will be removed. He stated Paul Park in Trailside Estates could use a new tree as there is a dead one currently and they would like to install cement under the dog park benches. He also stated there is a dead tree in the dog park.

7. Capital Improvement Plan

Discussion ensued about that the majority have been gone through with Mr. Roy's update and most of 2022 projects are being worked on.

8. Franchise Fees – 1st Quarter Allocation

The Park's consensus was to save the 2022 franchise fees towards the outdoor recreation grant.

9. Next Meeting – July 14, 2022

Chair Johnson stated the next meeting is on July 14, 2022.

10. Other Business

There was no other business.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, **COMMISSIONER CLEMENT MOVED TO s
ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER CHURACK SECONDED THE
MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Angie Duus
City Clerk/Treasurer