

City of Baraboo  
Parks & Recreation Commission  
September 10, 2018 – Minutes

**Present:** Roy Franzen, James Francisco, Angela Witczak, Dan Lewison, Michael Plautz, Mary Mjelde & Mike Hardy

**Also Present:** 14 members of the public.

Franzen called the meeting to order. Legal Posting of the Agenda had been met. Witczak moved and Francisco seconded approval of the August 13, 2018 minutes. Motion carried.

Witczak moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Lewison. Motion carried.

**Presentations:** Mike Soule, president of the Baraboo Boys and Girls Club, gave the annual report of Club activities. He noted that 326 youth are currently served by the Club with 91 average attendance during the school year and 52 during the summer.

Jim Langkamp requested permission for the school district to purchase and install a windscreen on the outfield fence at Pierce Park field #5. He didn't have a design in mind, but would be open to one that said "Baraboo Softball" or one that was just blue with no words. He understood that having a logo may not be approved.

**New Business:** Regarding the Boys and Girls Club to reconsider lowering 2019 rent of Civic Center, Witczak stated that if we drop the Club rate, we would need to also drop the Senior Center rate and that would leave us with a budget deficit. The request to lower rent failed due to lack of a motion.

Commission members showed interest in working with the school and Thunder Softball to consider an outfield screen on field #5, however Plautz suggested that as the field is for baseball as well as other groups, he was not in agreement to allow any wording such as "Softball" or "Thunder". Lewison noted that the screen could simply be just color with no wording, like Langkamp suggested a blue screen, however Lewison would rather see all green. The item was tabled until Langkamp brings back a design for the screen.

Commission discussed bids on Civic Center air condition installation in the gym. The low bid of \$16,413 was slightly over budgeted funds. Hardy advised that some money was available in Park Segregated Accounts that had been designated for the Civic Center, but as this was the second bid this year, it doesn't look like the project will decrease in cost. Witczak moved to award the bid to Terrytown Plumbing and Heating in the amount of \$16,413 using Park Segregated Fund for any cost over the previous budgeted amount. Seconded by Mjelde. Motion carried.

Regarding the matter of selling the Pierce Park outlot south of the Pavilion, Franzen voiced his concern over selling any park land. Plautz asked if that could be used as future parking as spots can be hard to find during tournaments. Lewison said that the current parking lot has space designated for future expansion when we re-do the lot, which will not take up more space. Lewison moved to recommend that the sale of the outlot be recommended to move forward with proceeds being used to make improvements to the aging Pierce Park. Seconded by Witczak. Motion carried.

Lewison moved to recommend approval of the 2018-19 Pierce Park Pavilion lease to the South Central Cyclones Youth Hockey Association. Seconded by Mjelde. Motion carried.

Hardy presented a list of planned 2019 Parks Capital Improvement Projects to be included in the 2019 budget request. Lewison moved and Witczak seconded to recommend the list as presented to be included in the 2019 Parks and Recreation Budget.

**Staff Report:** August revenues were \$25,078.25

Hardy reported that flooding damage was being assessed and numbers put together for FEMA consideration. Repairs would be made by the end of the month. The pool study is out for bid and expected to be in the \$15,000 range. Hardy asked if members were ready to move forward, as Council will need some recommendations to be able to plan for any improvements that may be needed. Fall hours are now in effect at the zoo and a \$5,000 grant was received to make improvements to the dog park. Hardy noted that there is an opportunity to improve signage in parks to communicate how users can best contact the Department for maintenance requests.

**Next Regular Meeting:** October 8, 2018.

Witczak motioned to adjourn, Mjelde seconded. Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mike Hardy, Parks, Recreation & Forestry Director