

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
Park and Recreation Commission Members
FROM: Bill Waller, City Administrator
DATE: September 8, 2021
RE: Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2021

The La Crescent Park and Recreation Commission met at 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, August 24, 2021, in the City Council Chambers at the La Crescent City Hall. The following members were present: Jon Steffes, Paul McLellan, Sarah Wetterlin, Diana Adamski, Randy Dobbs, Eileen Krenz and Linda Gasper. Also in attendance were Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner, Chris Fortsch and Bill Waller.

1. Brief introductions were held.
2. It was the consensus of the Commission to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2021 Park and Recreation Commission meeting as presented.
3. The Commission reviewed and discussed the draft of a memorandum of understanding between the Outdoor Recreation Alliance (ORA) and the City of La Crescent. Jed Olson, the Executive Director of ORA, was in attendance at the meeting and reviewed the draft agreement. Discussion followed, and input and comments were received from those in attendance at the meeting. This item was informational, and no action was taken.
4. John and Kathy Klug were in attendance at the meeting on behalf of the local pickleball ambassadors. The Klug's provided an overview on pickleball and the growing popularity of the sport across the country. This item was informational, and no action was taken.
5. The Commission assembled a preliminary list of items/projects/improvements to be considered as part of the update to the City's Comprehensive Park & Recreation Plan. The preliminary list included the following items:
 - Pickleball courts
 - Outdoor skating rink(s)
 - Shelter at Veterans Park
 - Shelter at Wieser Park
 - Replacement of playground equipment at Wieser Park
 - Location for a dog park
 - Splashpad
 - Lights on the sand volleyball courts at Old Hickory Park
 - Root River Bike Trail extension
 - Wagon Wheel Project – phases 1, 3, and 4
 - Drift bike share

- Frisbee/disc golf
 - Fishing at the equalization culvert
 - Input from kids/students
 - Observation deck for bird watching at Blue Lake near the City maintenance facility
 - Trail maintenance
 - Trail mapping/markers
 - Signage/benches
 - Band shell
 - Apple Blossom Overlook Park partnership
 - Update City website to include park features at each City park
 - Add City trails to trails app
 - Community orchard
6. The Commission reviewed upcoming meeting dates and the first steps in the process to update the City's Comprehensive Park & Recreation Plan.
 7. The Commission reviewed a draft of a letter to the organizers of the effort to install lights at the sand volleyball courts at Old Hickory Park advising the organizers that the project has not been approved by the City, and that there is no guarantee that the lights will be installed at the park even if the organizers are successful with their fund-raising activities. It was the consensus of the Commission to forward the letter as presented.
 8. It was agreed that the next meeting of the Park & Recreation Commission would be Monday, September 20, 2021, at 5:30 pm., at City Hall.
 9. There being nothing further to discuss the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:04 pm.