

Silver Lake Advisory Commission Minutes: March 18, 2026

7:00pm KRC Meeting Room

Members in attendance:

Gary Pugh, Randy Ammann, Bill Blechinger, Don Romirschirchen, Ron Wagner, Natural Resource Manager Ryan Hummert

Members Absent:

Craig Korte, Colby Schrumpf, Russ Perfetti, David Frey

Motion to approve minutes made at 7:01 pm

Staff Reports:

- Gary Pugh, WTP Supervisor, informed the commission of several current projects going on at the water treatment plant including walls being lined due to several leaks and media being removed and replaced once repairs have been done. The smaller ground storage tank in front of the park has been emptied and leaks have been repaired and cured so that water can be refilled.
- Manager Hummert updated the commission and shared the final plan drawings, prepared by Mike Andreas, for the rock in lake sediment basin to be located adjacent to the emergency boat launch off Silver Lake road. The sheet pile planned structure was changed to RR5 Rip Rap due to the vast amount of rock and shale bedrock in the surface of the lake making it impossible to drive the metal material into a proper depth. The finished structure will be capped with smaller rock with a 10' wide top base allowing for access across the lake with small equipment and foot traffic. The project will take place once the NOML has been approved by city council and all prospecting contractual bids have been reviewed and selected. The project must be completed by the Sept 15 deadline imposed by the IEPA.
- The commission agreed that future 319 grant money should be focused on repairing and protecting the remaining shoreline around the lake with additional rip rap rock to stop the erosion and control the sediment loads being deposited into the lake.
- Manager Hummert updated the council on the Kayak Kiosk numbers for the 2025 season. The city is considering adding an additional kiosk in the coming years to include double occupancy kayaks due to the popularity of the program.

New Business:

- Shoreline Cleanup was considered for a possible August/September date. This will be discussed further at the July 16 meeting.
- Next Meeting will be Thursday, July 16, 2026 in the KRC meeting room

Commission Requests:

- Gary Pugh and other commission members addressed the entrance sign for Silver Lake located off 143 which has been in place for over 25 years. The sign has degraded over the years and poorly reflects the beauty of the park. Manager Hummert advised he would like to add a larger monument style sign along with landscaping to the north side of the highway, east side of the entrance road which would be a welcoming site to visitors as they enter the park. Manger Hummert will reach out to Clarity Ponds for possible partnership and or pricing for the monument signage.
- The commission addressed the need for additional boat trailer parking to be added due to the number of boaters utilizing the lake. Additional parking could be added on top of the hill on the east side of the road near the conservation area.

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 8:23pm.