

Silver Lake Advisory Commission Minutes: October 17, 2024

7:00pm KRC Meeting Room

Members in attendance:

Gary Pugh, Randy Ammann, Bill Blechinger, Don Rommerskirchen, Craig Korte, Ron Wagner, Natural Resource Manager Ryan Hummert, Director of Parks & Recreation, Mark Rosen

Guests: David Todd, Josh Kirchoff

Motion to approve minutes made at 7:01pm

Staff Reports:

Ryan H. updated the commission members that the waterfowl blinds will be inspected on Monday, October 21, 2024 – sand bags are available for waterfowl blind holders to fill and place in front of or along-side their blinds to alleviate shoreline erosion – mentioned that the small peninsula on the west side of the lake will be a target for the 319 grant – bass will be released into Silver Lake at the end of October or beginning of November – Trout season opens this Saturday – Rip-rap will be added along the dams of the fish-rearing pond and wetland pond because muskrats are burrowing into the dam.

Guests:

- Josh Kirchoff asked if the lake would be shocked or was shocked this year. Mr. Hummert stated that the former IL Fish Biologist has retired and the new one said it would likely be next year at the earliest.
 - Josh K. also suggested to follow Lake Shelbyville's management plan to release any fish from the DNR on the north end's emergency boat ramp to help spread the population out.

Unfinished Business: Replace/Construct Kayak Launch

- Director Rosen stated that in light of selling almost 600 boat stickers, it would be his recommendation to use grant money (PEP) no later than 2026 to install new public docks south of the "sea wall" from the current boat ramp. After that, then it would be likely to install a wider boat ramp adjacent to the existing one.
 - Adding an entirely new launch site would quickly get expensive as a roadway, parking and necessary material for a launch site could require more costs since there is a lot of topography.
 - Commission members seemed to agree that having a wider ramp and docks could be completed so long as boaters were aware and the specifications outlined that the contractor would need to do their best to accommodate boaters using the launch site.

New Business:

- Meeting dates for 2025 were approved and will be on the following dates at 7:00PM in the Korte Recreation Center's Conference room
 - January 16, 2025
 - April 17, 2025
 - July 17, 2025
 - October 16, 2025

Requests of the Commission Members:

- Bill B. recommended looking at a location and costs to expand parking for boaters/lake users. A small conversation of location resulted in looking at the open space on top of the hill, across from the Veteran's Forest.

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 7:55pm.