

Crosslake Parks, Recreation and Library Commission
January 27, 2021
Crosslake City Hall 2:00 pm

Members Present: Chair Mic Tchida, Joe Albrecht, Kristin Graham, Darrell Shannon, Ann Schrupp, Council Liaison Jon Andrews, Library Manager Jane Monson, Parks and Recreation Director TJ Graumann
 Guest in Attendance: Mayor Dave Nevin, Jon Kolstad Planning and Zoning Administrator

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

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion: to Approve Minutes from January 5, 2021 with correction of spelling on Chair Mic Tchida's name. Joe/Ann Favor: All Opposed: None

III. South Bay Park

Updated map, with all items included from improvement plan, was presented by TJ. This map will be for the US Corp of Engineers approval only. The map included a more detailed, zoom view of several of the smaller item locations. TJ reviewed the 5-year plan plus potential future amenities. The Corp must approve the plans before the Phase 1 Archeological Survey may proceed.

IV. WinterFest

WinterFest activities are scheduled for February 4th through February 6th. Activities at the park will be held Friday and Saturday and include skiing, skating, sledding and drive by fireworks. COVID Restrictions will be in place. Darrell pointed out the park was featured in the last edition of the Northland Press.

V. Expanded Hours

The Community Center has hired two new part-time employees who will primarily be covering evening/weekend hours. The current hours are Monday-Thursday 8:00 am to 8:00 pm; Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm; Saturday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm; and, Sunday 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

VI. Library Update

A) Jane reported in addition to the Monday through Thursday hours of 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, beginning in February, the Library will be open Fridays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

B) Discussions are ongoing for the upcoming Book Sale season with regards to how we can offer the event with COVID restrictions and social distancing in place. We are looking at perhaps opening the sale room one day a week by appointment only or offering a sale table in the library itself.

C) With the assistance of private sponsors, we plan to begin a children's reading program this Spring for children in grades 1-6. Children will read books and record their progress in reaching goals while earning small rewards. The plan is to have this program in place by late spring.

VII. Old Business

A) Ordinance Amendment—ROW Vacation

The Council voted to amend the City ROW vacation ordinance and will now follow the State Statute regarding ROW vacations. Therefore, the Orth/Evenson/McCormick vacation application is once again before the Commission.

Commission Chair Mic stated he was disappointed that once again, this Commission's recommendation to the Council was by-passed. He stated he agrees with the Statute but not with the process.

Council Liaison Andrews reported the Council ruling was encouraged by the City Attorney who believes the Commission's previous recommendation was not supported by the State Statute. Mayor Nevin added the Council's decision to follow the State Statute was in part so each time changes were made by the State, the City would not have to keep making updates to an ordinance.

Planning and Zoning Administrator, Jon Kolstad, was invited to present a further explanation of the processes for application under the State Statute and how they pertain to the previous request. He stated the ROW boundaries extension to the shore line take precedence over private property lines. Now, the petitioner for a ROW vacation must provide a survey, which is to be paid for by the applicant, and must show that the ROW is useless for the intent it was created for. He also informed the Commission that according to the LCL, the vacation can benefit the people requesting it but must also benefit everyone. He estimates that surveys of each of these ROW's will cost approximately \$1,000.00 to \$1,500.00.

In regards to the request in front of the Commission once again, Anne posed the question is the Commission setting precedence by approving this particular request. Jon replied that no, merits of each individual request need to be determined. If the request is denied at Council, the petitioner options would be to bring it to District Court, where a Judge could rule to overturn the Council's decision if they determine the petitioner has proven the tract is useless for the intent it was created for, or the applicant could petition the City for a Use Permit. The Council could grant a Use Permit in terms of: 1) for the duration of time the applicant owns the property; 2) for a set amount of time with a deadline; or, 3) forever.

Mayor Nevin suggested the Commission concentrate on those ROW's that are valuable to the City and let the others go. Topographical issues should be the focus.

After further discussion the following motion was entertained:

Motion: To Approve the ROW vacation application for said property. Joe/Darrell

Favor: All Opposed: None

VIII. Open Forum

A) TJ suggested the Department and Commission set up a data base of the ROW's and their history, and adopt policy which would include site visits and advice from Planning and Zoning Department, to proceed with these decisions in the future.

B) Joe inquired about the Pickleball fee recommendations that were made at a meeting late last year for 2021. TJ informed the Commission that the decision was made by the Department to set the annual fee at \$50.00/day pass \$4.00. The amount had already been approved by the Council. The Mayor stated he was disappointed by the reduction in fees as the City had

provided funding for the facility with the understanding the Pickleball players would continue to do their part.

C) The Mayor addressed the Commission on the following items:

1) The Mayor was disappointed his new appointment was not in attendance at the meeting and two Commission members he had not re-appointed were still voting. TJ explained that the January meeting was the final meeting of their term. The Mayor questioned if non-residents should be permitted on the Commission. He felt they should not be voting on issues that may affect residents' taxes, etc.

2) The Mayor would like to get children back in to the Community Center. He feels there isn't anything for them to do.

3) The Mayor also stated emails should be sent out with Zoom invites for the Commission meetings. TJ clarified invites were on the websites.

IX. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Darrell/Joe Favor: All Opposed: None