

**Presque Isle Parks and Recreation Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
February 17, 2021**

Call to order—The regular meeting of the Presque Isle Parks and Recreation Committee was called to order by Chair, Barb Peck, at 10:06 A.M., February 17, 2021, in the Presque Isle town office large meeting room. Also present were committee members Al Drum, Eric Benn and Rich Schmalzer. Liaison, Cathy Weber was out of town and did not attend.

Item 1-Approval of the minutes of January 20, 2021—Rich moved to approve the 01/20/2021 minutes, seconded by Eric. Motion carried.

Item 2-Public Comment—None

Item 3-Correspondence

- Rich reported that Steve Dimig, Lions member, is interested in pursuing a band music stage, perhaps in Pipke Park. Steve would like to help in the effort to provide funding and to help in coordinating support efforts from other town organizations. Steve estimated that the project could cost as much as \$30,000.00. He felt that the Lions could help to develop this funding.
- Rich reported that the DNR is supportive of the engineering plans for the reconstruction of the Little Horsehead Lake boat landing. Bidding will commence soon. The engineers feel that the project can be completed in 2021.
- Eric commented that someone needs to step up to assume the role that Sarah Johnson filled in the scheduling of outdoor music programs.
- Eric pointed out that the Economic Development Committee is interested in a joint meeting with Parks and Rec. Barb added that additional groups should be included in a joint meeting.

Item 4-Old Business

Item a) Maintenance—Eric reported that the Annabelle Lake kiosk needs repairs or replacement. Perhaps the Presque Isle Town Lakes Committee, and Parks and Rec, could help out.

Item b) Grill at Pipke Park pavilion—Barb began discussion by addressing the handling of the propane fuel tanks that power the grill. The grill is actually not for regular public use, but instead is intended for use at organized group activities. When groups schedule use of the grill, the tanks are to be provided to event organizers, who will then be responsible for securing the tanks after use. Some simple procedures need to be set up to control this practice.

Item c) Main Street Redevelopment—Eric began this topic by pointing out that the Wisconsin Department of Transportation had not yet released final plans for the downtown renovation. Utility poles have been moved in preparation for the work. The DNR is considering stormwater drainage plans for the project. Eric also discussed the ownership and easements status of three existing downtown land parcels where the runoff water treatment system is to be installed. The treatment system may affect placement of a proposed access route from downtown to Pipke Park. A little later on, Town Chair Marshall Reckard joined the meeting to report that the DOT plans have now been approved for the downtown renovation.

Item d) Catherine Wolter Wilderness Area Trails—Rich pointed out that Chair Marshall Reckard feels that the existing agreement between Presque Isle and the Wolter Land Trust should be honored. This agreement stipulates that cross country ski trail grooming should be conducted on just one 2.5 mile trail route (leaving other trails un-groomed for snowshoe use). Perhaps when this agreement comes up for renewal, Parks and Rec may want to join the discussion regarding the extent of trail grooming.

Item e) Pipke Park Beavers—Rich reported that on Tuesday, February 23, Rich has scheduled a visit to Pipke Park by a DNR field representative who will make recommendations for control of beaver tree damage in Pipke Park after an inspection session in the park. Other members are welcome to participate.

Item 5-New Business

Item a) Town of Presque Isle Comprehensive Plan—Eric summarized the Plan preparation sessions. The State of Wisconsin requires that comprehensive plans be prepared, and periodically updated, by towns. The Planning and Zoning Commission is presently reevaluating and updating Presque Isle's plan. Chapters 1-9 discuss existing elements in Presque Isle, with each chapter ending by establishing goals and objectives requiring commitment. The update effort is focusing primarily on these goals and objectives. Al added an observation to Eric's summary. Rich agreed with this process, adding that periodic reviews are important for plans of this type.

Item b) Next Meeting—Wednesday, March 17, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Drum  
Secretary, Presque Isle Parks and Recreation Committee  
Transcribed Wednesday, February 24, 2021