

## PARKS MEETING NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> 2022

### 9:30 FIRESIDE ROOM

*The meeting was called to order by Ollie Iversen at 9:31 with a quorum of Ken Lee, Mike Bucy, Martin Howard, and Ollie Iversen. Also in attendance were Scott Thomas, Town Administrator, Mary Wohleb, Town Councilperson and Ivan Carlson, Town Councilperson. Maggie Wilder, a guest was also present.*

#### **Public comments**

*No Public Comments*

#### **Old Business**

**A.** Pavilion Update-*The pavilion has yet to be permitted. We have the plans, yet still need to file for the permit. The funds have been put into the proposed Town budget for 2023 at \$35,000. Ken Lee will follow up and contact the builder.*

**B.** Fish Slide Repairs-*The money for this has also been put into the 2023 proposed Town budget at \$30,000, along with the rebuilding the kiosk's, which \$9,000 has been placed into the 2023 proposed Town budget*

**C.** Maple Street Park Grant Update-*Unfortunately, we did not get the state RCO grant for the Maple Street Park., and a big thank you to Scott Thomas and Mary Wohelb for all their work to prepare and present the proposal. This Park is right now a lovely green space, and we will look into what can be done incrementally. It is below grade on the Maple Street sidewalk side, and it could hold rainwater during the wet season in the NW corner. We may need some rainwater retention. Martin Howard brought up the fact it needs a barrier from the sidewalk to the grass, on the Maple Street side, which is in the original design of the park and may be too costly to do right now. Mike Bucy brought up a great idea of a public garden, which, unfortunately was not one of the top three items the Maple Street Survey of 2021. Right now, we are deciding what we can do or maybe just leave it as a green space for now.*

**D.** La Conner Rotary Donation to Maple Street Park-*Rotary has pledged \$5000 toward this park and after hearing the RCO grant did not go through, are maintaining the grant as a pledge until we can show them what we are doing at the park.*

**E.** Update on Roger Small's Sculpture at Benton Street Stairs-*It should be installed before the end of September, per Public Works.*

**F.** Repaint Pioneer Park Mural under Rainbow Bridge-*First a shout out to Maggie Wilder and the volunteer group she gathered to repaint the 25 year old mural originally painted on the concrete base of the Rainbow Bridge on the Pioneer Park side. She and her helpers, Lynn Beebe, Patty Klamser, Lynn Federspiel-Young, Linda Ricksen, Susan Schanen, Annabelle Vergne, and herself, Maggie Wilder did a did a marvelous job bringing the mural back to life.*

## **New Business**

Maggie Wilder also addressed the commission about the over cutting of native plants next to and near the trails in Pioneer Park. As she explained, these plants hold back weeds and are beneficial to the beauty of the area. Public Works has been notified by her and it will be discussed with them by us as we want to keep the trails clear yet not destroy the beauty of the area. Mike Bucy also brought up the similar issue with the plants being trimmed on both sides of the Benton Street stairs.

Mike Bucy also brought up the issue of using Sullivan Slough area for canoeing/Kayaking along the slough which goes through Hedlin's farm. We listened and mentioned he should only explore this after he contacts Dave Hedlin to get his approval as he is the owner of the adjoining land on both sides of the slough. Mike will come back to our next meeting with an update on his ideas.

*The meeting was adjourned at 10:07.*