

City of Bayfield
Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday May 7th, 2020

- Call to Order—9:02 Virtually with GoToMeeting at City Hall
- Roll Call: Kitchell, Carrier, Fizell, Bingham, Ray
- Other: Mather—Office Assistant, Tom Kovachevich—PWD, Becky Zelnat—RFR Director
- Approve Agenda: Fizell/ Ray
- Minutes from March 5, 2020: Ray/ Fizell upon changing “restoration” to “trail” under the shoreline project
- Public Input: None
- Introductions: Introductions of new member, Matt Carrier and RFR Director Becky Zelnat

Agenda

Permit Applications and public requests (if any): Nonw

COVID-19 Report & Discussion: There is a predicted budget shortfall this year due to COVID-19 and the City is trying to find ways to have the parks open and ready amid the pandemic. Current closures under Governor’s orders include the bathrooms, beaches, campground, and parks. Discussion ensued. The best course of action is to avoid unnecessary spending and monitor the amount of people coming and decide when the best time to open is based on the number of people in the area. Finding staff could be difficult.

Standard Update Reports:

1. Budget/Finance: Budget is fine now, but we need to cut a lot from the Parks and Rec budget, among budgets though out the city, to help our shortfall. Bill for a tree in Memorial Park for \$2,500 was charged to parks.
2. Baseball Field, Soccer Field, School Garden: Minor trash clean up.
3. Big Ravine Preserve (includes 120 acres, Gil Larsen, Iron Bridge): See below.
4. Brownstone Trail: Update on Landmark Conservancy’s activities. Currently there is an AD Hock Committee that has been established to help with BST needs—quite costly
5. Cooper Hill Park: Weeding needs to be done. Forego chips this year
6. Dalrymple Campground: Down trees that will be cleaned up when there’s time in hopes to open.
7. East Dock Park: Forego chips this year. Coast Guard will not be volunteering time to clean the park this year.
8. Fountain Park: Costly to operate—leave fountain off for the year.
9. Halvor Reiten Park: Branches at the beach—City crew will remove when there’s time.
10. Jakes Park/ Memorial Park: \$2,500 tree removal bill. Walkway grant in conjunction with BST grant and the Town of Bayfield did not go though.
11. Other:
 - a. Fireworks have been cancelled for 2020—quick 1 day decision that was made by Mayor and staff.
 - b. Currently burning restriction are on and there is no burning allowed in the area.
 - c. Reports from Committee members on their adopted park(s): Carrier to take on Cooper Hill and Korsberg park. All other parks commented on before.
 - d. Launching a Green Infrastructure Program: Flow path mapping with JB Hinds—this show how water drainage happens throughout the City and can be a useful tool in deciding where to allow water to flow vs where to implement green infrastructure to mitigate runoff issues.

Ongoing Business:

- Big Ravine:
 - Gil Larsen Trailhead Status: No proposals in yet.
 - Trails Design Project Status: Will Krift of Trails Anonymous to get final layout of trails done by the end of June. Looking into creek permits and if we need them. Walk-through with Tom Fitz and Paul Johnson May 13 8:30 am. Can they check fragility of the hill where the stairs are to go?

- Stairway design Status: Estimated around \$25,000 for design and build. Grant opportunity?
- Trail naming process and recommendations; sign plan: Various names given for trails including Ojibwe names. Discussion ensued. Confirm with Tribe if it's appropriate to keep Ojibwe name and bring back to broader community base.
- Grant proposal to DNR for trail construction (submitted 5/1): 50% Match. Have not heard back yet.
- Grant proposal to AARP for waterfront trail and Halvor Reiten boardwalk (due 5/15): No match
- Volunteer program:
 - Final volunteer release form: Send to council for approval. Motion by Carrier. Seconded by Bingham.
 - Volunteer guidance for safety (including COVID-19) (attachment)
 - Volunteer sign-up form (online and hard copy): Utilize Chamber and other media outlets.
 - Proposed plans to implement grant in Big Ravine
 - online safety & trail building training 6/5 & 6/6
 - begin trail work 6/12 & 13 with 4-person crews (max.)
 - additional work days scheduled throughout summer
- BATS: Need a clearer understanding of which entities are taking on projects—the City of Bayfield should only be responsible for the projects on City property. MOU?
- Bayfield “shoreline trail” (proposed 1st section from north beach to rock point en route to Dalrymple Park): draft letter to Mr. Schultz regarding permission for trail at June meeting: Tabled.
- Park Spring Clean Up: Tabled.

Next Meeting/Adjourn: June 4th, 2020 9am. Adjourned 11:28 am Carrier/ Bingham.