

## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

March 3, 2010

The Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at 4:15 p.m., at the City Hall.

Members Present: Dave Sukow, Ted Nickel, Joan Tabor & Mike Willman

Members Excused Absent: Jesse Bolder, Steve Hintze & Dan Novitch

Department Staff Present: Dan Wendorf and Dawn Smith

Visitors: Ray Bloomer & Nick Beversdorf from MP3

\*\*\*Motion by Sukow, seconded by Tabor, to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as printed.

Mike Willman stated that he did not second a motion to adjourn the February meeting, requesting the minutes to be corrected.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

\*\*\*Motion by Willman, seconded by Tabor, to approve the claims from previous month as presented.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

The first item on the agenda is a discussion/possible recommendation on former Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Ranger Station site and related correspondence(s). Wendorf stated that this is the third time the Park and Recreation Commission has had an opportunity to review the DNR station. Wendorf passed out a hand out on some options that could and should be considered for the DNR Ranger station. Wendorf stated that in future years the property could potentially bring in revenue for the city. Sukow questioned if some of the storage could be rented out to the public for storage of campers. Willman stated that the DNR Station has never been on the tax roll because the property has always been exempt from the tax base and now the building, if owned by the city, will remain the same, so Willman stated that this purchase would be in the best interest of the city.

\*\*Motion by Willman, seconded by Sukow, that on behalf of the City of Merrill through the Park and Recreation Commission to purchase the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Ranger Station for the amount of \$1.00.

Wendorf stated that this has to be presented to the City Council.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to discuss the Parks & Recreation Commission involvement/input on future road construction projects – to assess bike/pedestrian routes, lanes and amenities. Wendorf stated that because there is a large interest in getting bike trails and routes in the Merrill area that working together with the DOT or the engineering department would be very helpful in getting this project with the bike trails and routes started. After some discussion it was decided that Wendorf should find out what steps need to be taken to get this

project started and bring back information to the April meeting. Wendorf stated that this is a good pre-emptive way to start making actual routes through town.

The next item on the agenda was an update on the Park Endowment Fund establishment with Merrill Area Community Foundation. Wendorf thanked the foundation and stated that a \$5,000.00 transfer of funds by the Community Foundation was put into the Park Endowment Fund. Wendorf stated that he will be doing a press release regarding the Park Endowment Fund to hopefully increase the awareness that people can donate to the Park Endowment to better improve the parks in the Merrill area. Sukow questioned if the 3 arch bridge can have repairs done through the Park Endowment Fund. Wendorf stated that it can be repaired through the Park Endowment Fund.

The next item on the agenda was monthly reports given by Wendorf. Wendorf stated that he has had several meeting with the Renewable energy people in regards to the Smith Center. Wendorf stated that they will be putting some numbers together and bringing them back to him regarding some solar heating and electrical. Wendorf stated that the next month will be very busy getting the ice cleaned up and starting to get ready for the spring and summer events. Nickel questioned if calls have been made regarding returning employees for the summer. Wendorf stated that some calls have been made and more will be made in the near future.

\*\*\*Motion by Sukow, seconded by Willman, to approve the monthly report given by Dan Wendorf.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda is public comment. No public comment.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2010 at 4:15 p.m., at the City Hall.

\*\*\*Motion by Willman, seconded by Tabor, to adjourn at 5:05 p.m.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

Dawn Smith  
Recording Secretary