

**Leisure Services Commission Minutes**  
**Thursday, June 18, 2020 7:00 pm**  
**Civic Center**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carver, Johnson, Neuendorf, Solheim (left at 8:39), Winter  
MEMBERS ABSENT: Burrell (via zoom), Pins  
COUNCIL PRESENT: Birgen  
STAFF PRESENT: Riordan  
VISITORS: Larry Kurtz – Align Architecture

SUMMARY OF FORMAL ACTION: Chairperson Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

Motion: To approve April 30, 2020 minutes as presented.

10-20	Moved: Solheim	Seconded: Neuendorf
Yes: 5	No: 0	Absent: 2

**Regular Business**

1. South Riverside Park Plaza Plan

Larry Kurtz with Align architecture was back for another presentation on the South Riverside Park Plaza plan. Larry presented drawings showing a couple of different designs and what the concept was to accommodate pedestrians, vehicles, and the Farmer's Market. Carver asked about the size of the Farmer's Market and wondered if it could outgrow this area. Kurtz replied that it could handle approximately 24 vendors currently and there was room to move further to the south if that became necessary. Neuendorf commented that the layout looked very nice. Birgen asked about ideas for parking. Riordan said that all parking would be on the adjacent streets except for the handicapped accessible lot just north of the Exchange building. Riordan said that it would be similar to parking along 1<sup>st</sup> St. NW and adjacent streets when there are Concerts in Kohlmann. Birgen pointed out that there is also the St. Paul's parking lot to park in for Concerts in Kohlmann. Johnson stated that he thinks street parking will be fine for that area. Winter mentioned that if the streets get too busy with parking and traffic, they will drive another route. Carver asked about the access to the river that was in previous plans. Riordan explained that that part of the project was being held off until after the Bremer Ave. bridge is replaced by the DOT. The plan is for that project to start in the next couple of years and they will access the bridge area by way of a temporary road along the river bank. If we were to do anything now, it could possibly be torn up. Kurtz also mentioned a railroad themed mural on the North side of the Exchange Building. Riordan will be touching base with a local artist to get an estimate on that. Carver noticed that there weren't any lights shown on the trail. Riordan said that the parks close at dusk and other trails do not have lighting either. Kohlmann Park being the exception of being lit. Lighting may be considered in the future.

Motion: Approve Phase 3 of the South Riverside Park Project (Shelter and Plaza layout)

11-20	Moved: Solheim	Seconded: Neuendorf
Yes: 5	No: 0	Absent: 2

Riordan would like bid documents to go out as soon as possible.

2. Pool Discussion

Riordan provided a list of pools in Iowa that had already decided not to open for the summer. He mentioned that this list was not all inclusive as these were pools who were involved with IPRA. Johnson mentioned that Dubuque had just chosen to close their pools as well. In the staff summary Riordan recommended not opening if Social Distancing Guidelines were still in place. Neuendorf felt the pool should remain closed for the summer regardless. That seemed to be the general feeling of the Commission.

Motion: Do not open pool for the 2020 Season

12-20

Moved: Neuendorf

Seconded: Carver

Yes: 5

No: 0

Absent: 2

### Director's Report:

- Riordan reported that Streetscape was nearing completion. Planters have been placed and benches attached. The flowers look great in them. Trees are being planted by Wells Hollow and should be completed around the end of June. Carver asked if the Commission had any part of the design of the planters. Riordan said that those decisions were made by a group consisting of Kurtz, City Staff, The Chamber, and Design Committee. Carver also wondered if the Commission had any part of the downtown banners. The Leisure Services Commission was not involved with the banners.
- The Wind Sculpture has been placed in the Big 6.
- City Hall had a soft opening to the public on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Shelter reservations and Civic Center reservations are not being taken unless the date is after July 1.
- Bids documents for the Cemetery storage building will be going out.
- Community Foundation grants came through. Awarded \$2,250 for a basketball hoop at Prairie Park and \$1,470 for a new waterline for the Community Gardens.
- The Cedar River Park project is about to get underway. There will be a ground breaking ceremony June 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM. Next week Mehmert Tiling will begin removal of trees and installation of sewer. Grading will come soon after.
- Riordan met with some pickleball enthusiasts who have expressed interest in having pickleball courts in town. He had suggested that it's possible during the reconfiguration of Memorial Park, that might be a possibility.

### Chairperson Report:

### Reports and Communications:

- Birgen reminded everyone one that fireworks would be discussed at the Council Study Session on June 22.

### Next Meeting:

July 16, 2020

### Adjournment:

Motion: To Adjourn

13-20

Moved: Neuendorf

Seconded: Carver

Yes: 4

No: 0

Absent: 3

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Garret Riordan  
Commission Secretary  
Leisure Services Director