

**PARK & REC. COMMITTEE**  
**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2020 @ 5:30 P.M.**  
City Hall Council Chambers

- 1.) The Park and Rec. meeting was called to order by Chairman T. Hearley @ 5:40 p.m.
- 2.) Roll Call: Sue Anderson, Todd Hearley, Tere Hochmuth, Wesley Markusen (- during meeting), Diane Motiff  
Also Present: Director of Park, Rec., and Forestry John Bostedt
- 3.) **Markusen witnessed approval of Agenda; Motiff expressed a second. (5 Ayes)**
- 4.) **Approval of Park & Rec. Meeting Minutes from October 14, 2020 was placed in motion by Markusen with a second of Motiff. (5 Ayes)**
- 5.) Public Input: Leadership is waiting on ownership of procuring the Christmas tree @ Freedom Park. There will be no Santa activities @ City Hall.
- 6.) Correspondence: None.

7.) **Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the Following:**

a.) Parks & Recreation

i. Bird City— No new information @ the direction of Cordula Van DenHeuvel.

ii. 2020 Parks Employees— The renewal deadline by our Working Foreman has been met with no response: a new Working Foreman will have to be sought in January. The Committee suggested an interview searching for the most qualified candidate include them.

iii. City Docks— Drawings of a kayak launch and handicap fishing platform and costs with potential sponsors was discussed by the Committee. Director Bostedt will present the proposal to the Bond Foundation.

iv. Copper Culture State Park— Two handouts: Copper Culture museum operation agreement and Copper Culture State Park land use agreement were placed in discussion as several meetings before. It had been determined that the contract has had no updates for the past 3 years. Since then changes in the property have occurred including who is running the museum, guides, building upkeep, and property development for tourists. This cannot happen without State involvement, meaning, a response to our electronic requests. Administrator Perrizo and Director Bostedt have been met with promises and changing administrations with no carry through. Although there is a new Regional representative as of August to whom Perrizo will make contact. **Anderson motioned to terminate the contract with the State concerning Copper Culture State Park due to the lack of response, even in recent e-mails. The State can renegotiate with new terms, to be determined by the City of Oconto Park and Rec. Committee. Motiff called second to this 3 year delayed necessary decision. (M/C)**

v. The 2021 Parks Budget has been approved as presented, including wages.

vi. The Park and Rec. start of winterizing is near completion.

b.) Aageson Pool— 2021 Pool Budget has been approved for the most part: IF COVID continues throughout the spring, the pool will remain closed the 2021 summer.

c.) Holtwood Campground

i. 2021 Reservations will continue to be made in the future: 3 or 4 sites remain open for Memorial Weekend. The Campground has been closed as of November 1<sup>st</sup> due to Winter Wonderland.

ii. 2020 Seasonals/2021 Seasonals— We are waiting for 4 seasonals to recommit their site for 2021. November 30<sup>th</sup> marks the deadline for \$100 down payment.

iii. Campground Manager's monthly report, of Director John Bostedt, handed out @ meeting, was read with a yearly budget comparison and monthly comparison. The final month was discussed, noting an early

close revenue loss. Also noted was the last \$25,000 payment will be made to the City of Oconto in 2021. We learned that the DNR (who continue to shift job positions) will probably not let us fill in flooded sites but we can deal with the culvert. Building up the pads was also discussed. Lost revenue will result if the property is not protected. Bostedt also reminded the Committee of the purchase of 2 paddle boats. He included budget money for 4 golf carts in 2021, and explained how their use will be handled.

d.) City Park/City Park Campground is winterized but there remains a port-a-potty in the north parking lot.

e.) Holtwood Sporting Complex winterization has been processed.

NOTE: The Holtwood Campground computer is being cleaned and will be stored for the 2021 season.

Camper Revenue is being lost by the too early set-up of Winter Wonderland setup: this will be corrected in the next year.

#### 8.) Parks Update: WINTERIZED.

a.) City Docks – Tere Hochmuth +

b.) City Park & Campground – Diane Motiff +

c.) Copper Culture – Todd Hearley + and remains active with walkers

d.) Freedom Park – All + Cornstalks (Vicky McDonald) up and down Main St. were discussed. If the volunteer has them up for Harvest Fest... they could very likely stay up through Thanksgiving. No one should have to do their own unless they have expressed this desire. Those who place them in position should remove them.

e.) Holtwood Park – Sue Anderson +

f.) Sharp Park – Wesley Markusen + After the fact, the Director and Committee were informed of 2 middle-school students having a fight on the property.

g.) Bond Park – Diane Motiff +

#### 9.) Park Special Events: Update

a) Free installed smoke detectors- Oconto Fire & Rescue Department – with any questions or to set up an appointment to install call (920) 834-7775

b) 2020 Winter Wonderland set-up starting Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> [Flag Marking] (Discussion in 7.)

10.) Next Meeting Date/Time: Wednesday, December 16 @ 5:30 p.m.

Discrepancy in the miscellaneous account, at the last meeting, was explained by J. Bostedt: selling the trailer, reimbursement from UPEA, and golf cart lack of usage.

Minutes submitted by

Susan K. Seidl