

City of Baraboo
Parks & Recreation Commission
August 8, 2016 – Minutes

Present: Greg Wise, Roy Franzen, Craig Schlender, Michael Plautz, Angela McMurray, Mike Hardy

Also Present: Diane Pillsbury (BASCO), Shelley Mordini, Kandie Beckwith & Fran Johnson (FOBZ)

Wise called the meeting to order, Legal Posting of the Agenda had been met. The Agenda was approved as printed.

Franzen motioned and McMurray seconded approval of the July 11, 2016 minutes. Motion Carried.

Appearances: Diane Pillsbury was present from the Baraboo Area Senior Center to discuss annual Senior Center report and activities.

Kandie Beckwith and Fran Johnson reported that FOBZ has raised nearly \$310,000 toward the otter exhibit with several events coming this fall. Hardy updated the Commission on the project, with final plans coming in September for staff review and bids ready for release later this year. As long as bids come in favorable with FOBZ funding, groundbreaking could begin as early as March or April 2017. Hardy also stated that he has scheduled demolition of the old building this winter so the site is ready for spring construction if funds are available.

Unfinished Business: Eagle Scout project at Mary Hoppe Felts Park is tabled indefinitely as the interested scout is considering other options.

New Business: Shelley Mordini was present to request a change in date for her Haunted Walk event at the zoo change dates from Saturday, October 29 to Friday, October 28 after the zoo's normal closing hours. Franzen moved to approve the change in dates, 2nd by Schlender. Motion passed.

Wise noted that Catch 4 A Cure cause is not at issue, but following policy consistently is when handling fee waiver requests. He noted that everyone has a good reason for wanting a fee waiver for their cause, but we cannot waive all park fees for everyone. Hardy noted that in the past, Catch 4 A Cure has donated more money than their fees would have amounted to as part of their fees were donated for park improvements. Franzen noted that he would prefer they keep as much of their profits as possible to use for their cause (breast cancer) and only pay the fees as required by policy. Other members agreed. The request failed for lack of a motion.

Motion by Franzen to approve \$3,720 for the purchase of 10 picnic tables at Maxwell-Potter Conservancy, 1 of which would be ADA, using Park Segregated Funds. Seconded by McMurray. Motion Carried.

Hardy noted the damage estimates of the rock wall section in Ochsner Park, and added that an adjacent section is leaning and lacking proper foundation, however it can be stabilized with 2 or 3 support "stone buttresses" along the back side at approximately \$9,000 each. Schlender suggested looking into prices for stamped concrete instead of the stone. Wise suggested adding the expense to the 2017 capital budget.

The "Ice Days" event proposal was tabled indefinitely as it was cancelled by staff.

Request for waiver of fees for the Brian Geick Memorial Softball Tournament was considered. Wise noted that in the past, we have supported first year programs and events by offering partial or full waivers to help with getting their event started in the hopes that they will come back year after year. He noted that as a new event, this request could be considered by the Commission if they were interested. Schlender noted that he felt the policy of helping new events was good for many first-time organizers to get established. McMurray moved to approve a waiver of normal field use fees for the tournament, provided that they pay the 5% concessions fee and understand that this is a one-time waiver with future fees required if they return. Seconded by Wise. Motion Carried.

Communications and Reports

July revenues were \$25,535.93

Hardy reported that Joe Ward was working on historic panels for the zoo & Ochsner Park. Also noted was the August 19th swimming pool closing for the season and August 20th Doggy Dip, in which volunteers are appreciated. Hardy is now having staff e-mail survey links at the conclusion of recreation programs to make feedback easier for participants. Next week will be annual budget meeting and CORP review will happen in October. Finally, Public Safety Committee had reviewed and approved the bike route map. Hardy would take the map to City Council later this month for final approval.

Next Regular Meeting: September 12, 2016

Franzen motioned to adjourn, Plautz seconded. Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Hardy, Parks, Recreation & Forestry Director