

**City of Bayfield
Parks & Recreation Committee Minutes
November 12, 2020**

- Call to Order: 7:31 am by Chairwoman Kitchell via GoToMeeting
- Roll Call: Kate Kitchell, Matt Carrier, Diane Fizell, Skye Bingham, Keith Ray
- Others: Tom Kovachevich—PWD, Sarah Mather—Office Assistant, Gordon Ringberg—Mayor, Becky Zelent—RFR Director, Britt Schmidt
- Approve Agenda: Fizell/ Ray. Carried
- Minutes from October 1, 2020: Incorrect minutes were provided. Will approve at December meeting
- Public Input: None

Agenda

Permit Applications and public requests:

- Recreation & Fitness Resources Open Water Swim (aka Point to La Pointe): Becky Zelent and Britt Schmidt discussed the proposed new route for the Point to La Pointe swim. The new route would take a triangular loop and would allow for more social distancing. Would need to talk with Public Works about street closures. Mather mentioned that there is not a lot of space there and to talk to neighboring properties about overflow of people. **City Council has already approved this request, but a motion by Ray to approve the application. Seconded by Fizell.**

COVID-19 Report & Discussion: Nothing new to report. Cases are high in the county

Standard Update Reports: Parks have been closed down for the winter.

1. Budget/Finance: Dalrymple is up around \$19,000. The City has agreed to budget for a financial plan. Fountain expenses will be donated by Mary Rice. Ringberg and Carrier to work with Mather to send out a thank you letter.
2. Baseball Field, Soccer Field, School Garden: none
3. Cooper Hill Park: Verbal request for locking gate, sand and port-a-potty. Gate would create pinching area.
4. Dalrymple Campground: Closed for the season.
5. East Dock Park: none
6. Fountain Park (BHA): none
7. Halvor Reiten Park: Some timbers have washed up on shore.
8. Iron Bridge/Big Ravine: none
9. Brownstone Trail: Reached out to Bay West about a potential reroute. Town asset. Current route travels along the highway.
10. Other:
 - i. Waterfront Walk/Jakes Park: Submitted grant to Wisconsin Coastal Management Program on 11/1. Doing fundraising for \$25K match – see Bayfield Blast and City Website front page. \$5200 raised as of 11/1/20.
 - ii. Big Ravine (includes 120 acres, Gil Larsen, Iron Bridge) & Bayfield Area Trails- see below
 - iii. Hemlock Heights Trail to the DNR was successful!
- b. Launching a Green Infrastructure Program: A lot of behind the scenes work has been done. Hopefully to coordinate another meeting in the future.

Ongoing Business:

- Maintaining Iron Bridge Viewshed: Onsite meeting with Beth Cozzi, City Forester, set for December 5th, 10 am. Would allow for better views from the bridge.

New Business:

- Discuss fee schedule & recommendations to Council: Recommend raising rates on Special Events permits to \$150 and \$250 under 50 people and over 50 people, respectively. Picnic shelter recommendation of \$75 for groups of 50+ instead of \$50. Only recreation and health-related activities will be permitted in the parks. Activities that fall under that in which a fee is charged, the City will not waive fee to use park, but a free

recreation class will waive any and all park fees. **Carrier motioned to adopt and recommend the proposed fee schedule changes except for leaving Dalrymple at \$30/ night, seconded by Bingham. Carried.**

- Report on Harbor Project as it relates to East Dock Park: Will be rocking along the edge. Not much going on and no time frame for when it will be done.
- Proposal for virtual geocache of Big Ravine and Bayfield Area Trails: Fell-through and will not be happening.

Next Meeting/Adjourn: Additional dates for the Comp and Parks and Rec Plan may be needed. Adjourn 8:37 am Carrier/ Ray. Next meeting: *December. 3rd* @ 7:30 via Go to Meeting

- Maintaining Iron Bridge Viewshed: follow-up from site visit
- Review and discuss Comp Plan actions for 2021

Update Report on Big Ravine & Bayfield Area Trails

Prepared for City of Bayfield Parks & Recreation Committee by Kate Kitchell, Chair

1. Stay informed via Bayfield Area Trails website <https://www.bayfieldareatrails.com>
2. Gil Larsen trailhead improvements update:
 - a. 4 Interpretive Signs being designed by Bayfield Chamber and Visitor Bureau (Paige):
 - i. Final version – hopefully this week. Will print in large format and review on site.
 - ii. Place order thereafter.
 - iii. Install in spring. Will need to store them over winter.
 - b. Expanded pad under bench; 2) replenished gravel in steps and along path; 3) replaced steps at start of trail (6x6's) (by Bob Wood)
 - c. Defer timber replacement to spring – timbers have been ordered (8-12 weeks)
3. Kiosks installed at 1) West Rim Trailhead (behind school); 2) Hilltop Trailhead. Thanks to Diane & Lindy Howe for staining; Matt & Keith for assembly; Janel & Rich Ryan for concrete installation.
4. Big Ravine Preserve Signs: Posts installed; sign order pending final map and design.
5. **Our application was successful!** Grant proposal to DNR for \$10,300 to construct 2 more connecting trails in the Big Ravine: 1) Pine Bluff; 2) Hemlock Heights.
 - a. Pine Bluff – Trails Anonymous completed on 11/5.
 - b. \$6,000 contributed by Genevieve Johnson & Mike Kinnee toward Big Ravine trails. This would go toward more connections: TBD.
6. Virtual Trails Forum: early December (people expressing interest in donating funds for trails)
 - a. Discuss potential new Big Ravine Trails loop.
 - b. Brownstone Trail
 - c. Citizen advisory committee to BAT Comm.
 - d. Fundraising, membership, etc.
7. Volunteer Program Report for October: This is to inform Parks & Rec. Committee, City Council, and City staff informed about volunteer contributions, which have been quite substantial during the 2020 season. Following is a summary for just the month of October. A full accounting of volunteer contributions will be provided for the December meeting.
 - a. **Total number of volunteers: 29 Total number of hours contributed: 141 hours**
 - b. 15 different volunteers contributed 72 hours on the construction of the Pine Bluff Trail under the leadership of professional trail builder Will Krift of Trails Anonymous.
 - c. 6 volunteers contributed 26 hours on finishing the Finn Loop, installing sign posts, and installing an ATV barrier.
 - d. 2 volunteers contributed 13 hours at Gil Larsen trailhead on replacing steps into the trail, refurbishing gravel, and expanding the pad under the new bench.

- e. 3 volunteers contributed 14 hours for assembling kiosks for West Rim (baseball field) and Hilltop (soccer field) trailheads.
 - f. 3 volunteers (Durfey, Fizell, & Howe) contributed 16 hours for cutting and staining kiosk materials.
8. Bob and Maria Fierek have granted permission for non-motorized public access across their property along the East Rim Trail of the Big Ravine. This will provide a very valuable access to connect north Second St. via Lynde Ave. to the East Rim and connection to the parking area on Meyers-Olson Rd. Committee Chair recommends that the City inform Bob Fierek and his son Max that we no longer intend to pursue damages for the illegal trail construction on City land by Max and the Hidden Gem of the North bike race. These damages can be rehabilitated by volunteers in 2021. If Parks and Rec. Committee concurs, we would request the Mayor's concurrence; then communicate this to the Fiereks.