



222 Lewis Street
River Falls, WI 54022

Phone 715-425-0900
Fax 715-425-0915

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 5:15 p.m.
Virtual meeting (public via call-in as listed on agenda)

Members Present: Patricia LaRue (Chair), Sean Downing (Council Rep), Brandon Dobbertin, Brenda Gaulke, Matt Janquart, and Jim Nordgren, and Melissa Pedrini.
Members Absent: None.
Staff Present: Cindi Danke-*Recreation Coordinator*; Mike Stifter-*Operations Director*; Mike Noreen-*Conservation and Efficiency Coordinator and City Forester*; and Brenda Rundle-*Recreation Assistant*.
Others Present: None.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 5:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSC Gaulke/Downing to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2021 Recreation Advisory Board Meeting. Carried 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Operations Director Mike Stifter led a discussion on Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects for 2022-2026. This list is looked at on a semi-annual basis, and a closer look is taken every few years. The updated list will go to City Council to approve this fall. Mike went over a few things that are already on the list for this year: DeSanctis schoolhouse bathroom and DeSanctis trail completion (by the developer), playground projects at Knollwood (2022), and lots of general and routine maintenance projects that are separate from the CIP. Some possible CIP projects include bathrooms at Whitetail Ridge (in partnership with KORC), dog park paving, Collins Park gazebo upkeep, and fishing pier upkeep. Collins and DeSanctis Parks need some trail maintenance in the next few years, plus new trails in the Sterling Ponds area (connecting Chapman to Huppert and Jersey Road), and pickleball court resurfacing. In the next 5-10 years several parks have the potential to see some major work done: Glen Park (phase 2), Hoffman Park, Sterling Ponds, and DeSanctis Park. Glen Park phase 2 will likely focus on the east side and the pool in the next 5-10 years. This may possibly include a shelter/warming house and multi-purpose sports field which can be flooded in the wintertime. Mike asked for Park Board to think about their wish list, which after some discussion included items like disc golf at Sterling Ponds, a possible reuse of Wells Park tennis court, a skate park, a volleyball court at DeSanctis, playground equipment at Brandan's Park, a dog park at Sterling Ponds, an ice rink, and a softball field at Sterling Ponds. Park Board would like to know approximate park maintenance costs and would also like to know the future of Lake

Louise now that it is drained. Glen Park playground donations are being collected. The park master plan may need some updating. A refined CIP list will be available to discuss at the next Park Board meeting, and it will probably be discussed monthly until it goes before City Council in the fall.

Cindi updated Park Board about the spring and summer recreation registration, which opened on Monday, March 15, and has been going well. Rec took in over \$30,000.00 on the first day and about \$44,000.00 in the first three days. People seem to be very excited this season, as we did not offer sports last summer due to COVID-19, and there seems to be quite a few new customers. The Activity Guide is available to view online, but not distributed to homes this year, and so far, only one person has asked for a paper copy at City Hall. Only two paper registration forms have been received; nearly everyone registers online.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MSC Janquart/Nordgren to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Rundle', written in a cursive style.

Brenda Rundle
Recreation Assistant