

Leisure Services Commission Minutes
Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020 7:00 pm
ZOOM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Johnson, Neuendorf, Pins, Carver, Winter (7:11 pm)
MEMBERS ABSENT: Solheim, Winter
COUNCIL PRESENT: Birgen (left at 7:29 pm)
STAFF PRESENT: Riordan, Troyna
VISITORS: Weurtz

SUMMARY OF FORMAL ACTION: Chairperson Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Motion: To approve October 15, 2020 minutes as presented.

22-20 Moved: Pins Seconded: Neuendorf
Yes: 4 No: 0 Absent: 2

Riordan introduced Liz Weurtz joining the meeting tonight as a guest. She will be joining as a commission member in January.

Regular Business

1. Snow Removal on the Trails

Previous years we have not cleared the trail through Crestwood Park. We have received complaints last year and in previous years. In discussions with the Parks Grounds Maintenance Superintendent, Paul Cheville, a list of options was provided. Option #2 seems to be the best route to get more of the trail cleared without issues with staffing and work time. This would add clearing of Crestwood Trail to South East School, South East school through the prairie area to behind the lift station on 8th St SE, then 8th St. SE to Red Cedar Park, and from Red Cedar Park to the trail access by the Dog Park. Pins had some questions regarding an ice patch in that area and suggested signage to keep trail users informed.

Motion: To approve option #2 adding Crestwood Park Trail, trail through SE School, Prairie on 8th St. SE and South along Red Cedar Park to the Dog Park.

23-20 Moved: Pins Seconded: Carver
Yes: 5 No: 0 Absent: 1

2. Annual Report

Riordan noted that the report shows that our staff has been busy, and they work very hard year-round to accomplish everything shown in the report. Pins questioned if the landscaping and seeding was completed at Prairie Park around the basketball court. Riordan confirmed that is has been completed and the grass is growing, and the Pickle Ball court is getting well used.

Director's Report:

- Riordan updated the Commission on the Cemetery Stone Repair work that was done in September. The booklet included in the agenda packet shows all the work that the contractor completed while here. They were here for 4 days and repaired and straightened 32 stones. Staff assisted some and hopes to be able to do some of this work in the future. We would like to budget for another 40-50 stones to be repaired in 21-22. We have received a lot of positive feedback. Joel asked what the cost of the project was. Riordan stated the total project was \$5,500, of which \$5,000 was City budgeted. Donations were received from Kaiser Corson of \$1000 and Bob and Sally O'Hare of \$500.
- Riordan reported on the Cemetery Shop project. The building is coming along and should be completed around the first week of December.
- Riordan informed the Commission about a donation from Connie Miller for an informational sign to be placed by the portion of the railroad track at the trail head. This will be a surprise for her father Ed Brown and the project is set to be completed by the first part of December.
- Riordan updated on the South Riverside Shelter and Plaza. The initial bids came back all over budget. The project will be separated and re-bid in the coming months.
- The community sharing gardens produced 8974 lbs. of food this year. Riordan praised the volunteers and Ron Lenth for the work that gets done at the gardens and the amount of food that is able to be produced.
- Santa's house will be moved into Kohlmann Park on Friday, Nov. 20th. Adjustments will be made to keep the experience safe for everyone. Santa will be in the house and children will be able to talk to him through plexiglass. Riordan shared the hours that Santa will be in the park. These can also be found on the City of Waverly website calendar of events. Riordan also noted that staff is working hard this week to get all of the holiday decorations up around town.
- Riordan updated the Commission on the Green Bridge memorial. He met with representatives of Historic Preservation and discussed options to memorialize it. If Council decides to move a span of the bridge, they would be looking at the possibility of a span going in Brookwood park where the old Water Treatment facility is currently located. That building will be coming down in December. Ideas are being considered for options of what to do with the span if located there. One option would be to make an amphitheater or performance area out of the span. Riordan stated that he does not believe another performance area is needed. We currently have an amphitheater in Kohlmann Park. Others will be included in the design of Memorial Park for Heritage days and other events, as well as a small performance area that will be included in the South Riverside project. Another option is to possibly re-route the trail located in Brookwood Park to have the trail run through a span of the bridge. Council will need to decide how to proceed. Additional ideas are also being considered for a memorial of the bridge without using an entire span. Hopefully, a decision will be made soon so plans can proceed.
- The Wall Mural is coming along nicely. Carver commented on how nice it looks. The artist is done for the year and will be back in the spring to finish the mural.
- Riordan shared that the Candlelight Walk had to be canceled due to COVID concerns. The weather was nice, and it would have likely produced a large crowd. We are hopeful that the candlelight ski can proceed in February. That will be dependent on the COVID situation.

Chairperson Report: Johnson noted that the City looks nice and reminded Commission members to pick up trash if they are out and about walking.

Carver questioned what the status of the Fair and Memorial Park is. Riordan said the Fair is scheduled for one more year, but would also likely be there in 2022. We are looking at FY22-23 to begin any construction. We will begin planning and designing Memorial Park in the next year.

Reports and Communications: None

Next Meeting:

December 17, 2020 via Zoom

Adjournment:

Motion: To Adjourn

24-20

Yes: 5

Moved: Neuendorf

No: 0

Seconded: Carver

Absent: 1

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Garret Riordan
Commission Secretary
Leisure Services Director