

City of Baraboo
Parks & Recreation Commission
February 20, 2019 – Minutes

Present: Roy Franzen, Craig Schlender, Angela Witczak, Mike Plautz & Mike Hardy

Also Present: Raine Gardner (MSA), Ben Bromley (media) & Chantel Steinhorst

Franzen called the meeting to order. Legal Posting of the Agenda had been met. Witczak moved and Schlender seconded approval of the January 21, 2019 minutes. Motion carried.

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

Action Items: Raine Gardner presented conceptual plans and design for the Maxwell-Potter kayak launch. She noted that the design work changed after last fall's flooding destroyed the launch at Haskin's Park, which will be rebuilt by the Village of West Baraboo using the same design as she is proposing to the City for Maxwell-Potter. Plautz asked how West Baraboo is tied into this. Gardner explained the process by which the City co-sponsored a grant with the Village for several river improvements in both communities. The City's project (Maxwell-Potter launch) was funded and since the applicant for the grant was West Baraboo – they hold the contract, so they need to be involved to receive the funding. Additionally, both Hardy as well as Village staff have indicated preference toward consistent launch designs in the Baraboo River. Gardner explained that the new design would incorporate a series of "Bin Walls" that have been successful for many years on Lake Michigan. The walls would be more permanent, driven into the ground and backfilled with rock and concrete, with more of a "step" platform. They have met with people in wheelchairs who have approved of the accessibility, and the DNR has also said that it meets the needs of accessibility. While not required, MSA is proposing an addition ramp along the sides of the steps which will make access even easier, but detail on that was still being finalized. Additionally, a railing would be installed along the steps which could be removed during the winter to avoid damages. Franzen asked how high each step would be. Gardner replied 8". Schlender states he liked the idea to have the same design as West Baraboo for consistency along the River. Gardner stated that the Village has approved the design and they will be meeting with DNR again to confirm their approval as well. Hardy stated that the existing MOU with the Village is still valid, and grant funding along with ATC designated funds will pay for the project, meaning no City dollars are needed, but needs a recommendation on design approval to City Council to move this forward. Schlender moved to proceed with the kayak launch design as proposed by recommending approval to City Council. Second by Witczak. Motion carried.

Staff Report: January revenues were \$75,587.62

Hardy reported that part of the January revenues was the first half of the Kiwanis bridge donation of \$50,000. Hardy updated the Commission on the status and timeline of construction, with a hold due to US Army Corps of Engineers to complete an archeology study, but plan is still to award bid in March and start construction after sturgeon spawning June 1. The project should be completed by fall. Hardy also noted a \$4,500 ATC grant received to install a butterfly garden under power lines near the Attridge Park Community Gardens and a \$5,000 grant received to address water/mud issues at the dog park. Hardy advised the Commission that he was working with March Huffaker on a landscape design for Myron Park that will be presented to them at the March meeting. The animals at the zoo survived the cold weather as staff purchased extra heat lamps and kept them inside more. Hardy noted that we would have a table at the UWP-Baraboo/SC career fair next month in an effort to attract summer applicants. Finally, Hardy noted he applied for \$1,000 from Sauk County Extension to pay for expected costs to hold a centennial celebration for Ochsner Park this summer.

Next Regular Meeting: March 18, 2019.

Witczak motioned to adjourn, Schlender seconded. Motion carried

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