

September 21, 2021

CITY OF WASHBURN PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

5:30 PM

Washburn City Hall and Video Conferencing

Members Present:

Jamie Cook, Angel Croll, Erika Lang

Municipal Personnel:

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

Other:

Eric Powell, NWRPC

Absent:

Jennifer Maziasz (Council rep), Kyleleen Bartnick

Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm. Quorum met.

Approval of the August 11 and 17, 2021 Parks Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion made to approve minutes by Croll, second by Lang. Motion carried unanimously.

Updates from Public Works Department

Public Works Director Schuette and Asst. City Administrator Janisch gave the following updates:

- Electrical issues have been resolved at the campgrounds
- Walking trail updates were completed on the east/north end of the trail. Staff is also about 75% done installing a new bridge on the walking trail by the condos.
- Public works staff have started doing picnic table repairs
- On Oct. 18, parks campgrounds will close. Staff will then perform 2 weeks of maintenance to close everything and prep for winter
- Staff will soon be getting the warming shed at the ice rink ready, including flooring and minor updates
- Over the course of winter, the public works department will be working on Memorial Park's bathroom upgrade and installing new tile
- Public works submitted the annual budget to City Council. Depending on what is approved, the department would like to do upgrades to campsites and water and the roof on the bathroom at Thompson's West End campground
- For the parks budget, Janisch asked to have some money to be used as match for a future grant to Wisconsin Coastal Management Program as well as match for a grant that will be sought for the recreation trail near Memorial Park.
- City Council recently discussed a yurt but would like to pursue additional RV camping at Thompson's West End Park as this would produce a greater source of revenue. The camping area will have to be tied into existing sewer lines.

Update on Implementation of the Walking Trail Land Management Plan and Wisconsin Coastal Management Grant

- Additional contract work will be done to remove/control invasive plants this fall including a foliar application on the smaller plants. We still need to organize a volunteer day to help haul cut plants as part of match for the grant.
- Janisch shared a draft of the interpretive sign that will be placed at the trail's main entrance on 6th. Committee members shared some comments including that the sign doesn't have to include all details of the area as there will be future signage with additional content at the other trail entrances. Lang will work with Janisch and Maziasz on the signage content and layout.
- Lang also reminded the committee that we need to order some plants for a spring 2022 planting as nurseries are taking orders now.
- Water bars are needed on some steep areas of the trail to better manage runoff. The steps leading down to the beach also need to be improved. These activities will be part of a future coastal management grant, and a trails contractor will be able to help.

Discussion & Action of Outdoor Recreation Plan; Eric Howell, NWRPC

- Work and discussion continued on the Outdoor Recreation Plan.
- Eric reminded everyone that the Parks Inventory will feed into the Outdoor Recreation Plan's narrative
- The timeline should focus on 10 years
- The Parks Committee will start prioritizing improvement recommendations and will also be asking the public for feedback
- During the meeting, the Parks Committee members went through the inventory for Thompson's West End Park and Memorial Park

Adjournment

Date and time of next meeting will be October 19, 2021. Meeting was adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Erika Lang
Secretary, Parks Committee