

Crosslake Parks, Recreation & Library Commission Minutes

Wednesday, August 24, 2022

Crosslake Community Center 2:00 pm

Present: Chair Joe Albrecht, Peter Graves, Kristin Graham, Kera Porter, Ann Schrupp, Sandy Melberg, Heather Jones, Council Liaison John Andrews, Parks and Recreation Director TJ Graumann, Jane Monson Community Center & Library Manager

I. Meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve Minutes of the June 22, 2022 meeting as written.

Peter/Ann Favor: All Opposed: None

III. Old Business

Nothing to address.

IV. New Business

A) Electric Bikes & Scooters on Paved Trails

TJ presented to the Members some of the issues other communities in the state are having with motorized vehicles and where they should be allowed. He suggested the Commission begin the process of defining what motorized vehicles may or may not be acceptable on our City trails before these issues become problems here. After discussion, the following motion was introduced:

Motion to table action and direct TJ to confer with Safety Committee on this issue before any decisions will be made. Peter/Sandy Favor: All Opposed: None

B) Patio Garden—Garden Club

Judy Steen, Marilyn Schoneman and Nancy Holm of the Crosslake Garden Club addressed the Members to request the free use of the Community Center and the Picnic Shelter in return for all the volunteer hours they perform for the upkeep of the Patio Garden. The ladies presented a report of the volunteer hours and the donation the Club makes each year for the maintenance of the garden. Members were agreeable to considering the request but many questions/concerns were discussed, including criteria for who (what groups) would be eligible for fees to be waived and what point would the fees be reinstated.

Motion to postpone definitely to the next meeting for further review.

Heather/Kristin Favor: All Opposed: None

The Commission Members thanked the Garden Club Members for all of the time and hard work they have invested in this ongoing project.

C) ROW Inventory Discussion

TJ suggested to the Commission they begin the process of compiling ideas on ways to determine heavily used versus rarely used and accessible or non-accessible ROW's for

identifying the next steps. Some of the ROW's have already been surveyed but for those that have not, should next year's Park & Recreation budget include monies for further surveys?

D) Park Dedication Verbiage

TJ was approached by the Planning and Zoning Department that perhaps the Commission should replace or redefine the term "unit" in the current Park Dedication Policy. Discussion ensued. The following motion was introduced:

Motion to postpone definitely the discussion on defining "units" until Planning and Zoning staff can be in attendance for clarification and questions.

Peter/Heather Favor: All Opposed: None

E) Copying Services

Jane addressed the Commission to request their support in reinstating copying services to library patrons and guests in order to better meet the needs of the community. As of now, the library only provides printing services and receives requests from the public several times a week to make copies. Since the local business that provided this service is not open at this time and it appears uncertain of whether or not it will reopen, the library would be a good option to fulfill this need. Copies would be made during operational hours only and be limited to "as is" only; no enlarging or colored copies would be made.

Motion to recommend to the Council re-establishing copying service, in the library only, at a rate of 25¢ per copy with a limit of 25 pages, until such time another business in Crosslake provides this service. Ann/Heather Favor: All Opposed: None

V. Other Business

A) Staff Report

1. Playground—Shade feature and border are now completed. More mulch is needed and we are still waiting for the electrician to hook up the timer. An additional ADA approved swing has been ordered as well.

2. Pavilion—The floor epoxy is now finished and looks great as well as assists with easier maintenance. TJ also reported to the Commission the events planned for Saturday, September 24th during Crosslake Days. Many of the events will utilize the updated shelter including the Chili Cookoff, cart tours and the Grand Opening of the new playground at 11:00 am that morning.

3. Cornhole Boards—The new Cornhole Boards are finished and available for play. Interested players may pick up a set of bean bags in the office at no charge however, collateral (drivers license or car keys) is required.

4. Survey—TJ included in the packets an update on the survey information. Discussion ensued.

5. Library Update—Jane reported on the following library items of interest:

a) School—the Crosslake Community School will once again be utilizing the library this school year. Schedules are being determined and volunteers recruited for these visits.

b) Hours—Fall/Winter hours will be going into effect at the end of September. At that time, the library will be closed Saturdays due to limited volunteers during winter months and the lower number of visitors on that day.

c) Story Time—Story Time with Rebecca will finish the last week of August. Unfortunately, attendance was not as high as we anticipated however, the program was well received by the

families that attended so we will try it again earlier next summer, volunteer schedule permitting. Jane would like to give a special ‘thank you’ to our creative volunteer Rebecca who did a fabulous job with the program.

d) ECFE—Jane informed the Members that the ECFE Outreach program will be held Monday’s starting October 3rd through December 5th and is now open for registration. The PAL Foundation will be providing financial scholarships for families for registration fees if needed.

e) Book Sales—Joe reported the Book Sales have done well this year; even better than expected due to the road construction project. The last sale for this year is scheduled for Friday and Saturday September 2nd & 3rd from 10:00-3:00 both days. The library will stop accepting book donations on October 1st until next spring due to storage limitations.

B) Commission Comments

1. John Andrews congratulated the Story Time program and Rebecca our volunteer reader for a job well done. John also addressed the need for affordable housing for workers in our community and suggested the Commission begin considering waiving Park Dedication Fees and other options on projects being developed to help meet these needs.

2. Sandy inquired about the memorial bench project. TJ reported the concrete slabs had been poured and as soon as it is cured the benches will be installed.

3. Joe inquired if Joelle Tibit of Pequot Lakes Community Education had any items of interest to share. She offered to assist with getting the word out on our survey. She also suggested the Commission utilize the bike rental shop owner in Nisswa as a resource when addressing the motorized bike/trails issues. She informed the Commission that the Pequot Lakes School District will be hosting informational/planning meetings to address school facilities and everyone in the district is welcome to attend.

4. Peter made a request of TJ to provide an overview of Park Dedication Fees for new members. He inquired as to what funding sources the Parks/Library Department has and what it can be used for. He also suggested the PAL Foundation come in and speak to their role in this process.

VI. Open Forum

Nothing

VII. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn Peter/Kristin Favor: All Opposed: None