

Crosslake Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

Crosslake City Hall 2:00 p.m.

Present: Joe Albrecht, Mic Tchida, Darrell Shannon, Kristin Graham, Alternate Kera Porter, Jane Monson, Community Center/Library Manager, Parks and Recreation Director TJ Graumann. Via Skype: Ann Schrupp, Sandy Melberg, Heather Jones, and Council Liaison John Andrews

Guests Present: Jon Kolstad, Planning and Zoning, Peter and Pam Graves, Kevin McCormick, and Jason Bacca.

I. Meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Director TJ Graumann.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion to Approve Minutes of February 24, 2021 meeting as written: Darrell/Mic

(Roll call votes will be taken for all Motions) **Favor: All**

III. Election of Chair

The floor was opened for nominations for the Chair position for 2021.

Motion to nominate Joe Albrecht as Chair. Mic/Ann Favor: All

IV. ROW Vacation Application

The Leo P. Varley Revocable Trust ROW Vacation was presented for approval to this Commission. TJ reported that John Kolstad of Planning and Zoning, Commission Member Darrell Shannon and himself visited the site earlier today. Pictures of the location were presented. Elevation at the site was questioned. Kevin McCormick of Land Design Solutions, asked to address the Commission as a representative of the property owner Mr. Varley. He argued the case this ROW serves no public purpose. The grade is over 35%. He commented that with the change of the vacation ordinance to coordinate with State Statutes, more people will be asking the City for vacations. His client stated to him no one uses this access to the lake.

Mr. Jason Bacca, a neighbor who owns an interior lot across the street from the ROW, vehemently denies no one uses the property. At one time he used stairs that was located on the property but was then told the staircase was on private property. He stated the lake should be available to everyone not just the rich. When he bought his interior lot in the development, he was given the impression and has since operated under the assumption, that this ROW was available for off lake property owners to use. He reiterated the property is being used and approving this will cause a domino effect for all the ROW's until there are no ROW's left. Discussion ensued.

At this time, John Kolstad clarified the accesses are for people in the interior lots. These ROW's were originally platted in 1929. The City does not allow for maintenance or improvements of any kind on the ROW's. At today's visit, it was noted improvements have been made, it had been mowed and there is a boat lift and some dock stored on it.

McCormick stated that the property owners actually own the property underneath these ROW's.

Sandy stated these ROW's provide natural shoreline, which in turn promotes less algae and thus a cleaner lake. Shoreline plays an important part of saving our lakes.

The following motion was introduced: **Motion to deny request, as it appears to this**

Commission this ROW is being used by the public. Ann/Sandy Favor: 6 Opposed: 1

V. Community Center Signage

Staff recently completed refurbishing of the Community Center sign located at the corner of County Road 66 and Daggett Pine Road. Through a donation of wood and lettering, the dog park will be added to the sign. TJ is working with the PAL Foundation for new signage in the future.

VI. Outdoor Pickleball Courts

TJ is assisting the Pickleball players group and the PAL Foundation who are applying for a Crow Wing Power Community Trust Grant in order to complete phase III of the Pickleball court project. TJ presented the proposal with pictures for the Commission. The addition would serve multiple purposes such as shade from heat, a tentative spectator area and space for tournament organization/operations. City Staff would install this area so only the cost of the materials is being included. Updates to come.

VII. Dog Park

TJ explained the Dog Park Committee still has items to compete; mainly the pavilion and sand point well. The Parks Department does not have the equipment needed to move the large boulders which need to be relocated however, Public Works does.

Motion: The Parks Commission requests the City Council direct the Public Works Department to complete items on the dog park punch list. Joe/Mic

Comment and question time followed:

Mic stated this is a good time for public works to do this before they get too busy.

Darrell questioned why this pavilion and the Pickleball court pavilion don't match and if the City can get a permit for a sand point well.

TJ explained the pavilion is similar to the trail head kiosk and it was purchased as a kit. TJ will investigate the policy/procedure for the well construction.

Pam Graves explained the reason they aren't the same is the roof line of the dog park pavilion is designed to drain water on all four sides to prevent erosion. The Pickleball court pavilion is designed to drain water from the courts.

Darrell commented it would be nice to have uniformity.

Peter Graves stated the Pickleball courts have a cement slab to anchor roof and keep courts clean; the dog park's priority is to keep the terrain as natural as possible.

At this time a roll call vote was called for: Favor: All Opposed: None

VIII. South Bay Park Update

On March 2nd, TJ and Mike Lyonais, the City Administrator, met with Corrine Hodapp and Jason Hauser representing the Corp of Engineers to review the management plan for the park. TJ has made the following changes as requested to the management plan:

- 1) removed the sentence stating, this is a cooperative effort between the City and the Corp;
- 2) added a bullet regarding pesticide application: and
- 3) changing the hours of the park from 5 am – 10 pm to 7 am – 10 pm to coincide with the Corp campgrounds hours.

A site visit was completed and recommendations for a development plan specifically stating details of amenities will need to be included. TJ is currently working on the development plan details which need to be completed before the archeological survey can be done.

IX. Park Dedication

- 1) Schnitker-Motion to accept cash in lieu of land. Darrell/Joe Favor: All**
2) Gallaway-Motion to accept cash in lieu of land. Darrell/Joe Favor: All

X. Community Center Usage Policy Amendment

An amendment to the Usage Policy is requested by TJ and staff to address providing/prohibiting parking for non-Community Center use/events. The amendment reads as such: The parking lot is to be utilized by Community Center and Park visitors only. No signage will be positioned at this time.

Motion to Amend Policy as presented. Mic/Darrell Favor: All

XI. Winter Trail Maintenance

TJ provided stats on the time and costs it would take to maintain the City's trail system in the winter months. He reported the City would be exempt from liability if trails were plowed only (no salting, etc.). If it is decided winter maintenance would proceed, policies for priorities must be written. Discussion ensued addressing benefits vs costs. No further action will be taken at this time.

XII. Surveillance System Update

The Council approved an update to the Community Center Surveillance System. The first phase includes new wiring and replacing interior cameras. The project will start approximately April 12th.

XIII. Library Update

The Library updates were presented by manager Jane Monson.

Book Sale dates and procedures are being discussed.

A Summer Reading Program for children in grades 1-6 is being finalized. More details will be available soon.

Volunteer update was provided; it is anticipated the Library will be fully operational once again by early summer.

XIV. Open Forum

1) TJ presented the idea of selling advertising banners as a way to secure program/project funding. The banners would be sold for the length of a season with the option to renew for the next year. They could hang on fences during the season or for tournaments. The consensus of the Commission was to support this idea as long as there is no conflict with sign ordinance.

2) Darrell presented to the Members the idea a Vice Chair be in place to conduct the meetings when the Chair is not present.

Motion: To nominate Mic Tchida as Vice Chair for 2021. Darrell/Joe Favor: 6 Abstain: 1

XV. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn. Sandy/Ann Favor: All