

City of Baraboo  
Parks & Recreation Commission  
February 12, 2018 – Minutes

**Present:** Roy Franzen, Angela McMurray, Mike Plautz, Dan Lewison & Mike Hardy

**Also Present:** Ben Bromley (Baraboo News Republic), Doug Hill (Kiwanis), Tom Holmes (Glenview Timberwrights)

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

McMurray motioned and Lewison seconded approval of the January 8, 2018 minutes. Motion carried.

**Presentations:** Doug Hill and Tom Holmes presented a request to build the Maxwell-Potter Conservancy Riverwalk bridge as a covered bridge. Kiwanis supported the idea to cover the bridge, which they felt would create a more unique bridge for the City. Holmes estimated the added cost to be roughly \$150-\$175,000. The covering would have a steel roof and have open walls to address visibility concerns.

**New Business:** Hardy was asked if we could still request a covered design, as RFPs were already submitted. Hardy noted that the estimate for a basic bridge design with no roof had come in at \$380,000-\$400,000, and with the available funds for the bridge at \$400,000, even this estimate is overbudget, but he could ask that the chosen engineer design an option for covering the bridge so the City could compare prices. Commission members took no action, but agreed to ask the engineer for an estimate to cover the bridge as an option to consider when looking at designs.

Lewison motioned to approve allowing Recreation Intern Scott Wolter rent one room in the park house for \$100/month, seconded by McMurray. Motion passed.

McMurray motioned to approve the 2018 co-sponsorship request from BALA for use of Lower Ochsner Park and MRE annex for \$500 fee. Seconded by Franzen. Motion passed.

With Lewison serving as the president of the Baraboo Thunder, Hardy advised the Commission to table the consideration of sharing in the cost of portable toilets at Pierce Park field #5 due to a potential conflict of interest. Without Lewison's vote, the Commission only had 3 members of the 7 available to vote. Due to the lack of a quorum, the item was tabled until the March meeting.

**Communications and Reports**

January revenues were \$24,775.61.

Hardy noted that the sale of City Forest was complete for \$133,000 with proceeds to be used for the new bridge (\$100,000) and the Riverwalk connection to the bridge (\$33,000). Also, restroom improvements to 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Civic Center were completed. Hardy discussed removals of trees, including twice as many ash trees due to EAB. He added that 110% of trees removed would be re-planted, as usual. Hardy filled in members on a large cottonwood on private property on Center Street that was noted as a public hazard, and the property owner has been given until the end of the month to communicate their plan for removal.

**Next Regular Meeting:** March 12, 2018

McMurray motioned to adjourn, Lewison seconded. Motion carried

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