

City of Baraboo  
Parks & Recreation Commission  
November 13, 2017 – Minutes

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

**Also Present:** Ben Bromley (Baraboo News-Republic)

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

McMurray motioned and Mjelde seconded approval of the October 9, 2017 minutes. Motion carried.

**Old Business:** Hardy explained that City staff had notified him that the grade of the proposed northside drive at the zoo would be too steep and to cut down, it would require removing part of the old stone wall. This would add to expense as well as affect the look of the historic wall. Hardy asked for the drive to be moved back to the west side. It was located far enough away from the pedestrian entrance to the zoo that no problems should be seen. Lewison moved to approve moving the new drive to the zoo back to the west side of the property, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mjelde. Motion carried.

**New Business:** Hardy presented a sponsorship program that would be sent to area businesses and organizations to serve as a “menu” of available programs and facilities seeking donations and sponsorships. Lewison moved to approve the sponsorship program and flier as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Franzen. Motion carried.

The Commission was informed that the property at 831 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue would be coming up for sale as owner is interested in selling. Hardy informed members that it was one of the properties in the 2017-2021 CORP needed for acquisition to connect the Riverwalk, however we don’t currently have any parks money available and would need to seek grant assistance and probably help from other City funds to purchase. Members all agreed that it may be many years before another opportunity to purchase comes, and as it is in our Master Plan, we should at least look into potential sources of funding. Hardy was asked to work with City Administrator to identify possible funding for future purchase.

McMurray moved to have staff install a rain garden at the Dog Park, using up to \$3,000 of Park Segregated money from past Dog Park funds raised. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lewison. Motion carried. Hardy stated that he would use local school kids to help install during Earth Day 2018 celebrations.

Hardy informed the Commission that he had been working with the Sauey Family Foundation for the past 2 years on making improvements to the Deer Exhibit at the zoo. After several discussions, the Foundation offered \$40,000 to build a new deer exhibit north of the current zoo in an area listed as future zoo expansion in the 1997 Zoo Master Plan. Lewison moved to approve accepting the \$40,000 donation to build the new deer exhibit north of the zoo and naming the exhibit the “Matilda Lavik Sauey Deer Exhibit”. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mjelde. Motion carried. Hardy will present the naming request to City Council for final approval.

Hardy noted that when 2018 Fees were approved, they were done so without the Non Profit rates on the Civic Center fees. Mjelde moved to put Civic Center Non Profit Fees back in the 2018 Fees at \$10/hour for small meeting room, \$15/hour for large meeting room, \$20/hour for gym and \$20/ additional for weekend supervisor costs. 2<sup>nd</sup> by McMurray. Motion carried.

**Communications and Reports**

October revenues were \$14,373.24.

Hardy reported that the M-P Conservancy bridge grant was approved for full \$200,000 funding assistance. Also reported was the otter exhibit phase 1 completion set for December 4<sup>th</sup>. Staff were sent to training with Gallagher attending Lifeguard Instructor Training in October and Hess, Kujak, Seymour and Skwor attending a pruning workshop this week. Also noted was adult basketball which is merging with Dells/Delton Recreation to form a 10-team league and offer better scheduling opportunities.

**Next Regular Meeting:** December 11, 2017

McMurray motioned to adjourn, Mjelde seconded. Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Hardy, Parks, Recreation & Forestry Director