

Leisure Services Commission Minutes
Thursday, Aug 20, 2020 7:00 pm
Civic Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: Johnson, Pins, Solheim, Winter
MEMBERS ABSENT: Carver, Neuendorf
COUNCIL PRESENT: Birgen
STAFF PRESENT: Riordan
VISITORS: None

SUMMARY OF FORMAL ACTION: Chairperson Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Motion: To approve July 16, 2020 minutes as presented.

17-20 Moved: Solheim Seconded: Winter
Yes: 4 No: 0 Absent: 2

Regular Business

1. Wall Mural

Riordan announced that plans for a wall mural downtown were being finalized and provided a drawing of what the mural would look like. A local artist will be hired to paint the mural which will be located by the pocket park area east of Cobblestone Inn and on the West wall of the Mixing Bowl. Riordan stated that a mural of this size could cost as much as \$20,000 but the artist has agreed to do it for \$8,750.00 donating a lot of labor costs since he is local. Earlier in the year the Waverly Area Partnership For Healthy Living (WAPHL) was awarded \$5,000.00 for winning 1 of 3 Healthiest Hometown awards, which the City was a large contributor. The WAPHL group decided to use the \$5,000.00 to pay for the mural. That being said Riordan will be asking Council to cover the final \$3,750.00 from the Streetscape budget to complete the mural. Earlier this year the City was also awarded a \$25,000 grant from America In Bloom that went towards helping pay for the downtown trees and plants in the Streetscape budget.

Discussion on the current drawing followed. The Commission as a whole agreed that diversity should be represented in the painting. Riordan said that had already been discussed with the artist. Winter mentioned the mural may be a destination for senior pictures, or just pictures in general. Winter also mentioned having a hashtag for people to post to social media. Riordan mentioned that there could also be a geocache or "hidden image" added to the painting.

Motion: Recommend to Council to use Streetscape funds to pay the balance of the mural (\$3,750.00).

18-20 Moved: Solheim Seconded: Pins
Yes: 4 No: 0 Absent: 2

Director's Report:

- Assuming that the Council approves payment of the mural that will be one of the final steps of the Streetscape project. Waste baskets have been ordered and should be arriving soon. There will also be chairs on some downtown corners.

- Riordan provided a drone photo of the Cedar River Park. The contractor has until the end of September to complete phase 1, but it's likely it will be completed before then.
- The Cemetery staff has begun power washing stone in the old section of Harlington Cemetery. \$5,000 was budgeted this year to begin a project of straightening and restoring old stones. Most of the stones that will be straightened or restored are very old stones and the people buried don't have family to care for the stones any longer. Staff is pursuing any donations that could help with the budgeted money.
- Bids should go out next week for South Riverside Shelter. The hope is to set the public hearing on Sept. 14 and have the public hearing and bid approval on Sept. 21.
- A new Memorial Bench will be added to the rail trail just south of the trail head behind Kwik Star. It will be for Frank Smith.
- Almost all seasonal staff are gone. It's been a challenge keeping plants and trees watered. Fortunately, with the dry weather the grass has not grown as quickly as it could have. Staff will continue to work shorthanded.
- There are currently 4 applications for Leisure Services Commission. Solheim has also submitted his for reappointment in January.

Chairperson Report: Johnson asked if anything had been decided on the mural at South Riverside. Riordan said that the plan is to have the same artist who is doing the mural at the pocket park do the mural at South Riverside. It will have a railroad theme. The thought is to complete that once the shelter and landscape is done. Hopefully sometime this coming spring. Johnson also asked if COVID has had an effect on budget. Birgen replied that we don't really know at this point what the effect will be. In some spots it cost more money, in some it saved money. Riordan mentioned that his concern is grant opportunities. A lot of the organizations may not have as much funding for grants in the upcoming year.

Reports and Communications: Riordan said that if anyone had any ideas on how to memorialize the 3rd St. SE Bridge to please let him know. Council is looking for a way to memorialize it for no more than \$7,000.00. Johnson submitted a drawing for consideration.

Next Meeting:
September 17, 2020

Adjournment:
Motion: To Adjourn
19-20
Yes: 4

Moved: Solehim
No: 0

Seconded: Winter
Absent: 2

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Garret Riordan
Commission Secretary
Leisure Services Director