

Richland County Parks Commission
August 3rd, 2015
Meeting Minutes

The August 3rd, 2015 meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Bellman at 5:30 p.m. Those present were Bob Bellman, Charles Parduhn, Larry Jewell, Gary Peters, Don Seep, Mark McCaulley, Carl Welke and Cathy Cooper. Larry Jewell and Duane Klang were absent.

The agenda was mailed out and it was posted at the Courthouse bulletin board. Don Seep moved to approve the agenda and proof of notification second made by Chip Parduhn. Motion carried.

Motion made by Don Seep to approve the minutes of the July meeting, second made by Chip Parduhn. Motion carried.

Public Input was next on the agenda. Carl Welke, a concerned citizen of Richland County. He wishes to discuss the use of the Pine River by various groups, ie; kayakers, canoers, fishermen just to name a few. His concern is that there seems to be too much tree removal and the destruction of some of the fish habitat. Carl's property is north of Rockbridge on County Hwy C just off of Highway 80 towards Yuba. He would like to have the users of the Pine River to understand the proper way to remove tree debris along the river so not to destroy the habitat for fish. Mark McCaulley spoke with the board. He would like to have a meeting for the Friends of Pine, the fishermen and the DNR. Steve suggested for both Carl & Mark to work together with Carrie Olson, DNR. Conversation continued for the next 45 minutes. We need to know the regulations on state waters and who enforces the fines. Carl & Mark will keep Cathy informed as to when and where there will be a meeting of all the groups.

Bike Trail storm damage was next on the agenda. Cathy handed out photos of the trees that were down. These trees have been removed from the trail. The city along with James Peterson Sons has filled in the culvert that went to nowhere on the trail. Cathy spoke with Mike Drake and he has looked at the trail as to what it would take to mow the trail. Don Wanless has also looked at the trail for mowing. They both feel they could mow the trail with a tractor with either a pull behind mower and/or a bat wing attachment. Mike stated that the rental of a tractor with a wing would be \$75 an hour from Simpson. He would charge \$100.00 an hour to mow the trail down and back. Chip stated that the trail really needs to be sprayed because the trail was closed for a year. The Highway Department will not do the spraying. In the past Premier Co-Op has used their boom trucks to spray the trail. Discussion of having someone to spray the trail with a four-wheeler and a boom using a mixture of roundup and 2 4-D. The commission needs to find out if a special license to do the spraying is needed and what the certifications will be needed. The highway department will not roll the trail this year because it has too much grass on it. Cathy will check with Premier Co-Op for spraying the trail later this year and then the rolling and spreading of screenings could wait until next season. This will be discussed more at the September meeting.

The outdoor recreation plan update was next on the agenda. Cathy handed out some information from the last plan and asked the commission to review the hand outs and bring the recommendations back to the September meeting.

Rifle range was next. The range is in great shape at this point according to Steve. The security camera is not up yet. The sheriff's department had a shoot at the end of July and it was cleaned very well.

Weekend walk was next. Claire Hagg was not available for the meeting.

Rockbridge Park; walking trail-James Golackson, Boy Scout was not at the meeting. Cathy spoke with Dan Pepich and there is talk of having a big weekend for working on the trail. Don would like to see the west side of the park more developed in the future. Vertical Adventures did not have a representative at the meeting. Next was the playground equipment. Cathy received a call from Renee Christianson, she is interested in taking the spring toys and use them for display in her yard. Discussion followed. The spring toys need to be removed from the park and this will not happen until a later date. The iron horses, spring toys and the merry go round all need to be removed. This will be placed on the September agenda for further discussion. Steve spoke of things that he has noticed in area camp grounds for playground equipment and sand. Could we purchase some equipment from Menards and maybe even have this as a project for the next Eagle Scout. More discussion of clearing out the old equipment. Don Seep will get in contact with Scott Banker regarding the removal of some of the old equipment and report back to the commission in September.

Nothing new to report on the 1995 Ordinance.

Cathy has received a report back from George Christianson regarding the Archeological dig. She passed around a couple of copies. The state will not pay for this dig because it is not DNR property. We still have not received a bill. Bob was still not sure about the curation, he thinks that if we are patient the State Historical society may curate the artifacts for free.

The pit toilets at Pier Park needs to be pumped, Tammy has called Ron Fogo to have that done.

Commission member reports – Chip reported that he thinks the new sewer plant is in its final stages of testing.

Cathy reported about the snowmobile bridge permit. The permit will not be issued until after the grant money has been confirmed. Cathy will be going to Wausau on August 24th to present the request for the bridge.

The following bills were presented for August; Town & Country Sanitation, \$368.17; Nature's Way Portable Units, \$220.50; Richland County Highway Department, \$1,997.77. Motion made by Steve Kohlstedt to approve the August bills as presented, second made by Gary Peters. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be on Monday September 14th, 2015. Meeting will begin at 5:30pm in the conference room of the Ag Service Center, 26136 Executive Ln.

Motion made by Steve Kohlstedt to adjourn the meeting, second made by Chip Parduhn. Motion carried.

Meeting ended at 7:40 pm.



Bob Bellman
Parks Commission Chair