

## MINUTES

### **Cromwell Recreation Commission Regular Meeting**

**Thursday, November 4, 2021**

**Present:** Commissioners Dan Brisson, Ruth Checko, and John Schmaltz and Recreation Director Scott Kieras

**Also Present:** Town Council Liaison Jack Henehan

**Absent:** Jim Vinchetti

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 5:10 p.m.

**2. Approve Minutes:**

a. October 7, 2021

Dan Brisson moved, seconded by John Schmaltz, to approve the minutes of October 7, 2021. The motion passed 3 to 0.

**3. Program Report**

a. **Director**

b. **Parks**

Recreation Director Scott Kieras reported that he has discussed the issues of field closures with the Town Manager. There was discussion by Commission members on the need for a field maintenance plan.

Jack Henehan advised the Commission that the Town Council sets goals for the Town Manager each year and that one of Jack's goals for the Town Manager in the coming year will be the issue of fields and field maintenance.

Dan Brisson felt that one of the goals for the Town should be a field study with a five- and ten-year master plan.

Jack Henehan pointed out that the next project for the Town will most likely be Cromwell Middle School which needs to be submitted prior to June of 2022. This project could impact some of the fields.

Scott Kieras confirmed that he will meet with the new Public Works Director once hired. Jack Henehan asked that Scott encourage the new Public Works Director to attend a Recreation Commission meeting, and Scott indicated that he will invite him/her to do so.

**4. Old Business:**

a. Update on Status of Recreation Department Offices

Scott Kieras reported that the mitigation work in the Recreation Offices has been completed. There had been condensation on the ceiling tiles from the pipes. The pipes have now been professionally wrapped by an outside company to stop the condensation. Once the

report is received back from OSHA then the department will be able to move back into the offices.

## **5. New Business**

With respect to the ARCA funds, Scott reported that he is on the committee coming up with suggestions to be brought before the Town Council. Some of the things that he is suggesting is an additional pavilion in town, fixing the tennis courts at Watrous Park and Cromwell High School, and adding pickleball courts to Watrous Park tennis courts. He also noted that the Parks Maintenance Supervisor has indicated to Scott that the Watrous Park pavilion may need to be replaced. Ruth Checko also suggested including lights on the Watrous Park tennis courts.

There was considerable discussion by Commission members on these funds and how they could be used.

Dan Brisson spoke on the condition of the PBA building at Pierson Park. Scott confirmed that they are trying to get cameras there as well as self-locking doors for the restrooms as the other parks have.

### **a. Approve 2022 Meeting Schedule**

Dan Brisson moved, seconded by John Schmaltz, to approve the 2022 Meeting Schedule as presented (Attached).

The motion passed 3 to 0 in favor.

### **b. Update on Winter Programs and Events**

Scott Kieras reported that Trick R Trunk which was sponsored by the ECS/WIS PTO was a success. The Recreation Department had a trunk there and showed a movie on the big screen.

Scott currently is in the process of planning the Mayor's Tree Lighting to be held on December 4. He stated that he has reached out to local organizations to see about their interest in participating.

## **6. Commissioners Comments**

Jack Henahan reported that the new Mayor, Allan Spotts, seems favorable to sports in Town.

Upon questioning, Scott reported that some of the numbers for basketball are low. He noted that we may to have coop teams with other towns. The first and second grade basketball programs will be run by Skyhawks and has a very large enrollment. Scott confirmed that basketball will be held in both the schools and the Town Hall gym. There was some discussion as to whether Rebels basketball could have had an impact on the Recreation Department's numbers for basketball. Scott also spoke about wanting to bring in a high school recreational basketball program once COVID restrictions are loosened.

Scott spoke on three adult programs previously run in the schools which are now being held in the Town Hall gym and seem to be quite successful. These include Men's Basketball for 18 and up, Co-ed Volleyball and Men's Basketball for 35 and up.

John Henehan suggested that a liaison from the school come to a Recreation Commission meeting once in the spring and once in the Fall just to touch base. Scott indicated that he would reach out to Kelly Maher, the schools' athletic director, to invite her to a meeting.

**7. Adjournment**

Ruth Checko moved, seconded by John Schmaltz, to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m. The motion passed 3 to 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rosanne Krajewski". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

Rosanne Krajewski