

City of Baraboo
Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
April 12, 2021 – Minutes

Present: Roy Franzen, Angela Witczak, Shelley Mordini, Amy Workman, Kathleen Thurow, Craig Schlender, Jim Francisco and Mike Hardy. Also present: Blake Theisen and Katie McDonald from Parkitecture + Planning, Rob Nelson, and Carey Kipp from the Baraboo Public Library.

Franzen called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Legal posting of the Agenda had been met.

Francisco motioned and Witczak seconded approval of the April 5 special meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Witczak moved to approve the agenda as printed, seconded by Mordini. Motion carried.

Witczak motioned to approve going into joint meeting with Splashpad Committee to consider the Attridge Park Splashpad design, seconded by Workman. Motion carried.

Presentation

Blake Theisen and Katie McDonald from Parkitecture + Planning presented 3 design options and cost estimates for the Attridge Park Splashpad project. Discussion included safety of climbable (animal) features, slip resistance of concrete surfaces, gallons per day limits, the winterization process below and above ground, option for adding vertical features that replace ground 'caps' as money becomes available, wear and tear of the components of movable features, spray zone of specific features, limitation of 15 manifolds (providing a cap on the total number of features), and interchangeability of features. A design concept consensus was reached. Cost of each design: #1: \$146K; #2: \$132K; #3: \$178K. Design concept consensus + installation + restroom + shade structure estimate: \$450K with 10% contingency. Bids from contractors will determine final cost.

Action Items

a. Recommendation from Splashpad Committee on design options for the Attridge Park Splashpad project: Franzen motioned to accept the recommendation of the Splashpad Committee for the final design option, seconded by Mordini. Motion carried.

b. Carey Kipp from the Baraboo Public Library presented a proposed plan to hold a "Pet Expo" program at upper Ochsner Park in July, listing partners and proposed activities. Schlender motioned and Thurow seconded approval of the program as proposed. Motion carried.

c. Bike Wisconsin requested to use the Civic Center for an overnight stay on June 17 to 18, 2021. Hardy said there would be a 50 person cap and no food allowed inside. This organization paid \$650 for last year's ride, which was cancelled due to Covid. They would like to use last year's fee for this year. One Civic Center staff member stays overnight (no additional staff cost). Thurow motioned to approve Bike Wisconsin spending the night at the Civic Center and to recommend approval to City Council, seconded by Witczak, provided they follow the outlined Covid-19 restriction plan.

d. Property purchase at 825 2nd Ave. to allow for connection to the Riverwalk at Mary Rountree Evans Park for \$86,000: Thurow asked where the funds would come from, Franzen said from the Council. The landlord would like to offer it to the City. The property shares a garage with the neighbor; one option is

to sell the garage property to the neighbor. Three easements will also need to be secured from three other properties. Hardy spoke to Pat Cannon (Economic development coordinator), who suggested flipping the house after the easement is in place, but the space is very limited and the easement required would take up a significant portion of the property.

Witczak motioned and Mordini seconded asking Council to purchase the property at 825 2nd Ave for \$86,000.

e. Recommendation to Council to allow staff to apply for a LAWCON grant for the Attridge Park Splashpad and restroom building project in the amount of \$250,000: Hardy introduced the May 1 deadline for submitting a LAWCON grant to the WDNR with 50% match. Witczak motioned to make a recommendation to Council to allow staff to apply for a LAWCON grant for the Attridge Park Splashpad and restroom building project in the amount of \$250,000. Schlender seconded. Motion carried.

f. Recommendation to Council to allow staff to apply for a Stewardship grant for the Riverwalk improvement projects in the amount of \$150,000: Hardy described this grant as similar to the LAWCON grant situation. The properties slated for improvement are part of CORP plan, including Mary Rountree park and the Oak St. overlook trail. The Oak St. property would connect the Kiwanis Park Riverwalk to downtown via a switchback in an ADA accessible trail.

Thurrow motioned and Witczak seconded making a recommendation to Council to approve allowing staff to apply for a Stewardship grant for the Riverwalk improvement projects in the amount of \$150,000. Motion carried.

Information Items

a Staff Report submitted by Hardy.

Revenues \$15,303.69 for the month of March 2021.

b. Subcommittee reports

Workman will send community survey to high school staff (will check with district wide email distribution as well). October 2, 2021, is the date for the 20 year anniversary celebration of the removal of the Baraboo River dams.

1) CORP Committee

Francisco reported the final survey results will be available after the survey closes on April 30. So far, Francisco said he was very pleased with the high amount of participation from community members. He would like to bring ideas from the previous CORP plan back to the current CORP group. He said it was a very diverse and vocal group, great to work with.

Next scheduled meeting: May 10, 2021 at 5:30 pm

Witczak motioned and Schlender seconded to adjourn at 7:26 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Workman, Secretary, Parks & Recreation Committee