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BUILDINGS, PROPERTY & PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

Village of Pepin Municipal Building

Thursday, July 6, 2023, at 6:00pm

MINUTES:

1. **Call meeting to order** - Randy Kallstrom called the meeting to order at 6 pm.
2. **Roll Call** – Members present were Randy Kallstrom, Shannon Van Allen, Mike Michaud, Greg Sandstrom, Dan Van Allen. Not present Aaron Kallstrom. Also present were Tom Latane and Jesse Van Alstine.
3. **Appointment of a Chair for the Committee** - Mike Michaud made a motion to appoint Randy Kallstrom as chair. Seconded by Greg Sandstrom. Motion carries. Randy requested Mike Michaud act as Secretary for the committee. Mike agreed.
4. **Discussions/Action to establish committee work priorities.** –
 - a) *Existing Building issues and opportunities.* – Randy stated that the Lions Club has done a lot of work in past years, we can't keep leaning on them. Randy stated that in the park, the old bathroom building at the top of the hill has a collapsed roof. It's a good block building just needs a roof. The Laura Ingalls group has some stuff stored in there. There is another abandoned bathroom building at the corner of 3rd St and Locust that needs attention. It needs to be repurposed and/or made to look more attractive. The depot building needs new paint and needs some serious weatherization. We will need to find money for this building also. Since it is the original railroad building perhaps there may be some historical grant money available someplace. The old metal slide needs to be removed and replaced with a safer one. Mike stated that there is a potential to install solar on the park pavilion roofs to supply power for the Village water pump. In the waterfront area the pavilion near the boat launch needs a new roof. The shingles are curling up. An effort will be made to contact the people who did the Park metal roofs to get an estimate.
 - b) *Existing Park maintenance and development items.* - There are 8 or 9 dead Ash Trees in the Park and at the waterfront. These will be taken down by our staff, many people want the wood, and the stump removal will be done by a local contractor. Rather than cut them all

down at once, taking a couple at a time and cleaning these up will be the preferred strategy. Randy suggested we will need to find funding to spade in some new trees. Mike suggested we need to develop a plan for new trees in the park, where to plant them and what type of trees. Mike made a motion to remove the dead ash trees in the park and to put one new one in for every tree we take out, with a species to be determined. Motion seconded by Greg Sandstrom. Motion carries. There was discussion of boulevard Ash trees. It was not clear who is responsible for these trees. Randy stated that the Village planted them years ago, now they are dead. Randy said there might be some grant money available, we would need to apply.

- c) *Waterfront properties.* Randy is still looking for funds for the new boat landing and for improving the whole area at that location. The new fish cleaning equipment failed already, and we are looking at a warranty repair on that. In the Beach area near the parking lot, there is a lack of shade and only one picnic table. People are asking for shade down there. We should plan for more improvements in that area so people can enjoy being there. Possible pavilion? We need a development plan for that area. There was discussion of the need to finish repairs from this year's flood so we can get the park benches out on the breakwater again.

5. Discussion/Action regarding process for creating Development Plan for property at 207 Lake St.

Short term and long-term plan needed? Lots of popular discussions about what to do with it. That area is improving with the Rivertime, Bistro, and Triple J building improvements being done. Discussed possible short term angle parking at the Lake Street side, and possibly in the alley. Concerns about blacktopping include cost and surface water run off problems. The comments heard so far are largely in three categories, more parking, selling it, and developing some kind of public green space. Mike suggested soliciting comments for ideas and visions about what the space could be from the public. Greg said that having people put something about their vision down on paper so we could look at it would be helpful. Randy stated that there is a need to let the whole area settle after being disturbed, especially where the foundation was, until next year. Tom Latane suggested soliciting comments might be the easiest way to get input. The committee decided to recommend to the Board that they solicit development ideas in comments from the public to be submitted to the Clerk.

- 6. Set next meeting date.** – Next meeting date to be determined.
- 7. Adjourn** - Motion to adjourn from Shannon, seconded by Greg Sandstrom. Motion carries.