Park and Vacant Land Committee Draft Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, January 9, 2023
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Location: 2800 Ward Ave, La Crosse, WI 54601

Present: Chairperson Renee Knutson; Committee Members, Monica Redmond, Jeffrey Butler, and Josh Blum; Administrator Christina Peterson.

Excused: Committee Members Jean Wiggert and Brad Reinhart

Attendance List: none

1. Meeting called to order by Chairperson Knutson at – 5:33 p.m.
2. Approve Minutes from 12/5/2022. Motion by Redmond to approve minutes from 12/5/2022, second by Blum. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Citizen’s Concerns. None.
4. Project Priorities List for 2023. Renee went over changes and updates after discussion with Terry Wright/Public Works. Committee could break project list up by season, so lead time can be planned out. The list could also separate which projects would be done by Public Works and which could be done by the Committee.
   a. Nolop Estates Park – Playground equipment could be sandblasted and painted or given powder coat. Could be completed in winter. Large stone and plantings could be added.
   b. Pammel Creek Park – Oval walking trail could be chipsealed instead of pavement. Terry suggested to rerock and let sit for a year, then chipseal would be $14,100. Josh mentioned the trail industry is moving towards chipseal since it is more economical. Re-rocking will come out of maintenance budget. $14,100 will be in the 2024 budget for chipseal. Peterson suggested that Public Works could ask the electrician for an estimate to run electricity to shelter at Pammel Creek Park and Smyth Park.
   c. Renee will do more review of garbage can options. Locations suggested were Gazebo Park, and Pammel Creek Road Trail/drive-in road.
   d. Private Property Signage - Josh has connection for template and suggested we add logo. Josh will work with Renee and Tim Candahl to plan quantity and locations.
   e. Walking trail maps. Planned by quarter 2. May not want to refurbish frames. Josh will look at ideas and he likes city of la crosse style. Locations for trail map signs would be near paved trails: Wedgewood Valley, Skyline Park, Pammel Creek Road.
   f. Replace bench and tree brochure. Wilder way had concrete benches for Renee to view. Renee will work on a brochure. Potential area for bench would be Drive In road greenspace - extend trail catwalk all the way to old wellhouse. Improve the area with benches, trees, and open space, not necessarily a playground. Plantings vs all mowing.
   g. Disc golf signs. Go ahead and order, add logo later.
   h. Park entrance signs – Taking some time. Renee offered to bring photos of examples.
   i. Handicapped Swing – Josh will check on the size and style preference.
5. Committee Structure. Discussion about website parks landing page. Renee talked to the committee alternate Meredith and read her letter confirming that she will not continue. Ehler has stepped down from committee, so now there is an opening. The committee agreed to avoid having the
alternate position in the future. The plan is to solicit new members, specifically someone who resides in the southern area of Shelby for better coverage. Peterson will reach out to Brad and Jean to see if they would like to renew their term. Will hold off on assigning other positions on the committee until all committee members are appointed. There was mention of some or all members not receiving an oath as the Parks and Vacant Land Committee Ordinance states.

6. **Grant efforts for Butterfly Trail Field.** No update from Ehler.

7. **Reports.**
   a. Peterson noted that the GIS project is going well, and a new intern will be starting soon. She also showed the committee the memorial plaque that has been approved by the Town Board. She also reported the Nelson property purchase is not final.
   b. No response was given to ORA regarding their request to install a Sled Library. Josh said the city allows sled libraries. Christina will respond to ORA.
   c. Renee noted letter from Arbor Hills resident supporting trails and connections.

8. **Adjournment.** Motion by Butler, second by Redmond to adjourn Parks and Vacant Land Committee Meeting at 7:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Next regular meeting will take place Monday, February 6th, 2023 @ 5:30 p.m. (cancelled)

Respectfully Submitted, Christina Peterson, Town Administrator