

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members  
Park and Recreation Commission Members  
FROM: Bill Waller, City Administrator  
DATE: March 16, 2021  
RE: Meeting Minutes  
March 15, 2021

The La Crescent Park and Recreation Commission met at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, March 15, 2021, in the City Council Chambers at the La Crescent City Hall. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. Section 13D.021 and due to the COVID-19 pandemic, members of the Park & Recreation Commission and City staff were given the option to attend the meeting by telephone or zoom. The following members were present in person: Jon Steffes, Paul McLellan, and Sarah Wetterlin. Diana Adamski was present via Zoom. Commission members Eileen Krenz, Mike Limberg, and Randy Dobbs were not in attendance. Also in attendance in person were Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner, Chris Fortsch, and Bill Waller.

1. It was the consensus of the Commission to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2021 Park and Recreation Commission meeting as presented.
2. A memo from Jason Ludwigson, the City's Sustainability Coordinator, was reviewed with the Commission regarding on-going work to secure easements to allow for the development of trails that are identified in the City's Blufflands Plan. This item will be placed on the agenda for the next Park & Recreation Commission meeting.
3. Jon Steffes provided an update regarding the 2021 summer recreation season and schedule. It was the consensus of the Commission that final decisions regarding programming for the summer of 2021 would be reviewed and discussed at the April Park & Recreation Commission meeting.
4. The Commission was updated on the City's efforts to develop a formal plan focused on maintenance and permitted uses in the City's natural spaces. Discussion followed regarding the City's 2012 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Plan, and the changes that have happened in the community since the plan was adopted. Further discussion will follow regarding the possibility of updating the City's Comprehensive Park & Recreation Plan and incorporating the development of a formal plan to address maintenance and permitted uses in the City's natural spaces as part of that process.
5. The Commission discussed the operation and maintenance of Wieser Park. It was the consensus of the Commission that for 2021 the City would take reservations for the shelter at the park, and in 2021 there would be no fee charged for use of the shelter.
6. Information was presented on the 2021 Arbor Day tree planting project, the third phase of the Wagon Wheel improvement project, and the conceptual plan for a shelter at Veterans Park.

7. The Commission discussed in the future closing trails in certain parks during the spring thaw as a way to mitigate damage to the trails. This item will be discussed in more detail at the April Park & Recreation Commission meeting.
8. It was agreed that the next meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission would be Tuesday, April 13, 2021, at 5:30 pm., at City Hall.
9. There being nothing further to discuss the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:12 pm.