

City of Baraboo
Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Committee
June 7, 2021 – Minutes

Present: James Francisco, Chantel Steinhorst, Kimberly Brueggeman, Carla Cross & Mike Hardy

Francisco called the meeting to order at 6:02pm. Legal posting of the agenda had been met.

Steinhorst motioned to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2021 meeting. Seconded by Brueggeman. Motion carried.

Brueggeman moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Steinhorst. Motion carried.

Presentation:

Hardy presented results of the Community Survey. Summary included over 10% of Baraboo city households completing the survey, meeting the Commission's goal. In total, 744 surveys were completed. 569 of those were submitted by city residents. The top 4 things people want to see included: 1) continued expansion and improvements of the Riverwalk/trails and Great Sauk State Trail (91%); 2) New or renovated swimming pool (84%); 3) New indoor recreation complex/winter facility (82%); 4) Splashpad (78%). Of special note was the support of a connecting trail from downtown to the Riverwalk including the Oak Street Overlook project (89% of people wanted to see that) and bringing the Great Sauk State Trail to Baraboo (86% wanted to see that). Also noted was the swimming pool results, with 42% favoring a new \$7 million pool; 35% favoring \$4 million in renovations to the existing pool; 17% favoring only repairs of \$1 million to the existing pool; and 6% not willing to spend anything on saving the pool. Hardy stated that members should consider input from the community survey when putting together suggested projects for 2022-2026.

Action Items:

Francisco noted that one thing he heard Hardy summarize on the survey comments was the "condition of restrooms" as many noted the older, outdated restrooms. Renovations or replacement to older infrastructure, especially restrooms, should continue to be addressed. Francisco also noted that Deppe Pond needs serious attention and should remain high on the list for dredging. Steinhorst and Brueggeman both noted that although the playground at Maxwell-Potter is new, the equipment is difficult for younger kids to use safely and equipment for younger kids may need to be added there. Steinhorst also supports playground equipment at Deppe Park and more drinking fountains. Members agreed that rather than planning for the swimming pool, skatepark, tennis courts and playground equipment which all are at the top of the list for needed upgrades, the City should consider a plan for Campbell Park renovation project under 1 master plan for \$7-8 million to get everything done at once, as it is a highly visible and central park that the City's image is easily seen.

Members will begin to prioritize projects at the next meeting so projects can be identified for inclusion into the next plan.

Steinhorst moved to adjourn, seconded by Brueggeman. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: June 28 at 5:00pm.

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