

January 17, 2023 City of Washburn Parks Committee Meeting Minutes
5:30 PM Washburn City Hall and Virtual
Members Present: Jennifer Maziasz (Council Rep), Angel Croll, Susan Hall
Jeremy Oswald, Erika Lang
Municipal Personnel Present: Tony Janisch, Asst. City Administrator, Gerald Schuette,
Director of Public Works
Absent: None

Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM. Five (5) of five (5) members are present; quorum is recognized.

Approval of December 20, 2022 & January 10, 2023 Parks Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion made to approve Park Committee minutes of December 20, 2022 by Oswald, second by Lang; Minutes approved unanimously. Motion made to approve Park Committee minutes of January 10, 2023 by Hall, second by Maziasz; Minutes approved unanimously.

Updates from Public Works Department - Public Works Director Gerry Schuette & Asst. Administrator Tony Janisch provided the following updates:

- Ice rink opened on Friday (1/13) but closed on Monday (1/16) due to the weather conditions.
- Updated electrical wiring and LED lighting at ice rink complete.
- In process of contracting out Memorial Park men's bathroom tile upgrade.
- City Council approved to seek the Vibrant Spaces Grant from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp. to build a band stage and bathroom at Wikdal Park. Grant amount is \$50,000 with a 50-50 match. The estimated cost for improvements is \$140,000. Maziasz urged members to listen to Council meeting recording for details regarding use of Park Designated Funds and location. Application is due end of January.
- City may be applying (through Wisconsin Emergency Management) for FEMA funds to address shoreline erosion at Memorial Park. Cost share/city match is 12.5%; estimated cost is \$110,000.
- Seasonal camping reservation applications have been mailed; new rates reflect a \$500 increase.

Update on Implementation of the Walking Trail Land Management Plan & WI Coastal Management Grant

- Lang: 2022 Coastal grant provides funding for additional signs.
- Janisch: coordinating with Jamey Ritter for final design of trailhead entrance signs.
- 2023 is the year to update the Walking Trail Land Management Plan; potentially beginning in March.
- Outdoor and Recreation Plan is waiting for Comprehensive Plan to be completed and presented to public for comment.

Update on Pump Track and Funding

No update by Washburn on Wheels (WOW); Janisch is waiting on IMBA to create a contract.

Discussion and Action on Concept Development Planning for Lakeshore Parkway and West End Park Campground Expansion - Jason Bodine of Bayfield County Forestry & Parks Dept. conveyed his experience with and opinions of Bayfield County's yurts.

Topics/areas of discussion included:

- History, reservation system (AirB&B), occupancy rates by season and revenue (cost of initial investment, maintenance costs seasonal and annual).
- Question/answer exchanges: yurt structure by Pacific Yurts; basic and add-ons; amenities provided (picnic table, beds, etc.).
- Maintenance schedule and concerns (snow, firewood, etc.), county permits, insurance. Return on Investment estimate is 4 years for initial development costs. Not including continuing labor or maintenance costs.

Using a map of the area, the Committee continued discussion of the open field and adjacent areas. General potential development thoughts include: 4-5 yurts or cabins tucked into tree line or along the field edges; trails to the bath house and Walking Trail; parking just off Holman Lakeview Dr. or at bath house/boat ramp.

For public input meetings: PowerPoint to provide background; define task given to Parks Committee by City Council; once in groups, appoint a recorder, and tease out design layout(s) & amenities.

Housekeeping items: materials for meeting, where and who to post flyers.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:46 PM

Angel Croll
Secretary, Parks Committee