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**MINUTES**  
**PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 5:15pm**  
**City Hall Lower Level Training Room**

- Members Present:** Susan Reese (Chair), Sean Downing (Council Rep), Brandon Dobbertin, Patricia LaRue, and Dennis Zielski
- Members Absent:** Brenda Gaulke and Jim Nordgren
- Staff Present:** Cindi Danke-*Recreation Manager*; Amy Peterson-*Development Services Director*; Sam Wessel-*Planner*; Brenda Rundle-*Recreation Assistant*; Mike Stifter-*Public Works Director*, and Nate Croes-*City Forester*.
- Others Present:** Melissa Pedrini-*local citizen*; Ben Fochs-*local citizen*; Rick Cleary-*Kinnickinnic Off-Road Cyclists (KORC)*; Cindy Campbell, Amy Peterson, Alan Symicek, Kristy Treichel, and Maren Valentine-*Leadership River Falls*

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting convened at 5:15pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MSC LaRue/Downing to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2018 Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting. Motion passed 5-0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Five members of the current Leadership River Falls group gave a presentation and asked Park Board for approval to add a fitness trail in a local park. This involves having various exercise stations along an existing trail, possibly in DeSanctis Park. They're looking at using a company called Fit-Trail, which comes with wood, bars, and signs for each station. They hope to get this installed this summer. They would do fundraising and get donations and provide labor in conjunction with Public Works. They are also applying for a grant. Fundraising would probably determine if they go with the ten-station system or the twenty-station system. They are picturing one main donor sign. They will work with Mike Stifter at Public Works to choose exact locations and keep mowing as simple as possible. Zielski recommends contacting local homeowners if it's near their property. Park Board had some questions regarding the future

changes at DeSanctis Park, such as possibly adding a volleyball court, and if those updates could possibly affect this fitness trail. Park Board decided to approve the concept without specific station locations, and asked Leadership to come back in the future with updates.

**MSC Zielski/Dobbertin that the Park Board endorses the concept of Leadership River Falls building outdoor fitness stations in DeSanctis Park, with the stipulation that Leadership River Falls comes back in the future to discuss the details. Motion passed 5-0.**

City Planner Sam Wessel prepared a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of River Falls and Kinnickinnic Off-Road Cyclists (KORC). It has been reviewed by both City staff and KORC. It documents all the work that has been already completed by the City and KORC, as well as future expectations the two parties have for one another. This was shared for Park Board's information. No action was needed. Both parties seem to greatly appreciate the partnership.

Amy Peterson shared a 2019 Community Development Major Projects list so Park Board members can see upcoming projects, such as Sterling Ponds park plan, Foster Cemetery preservation, operation and enhancement plan, Knollwood Park improvements, and Glen Park donated improvements.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Amy Peterson showed a map of the City's Cty Rd FF property which is 38 acres just west of the dog park. This property is zoned as a park. At present time the City rents it out as farmland. Years ago, it was planned to be multi-purpose fields or a sports facility but got pushed to the back burner due to finances. There is no sewer or water there, and it would be very expensive to bring it there. Reese suggested having a disc golf person look at it as a potential future disc golf location. Storage units have also been mentioned as a possible use. The question is if the land should be kept as potential future park, sports fields or sports facility. The strip of trees between the dog park and the farm land was also discussed; they are a good buffer, yet the trees were planted to be harvested and should be nearly ready for harvesting. Some can be left as a buffer if desired. Park Board would like more information about trends in team sports as they consider this piece of land. It was questioned if the money could go towards Glen Park or Hoffman Park if the land were sold. This will be discussed again in the near future, when the comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is prepared.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MSC Reese/LaRue to adjourn the meeting at 6:25pm. Motion passed 5-0.**

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Rundle, Recreation Assistant