

JANUARY 23, 2019, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMM. MTG. MINUTES

5:15 p.m. Members present: J. Fields, B. Stoneberg. Absent: J. Pearson. Others present: A. Christianson 1 and 2, K. Gorsegner, S. Moore, P. Ruege.

Call to Order:

Mr. Fields called the meeting to order and presided.

Appearance:

Phil Ruege appeared to suggest that, since the City is unable to replace the old lighting that was strung across Miner Ave. in the past, he wanted to find an alternate way to provide lighting along the City's "main street". He suggested that cedar posts be installed along Miner Avenue with carriage style lights on top and colored lights wrapped around the poles, with both powered by small, solar units. These are depicted on the attached photo. His Proposal has the Fine Arts Center Gallery paying for the light fixtures, and the City covering other necessary costs. Mr. Ruege was commended for his effort. A few potential shortcomings were identified, but alternate approaches were mentioned, as follows.

- Installing posts in sidewalks is costly, holes have to be larger than posts to facilitate digging, and they would be another obstacle for snow removal.
- Some liked the lighting style Mr. Ruege suggested, while others preferred to drape lights and garland on black wrought iron fencing in the downtown.
- Any post installations should be considered for grassy areas such as the following:
 - *SE and NE corners of E. 3rd and Miner.
 - *Greenspace on east side of Miner Plaza.
 - *Centennial Park.
 - *Along east side of Memorial Park.
 - *Old bakery greenspace.
- Wooden posts might conflict with black wrought iron look City has been working at using to help unify Downtown, such that black metal or "metal look" posts might be preferable.

Motion was made by Fields, seconded by Stoneberg and carried by voice vote to forward this to All Committees.

Goose Your Neighbor:

It was agreed that this activity will be postponed until warmer weather arrives this spring.

Community Holiday Tree:

Mention was made on possibly planting an official holiday tree at a very visible location. A location north of the Brooklyn Lift Station at the north of the U.S. 8 bridge would meet the highly visible test being visible from the intersection of E. 3rd and Lake to the south and from the fairgrounds corner to the north. Gnome things could dance around it.

In addition to being decorated annually for the holidays it might be covered with blue lights and/or ribbons on Law Enforcement Memorial Day, and with green ribbons and/or lights on Veterans Day, or when serving as a Hope Tree. Motion was made by Stoneberg, seconded by Fields and carried by voice vote to authorize Adm. Christianson to look into donation of a suitable tree and try to identify a tree mover.

Follow Up:

Mr. Fields emphasized the need for those working on these efforts to follow through on tasks they take on so progress can continue. It was noted that all are guilty of letting things slip at times owing to competing uses of limited time.

Updates:Vet's Murals

Those present reviewed a letter from a family whose veteran is depicted on the mural mounted to the store wall on the west side of E. 2nd St. between Lake and Miner Avenues. They feel that mural isn't lit as well as the others. Some options that will be investigated include the following:

- With the owner's agreement, running power to lights from the building on which the mural is mounted.
- Having Xcel install a "directional" streetlight across the street aimed at the subject mural.
- Moving the mural to the unused east side of the existing frame alongside the P.O. drive through.
- Constructing a new mural frame at a new location (1st St. south of Lake?) to move subject mural to.

Fish Murals

We have quotes for these from our mural artist, who likes to do something other than military murals for a change. While the validity of the albino musky and brown bullhead have been established, more needs to be learned about the musky taken through the ice.

Native American Carving

No update. A totem pole was mentioned as an alternative. It was mentioned that a Bruce area resident has a stockpile of power poles.

Swivel Plow

No progress.

Full Sized Covered Bridge

No progress.

Former Residents Mural

Adm. Christianson has had difficulty finding photos of the 6-8 candidates he has on a list of folks who became well known after leaving Ladysmith. A photo of one of those, E.M. Dahlberg, is likely available in an old LHS yearbook at the RC museum.

Museum Workshop

Upgrades to the plow museum workshop are largely complete, except for re-siding.

Website

There was discussion of updates to the City's website. Next summer Rusk County will again have an intern at the visitor center who could be assigned to replace stock photos on the City's website with some taken in Rusk County. In the meantime, it is suggested that photos be collected, which people feel would be suitable to add.

Fishing Contest

Chairman Fields noted this Committee has been allocated \$5,000 for 2019 promotional activities, adding that it remains his intent to work with others on a fishing contest promotion.

Meeting Date:

Members feel this committee should meet more frequently as momentum is lost when they are so far apart. Work schedules have contributed to this. There was discussion of having a standing meeting date so invitees are aware of dates well in advance and able to plan accordingly. For now, a meeting will be planned for Wednesday, February 6th.

Trails:

It was suggested that, perhaps, some simpler sections of trails along the north and/or south shores of Corbett Lake could be built at a modest cost and serve to provide an indicator of how much use a more involved (raised walkways, bridges) trail would get. A trail along the south side could start at the corner of W. 5th and Sabin, near the outfall/dam, and follow the lakeshore east to near the RR tracks. A second trail outlet could be provided at the driveway into 311 Sabin Ave., which is City-owned.

Similarly, a trail along the north side could follow Falge Park Drive from Hwy. 27 to the paved walkway to the fishing pier and follow the walkway south to the lakeshore after which it would run easterly to W. 4th St. There, some switchbacks could, perhaps, get folks between the lakeshore and the south end of that street. A branch could take people to the island pavilion.

A plan for these simpler sections as well as more involved sections that could be considered later has been prepared by Ray Carlson. Copies were passed around. Initially, these trails could be five-foot wide gravel or crushed granite paths with signage. It is felt trail construction could be financed through TIFD #9. Some possible ideas for trail names were mentioned.

DPW Gorsegner will talk with potential vendors such as Dave Kmosena and Justin Anderson about cost quotes.

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.