

DRAFT
MARATHON COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

Date and Time of Meeting: May 3, 2022 at 10:30am Location: Room 5, 212 River Drive, Wausau WI 54403

Park Commissioners present: Dawn Herbst, Jean Maszk, Allen Opall, Rick Seefeldt, Kelly Zagrzebski, two vacancies

Staff present: Jamie Polley-Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director, Marcus Aumann-Assistant Director of Community Services - (via webex), Andy Sims-Assistant Director of Operations

1. Call to Order – Vice-President Seefeldt called the Park Commission meeting to order at 10:30am. Official notice and the agenda for the meeting was posted publicly in accordance with the State statutes.

2. Public Comment – Commission members mentioned a letter from a snowmobile club that had been sent to County Board members expressing their concern over the Motorized Recreation Coordinator vacancy. Aumann discussed the current status of the program and the new position which is titled Recreation Coordinator. Aumann will reach out to the club to give them information.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the April 5, 2022 Park Commission Meeting – Motion by Maszk, second by Zagrzebski to approve the April 5, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 5-0.

4. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee

1. Westside Master Plan Progress Update - Polley explained that at the June meeting MSA will be present to provide preliminary concepts and a review of public input. Community input is still being taken through a public survey and an open house will be held on May 17th. MSA is gathering information from all entities involved and has given an initial report. Polley said that Marathon Park is a beautiful park in the center of Wausau and they would like to make it more pristine. She discussed some of the possible ideas which could include making it more parklike by planting more grass and removing some of the gravel, removing/shifting roads, making the perimeter road into walking trails, moving/updating or building a new hockey rink, updating East Gate Hall, and removing public parking in the park during the Fair. Polley discussed other considerations including the area directly south of the park, the University area east of the park, Marathon Junction, and camping. Seefeldt discussed some of the Fairboards ideas. Polley said next month MSA will go into the concepts more in-depth based on discussions and feedback.

5. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution:

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee - None

B. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee to Forward to the Environmental Resource Committee for its Consideration - None

Opall left the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

6. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination for Consideration by Environmental Resources Committee

A. 2023 Capital Improvement Project Requests – Polley explained that projects are due May 20th and will be going to the Environmental Resources Committee meeting on May 31st. She discussed the following projects that staff will be submitting which include replacing the Marathon Park campground playground, the Amco Park playground, replacing the DC Everest Park restroom and possibly hooking it to city sewer and water, Big Eau Pleine Park road repairs, Multipurpose Building flat roof repair, replacing Sunny Vale Park softball field lights, replacing the Multipurpose Buildings cooling tower, reconstruction of the Dells of Eau Claire Park beach parking area and roadway, and beginning implementation of items identified within the Westside Master Plan. Questions were answered. **Motion** by Maszk, second by Herbst to approve the 2023 Capital Improvement Project requests. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 4-0.

7. Educational Presentation/Outcome Monitoring Reports for Discussion

A. Park Update – Big Eau Pleine: Playground installation is underway, roadway work is scheduled for September. Sunnyvale Softball: Programs have begun. People’s Sports Complex: Limited play begins May 1, regular play begins May 8, tournament on May 14-15. Various park and forest units: Significant spring clean-up. Campgrounds: Campgrounds open for the season April 29. Routine Operations/Programs: Firewood Processing is complete, Urban forestry program: Regular tree maintenance, small pruning. Building and structure maintenance, equipment maintenance and repair, shelter rentals and events.

8. Announcements

A. Next Meeting Date & Time, Location – Tuesday, May 31, 2022 at 10:30am, 212 River Dr., Rm. 5, Wausau WI 54403.

B. Future Agenda Items – Ordinance Updates, role of Park Commission

9. Adjourn – Motion by Herbst, second by Maszk to adjourn at 11:50 a.m. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 4-0.