

City of Baraboo
Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
Nov 14, 2022 – Minutes

Present: H. Kierzek, R. Franzen, A. Witzcak, R. Sanchez, A. Workman, S. Mordini & Mike Hardy

Absent: C. Schlender

Others present: Amber Giddings (Friends of Baraboo Zoo), George Althoff (Chamber of Commerce), Seth Taft (DBI), Mayor Nelson

Franzen called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Legal posting of the agenda has been met. Witzcak motioned and Mordini seconded approval of the Oct. 10, 2022, minutes. Motion carried.

Public Input

None

Action Items

- a. Discuss and consider recommending a resolution supporting Chamber of Commerce efforts to apply for membership of the City of Baraboo/Village of West Baraboo in the Ice Age Trail Alliance Trail Community program

George Althoff and Seth Taft spoke to give background on community application. Mayor Nelson said if approved by the City, some of the funding could come from his budget (not out of Parks).

Witzcak motioned to approve a resolution supporting Chamber of Commerce efforts to apply for membership of the City of Baraboo/Village of West Baraboo in the Ice Age Trail Alliance Trail Community program, seconded by Franzen. Motion carried.

- b. Discuss and consider Campbell Park Master Plan approval

Hardy walked through the Campbell Park Master plan, highlighting some of the key features of the Final Master Plan. Total cost is \$10.6 million, with lion's share being renovation of pool area. Can phase in parts of the plan over time and reuse many spaces and some materials. Franzen noted the band aid method is not working anymore and expressed support. Mordini also liked the plan as it meets a lot of needs, and the price tag is what it is. Witzcak also likes the plan better than previous plans. Sanchez likes it - everyone is getting what they want in this plan: skatepark, pickleball courts, shelter. Franzen likes the centralized look, and more courts can be placed elsewhere. Witzcak noted the skatepark was not included in this cost. Workman asked if it was an oversight that this was missed; Hardy indicated that they didn't include it only because they didn't do the study for the cost, so they can't put their name on it. But any fundraising on behalf of the park would include the \$300,000 the skate park representatives quoted. Next steps include talking to Finance Committee and possibly a referendum. Witzcak motioned to accept the Final Master Plan as presented by JDS and Associates for Campbell Park, seconded by Franzen. Motion carried.

- c. Consider approving members of the Bike Advisory Group sub committee

Workman gave background on some turnover of BAG committee members, and those who have been involved with and want to be more involved with special events, such as the Bike to School/Bike to Work Day/Week events in 2023. Current members are: Amy Workman, Bill Koenig, Christin Harding, Barry Hartup, Chris Gabrielson, Bob Konen, and Tom Pinion. Members interested in joining are Pete Schmitz, Dave Kitkowski, and Seth Taft.

Franzen moved to approve members brought by Chair of Bike Advisory group, seconded by Witzcak. Motion carried.

Informational Items

a. Staff Report submitted by Hardy.

Revenues were \$13,048.97 for the month of October 2022

1) Upcoming projects & programs

Hardy reported that Ochsner Park challenge playground equipment installation has been completed, and quite a few adults and youth have been using it. Ribbon cutting occurred on Wednesday, November 9th. The paving is complete for the connection between the Riverwalk (at Potter & Manchester intersection) and Maxwell-Potter kayak launch, as well as another 200 feet south to the edge of the property across from the Arboretum. Hardy reported that future crossing at Hill Street will connect the Arboretum path to the Riverwalk. Staff is currently planning for Winterfest (February 3-5, 2023). The Oak Street Overlook plan will be ready for review at the December meeting, along with estimated costs, after some staff changes had been requested from MSA Professional Services to reduce costs and address design needs.

b. Subcommittee reports

1) Bicycle Advisory Committee (Workman)

On October 29th, twelve volunteers worked to clear about 1,000 ft of new trail, bringing the total mileage of built trail to about 1.25 miles and marked trail to 2 miles. Temporary signage has been installed, and a wish list has been compiled for fundraising. To this point, volunteers have put in over 270 hours of volunteer labor on trail marking, clearing, and building.

A Chief Naaga Keramani Trail Conditions Facebook page was established in July. Workman worked with FOBP to modify the language and will work to remove the Tumbled Rock Riders Facebook page link on the Friends of Baraboo Parks Facebook page and replace it with the Chief Naaga Keramani Park Trail Conditions page. Workman spoke to future plans of having a registry-type page where people can select what they want to donate towards.

2) Friends of Baraboo Parks (Witczak)

The Challenge Park was installed, had groundbreaking on Wednesday, and will have the wine walk on Friday this week.

3) Friends of the Baraboo Zoo (Amber Giddings)

They are working towards a cocoa crawl during the Winter Festival. In December, a fundraiser is being planned in the Civic Center called, "North Pole brunch" in the gym, for youth and adults.

Next scheduled meeting: Monday, Dec 12, 2022, 5:30 pm

Witczak motioned and Kierzek seconded adjourning the meeting at 6:21 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Workman, Secretary