

June 20, 2023

City of Washburn Parks Committee Meeting Minutes

5:30 PM

Washburn City Hall and Virtual

Members Present:

Angel Croll, Susan Hall, Jeremy Oswald, Erika Lang,
Jen Maziasz

Municipal Personnel Present:

Tony Janisch, Asst. City Administrator
Gerry Schuette, Director of Public Works

Call to Order/Roll Call

Acting Chair Oswald called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM; four (4) of five (5) members are present; quorum is recognized.

Approval of Parks Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve Park Committee minutes of May 16, 2023 by Hall, second by Lang; Minutes approved unanimously.

Updates from Public Works Department & City Administration

Schuette:

- Memorial Park's newly installed water lines had pressure too high; PSI reduced to 60.
- Walking trail maintenance completed at Washington Avenue beach.
- Future work includes improvements to artesian well catchment and drainage systems; and install walking trail signs.
- The picnic table located at Memorial Park's lake access was removed and not replaced. Hall suggested a bench be installed.
- Otto Rusch, founder of Washburn Iron Works donated two benches with one to be located at Memorial Park playground. The process for memorial bench donation was described.

Janisch, campground updates:

- The Brick sponsored three individuals for campsites; two have been re-removed due to issues.
- Shower tokens were ordered but were the incorrect size and will be returned. Memorial Park showers have transitioned to money coins, while Thompson's showers will stick with tokens.
- The City is waiting to hear the results of grant applications for campground expansion and tennis court improvements.
- One seasonal site is still available at Memorial Park.
- Hall suggested posting tennis and pickleball schedules at campground kiosks. Lang suggested a city map, noting locations for recreational opportunities.

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

- Historic Preservation Commission approved the Trail reroute & signage installation per Committee's recommendation. The Parks Committee needs to reconsider the location of trail, connection between West End campground to the walking trail, due to the development of the overflow area.
- WI Coastal Management Grant 2020 needs paperwork completed to close out.
- WI Coastal Management held a meeting last week at the Bayfield County Courthouse. Janisch hosted a group tour of the city marina.
- WI Coastal Management Grant 2023 monies to be used to renew contract for invasive plant control with Bay Area Environmental Consulting. BAEC is requesting the delineation of a honeysuckle experimentation area. The proposed method of control is to spray honeysuckle without cutting; service in the experimental location would be provided to the City for free. Lang suggests a small area; also questioned the timing of spraying. She also would like an update on invasive treatment along walking trail, especially the money wart experimental area.
- Next steps for campground expansion: Cooper engineering to create a map showing layout; soil boring.

Discussion & Action of Pump Track Development- Washburn on Wheels

Washburn on wheels representative, Tom Cogger, owner of a trail building business. Grants have been received to fund site, scope, and planning: \$2500 from Memorial Medical Center, \$7500 from Washburn Community Education Foundation, \$10,000 from International Mountain Bicycling Association. Janisch confirmed the City has a signed agreement with IMBA. Inspiration bike parks are in Boulder, Colorado and Bellingham, Washington waterfront. Cogger suggested watching a documentary titled "Bike Town". Scope of the Washburn project should reflect connectivity to campgrounds, boost the economy, and appeal to non-bikers. Locations under consideration: Wooded area between athletic field and Memorial Park, Omaha Street behind Stage North. Oswald inquired how to avoid any future issues, citing recent conflict on Bayfield County Forest land near Mt Ashwabay. Croll inquired as to who is responsible for maintenance; Janisch responded the City is responsible.

Discussion & Action of 2024 Budget Preparation & Projects

Suggestions for projects, most of which were derived from the Outdoor Recreation Plan, were as follows:

1. "T dock" for fishing to be located near Thompson West End Park.
2. Playground at Thompson West End, being a priority.
3. Pavilion at Jackie's field and/or Hillside Park, also being priorities.
4. Wikdal park bandshell and bathroom.
5. Coastal management grant matching funds.

Discussion ensued about finding grant money, rather than or in addition to budget money, for some these projects.

Maziasz joining the meeting virtually, at 6:47 pm.

Discussion & Action on Updating the Lakeshore Parkway and Walking Trail Land Management Plan

No action taken. Lang to provide a memo with updates for the next meeting.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:58 PM

Angel Croll
Secretary, Parks Committee