

1/29/24

1. Meeting called to order by President Bessenbacher at 6:00pm.
2. Pledge of allegiance led by President Bessenbacher.
3. Roll Call: Council Present: V. Bessenbacher, J. Guttersohn, L. Chapman, B. Campbell, L. Bibbee. Council Absent: G. Kinitis, J. McDowell  
In attendance: Mary Ketchum, Clint Stevenson
4. Motion to accept the agenda by J. Guttersohn, Second by L. Chapman
5. Parks and Recreation Plan presented by Pierre Lavoie (in person) and Jessica Spencer (via Zoom feed) of C2ae. J. Spencer explained the purpose and intent of the 5-year plan and what the DNR would like to see, for example natural resources, existing parks etc. and community input, the goal being to assess public comments and feedback. The Plan is to be submitted by February 1, 2024.  
  
Comments by Beverly Miller of the DDA, that on Page 10, the Recreational Inventory page, there listed under Recreation Site is All Starz Cheerleading, which no longer exists and in the Appendix Section there is a sign-In sheet with names, telephone number and email addresses. She recommended that those items be removed. Public comments were questions regarding how the planning costs are to be met. R. Vandemark of the DDA explained that the Village of Byron and the DDA were dividing these costs. Of the 19 people attending the meeting, there were many suggestions of what kinds of things would be welcomed by the residents such as bike trails, walking trails along the river, handicap accessible launch and pond accessibility. J. Guttersohn put forth the motion to accept the 5 Year Parks and Recreation Plan with the two changes recommended by B. Miller. Motion seconded by L. Bibbee. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Guttersohn, Chapman, Bibbee, Campbell, Bessenbacher. Nays: None. Motion passed.
6. Spencer of C2ae explained the two layout options for the proposed Pocket Park. Option A includes an archway to the river area, which will serve to frame the view of the river, and a boardwalk along the river itself. Also included were added trees and landscaping ideas. Option B includes leaving the bench, which was constructed by an Eagle Scout, where it is at present and placing a walkway around it and landscaping ideas for the whole area. Much discussion by the public regarding the leaving/taking out of the Eagle Scout bench and the bricks in the ground surrounding it. Other ideas were a

The mother of the Eagle Scout who constructed the bench was in attendance and is not in favor of it being dismantled and relocated. Her opinion is that due to its heavy construction this cannot be accomplished. The Eagle Scout who constructed it told his mother that he has no attachment to the bench anymore since he no longer lives in the area, and he had given the bench to the Village as a gift, and it is theirs to do whatever they please. Also discussed is that the bench may not be compliant as regards ADA and this issue must be investigated. The Pocket Park Plan is to be submitted in April 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Ketchum

January 30, 2024

Mar Reed  
Marsha Reed  
Clerk

2/12/24  
Date

Vicki Bessenbacher  
Vicki Bessenbacher  
President