

City of Whitewater
Parks and Recreation Board Meeting
Monday, May 10, 2010 - 5:00pm
Cravath Lakefront Community Center – Cravath Lakefront Park
341 S Fremont Street Whitewater, WI 53190

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 by Matt Amundson. Present: Dave Stone, Max Taylor, Vance Dalzin, Rick Daniels, Jen Kaina, Brandon Knedler, Pru Negley Excused: None. Absent: None. Guest: Kale Olson, PR Intern, Richard Ehrenberg, Cameron Clapper, Asst City Mgr, Linda Loomer, Mariann Scott, Denay Trykowski, Richard Helmeck, Sheila Kindwall, Fred Kraege, and Carol Christ.

Election of Parks and Recreation Board Chairperson

Stone nominated Max Taylor, second by Jen Kaina. Ayes: Kaina, Daniels, Dalzin, Negley, Knedler, Stone, and Taylor. Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: None

Election of Parks and Recreation Board Vice-Chairperson

Stone nominated Kaina second by Negley. Ayes: Kaina, Daniels, Dalzin, Negley, Knedler, Stone, and Taylor. Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: None

Appointment of Parks and Recreation Board Members to the following commissions, boards, and task forces.

Amundson provided information on each committee.

Plan & Architectural Review Commission: Negley moved to appoint David Stone, second by Kaina

Urban Forestry Commission: Stone moved to appoint Negley, second by Dalzin

Whitewater Aquatic Center Board: Negley moved to appoint Kaina, second by Stone. Kaina nominated Dalzin, Second by Stone. Discussion of appointments. Roll call vote to nominate Dalzin. (4-3)

Indian Mounds Park Task Force: Stone moved to nominate Kaina, second by Dalzin

WPRA Legislative Advocacy: Stone moved to appoint Knedler, second by Negley.

Stone motioned to accept the nominations. Kaina seconded. Ayes: Kaina, Daniels, Dalzin, Negley, Knedler, Stone, and Taylor. Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: None

Approval of April 5, 2010 Parks and Recreation Board Minutes and receipt of Indian Mounds Park Task Force Minutes of March 10, 2010 and receipt of Urban Forestry Commission minutes of March 2, 2010.

Stone moved to moved to approve the April 5, 2010 minutes and to accept the Indian Mounds Park Task Force minutes and the Urban Forestry Commission Minutes. Second by Negley. Ayes: Kaina, Daniels, Dalzin, Negley, Knedler, Stone, and Taylor. Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: None

Citizen Comments: No formal action will be taken during this meeting, although issues raised may become part of a future agenda. Participants are allotted a 3 minute speaking period. Specific items listed on the agenda may not be discussed at this time; however, citizens are invited to speak to those issues as designated in the agenda.

Mariann Scott: Question about a designated path at the Mounds. How does path get marked? A path needs to be marked because of a tour. She gave a suggested set of paths. Landmarks commission is having Landmarks Day on May 22. How will this deviate from the current path? Marianne talked to Chuck who will mow a path for the day. Scott will meet with Amundson to discuss the pathway. Negley requested that events be brought to the Park Board in advance of the date so we know when events are happening in the parks.

Richard Ehrenberg: Proposed the Park Board consider planting native trees and wildflowers on Trippe Lake where the bike path curves by the old beach. It was recommended to have this concept discussed by the Urban Forestry commission, prior to the Parks and Recreation Board.

Discussion and possible action regarding the naming of Indian Mounds Park

Amundson: (background) Task force has met since November. Talked about naming and signage. Is it a park? Received one positive comment on the new name in the 30 day time. Council passed first reading. Two emails were received, concerns with archeological term and with removal of term "Indian".

Scott: Kiwanis called it Whitewater Effigy mounds Park in 1970s. Was called Indians Mounds Park in 1980s. Park has had different names

Krist: Historical register does not say Indian Mounds. Landmarks commission would prefer the name: Effigy Mounds Preserve.

Kraege: Preserve is a poor name. Would like to see eminent domain for the area.

Amundson: Ho Chunk Nation is split on the "Indian" issue also.

Loomer: Landmarks Commission has discussed naming the park extensively. Felt Effigy Mounds Preserve was most appropriate

Kaina: How will Whitewater be referred to when usage of the park name is not on signage?

Amundson: Park name is separate from signage issue.

Scott – (Mark Kunke: email from him – cared for mounds in past.) Tribes agreed that Ho Chunk would be caretakers of the mounds.

Negley: All mounds whether animal, person or shape are effigy. The soil is sacred. Effigy can be any shape.

Stone moved to change the park name to Effigy Mounds Preserve. Second Negley. Discussion: The word Whitewater is for location not ownership. We need consistency and support from all groups involved and to be at the council meeting when this issue surfaces.

Trykowski: There are effigy mounds preserves all over the state. Would prefer Effigy Mounds at Whitewater. (Stone left 6:00 pm)

Negley: Why not a park (name)?

Scott: Landmarks Commission concerned with preservation. This is a unique and different area, it is a sacred site. Goal is to communicate specialness of the area. A park implies recreational use.

Taylor: Park has recreational connotation.

(Dalzin left 6:07)

Trykowski – It is a sacred burial site. No one digs at Archeological sites except official surveyors

Negley – We all need to agree to get something through Council. Some people have a historic fondness/attachment for Indian Mounds name.

Kaina moved to amend motion to add "of Whitewater". Second by Negley.

Daniels: Solid suggestion by Jen but others will come up with other names.

Knedler: Googled effigy mounds and most mounds names have city in the name. Whether name is at beginning or end it is important to be somewhere in the name.

Ehrenberg: Likes name identification. Could add Wisconsin in the name.

Amundson: There are other signs with redundancy of the word Whitewater.

Krist - Prefers Whitewater at the beginning of the name of the park.

Loomer - Likes at Whitewater at the end of the name.

Negley: "at" is informational not part of a name. Whitewater Effigy Mounds is more proper.

Vote on the amendment: Ayes: Kaina and Daniels. Noes: Negley, Knedler, and Taylor. Abstain: None Absent: Dalzin and Stone

Original motion discussion

Carol: Landmarks Commission prefers Effigy Mounds Preserve at Whitewater

Taylor: This is what we will bring forward to council.

Negley: Against the motion because feels location is important. Called the question.

Vote on original motion: Ayes: Daniels. Noes: Kaina, Negley, Knedler, and Taylor. Abstain: None Absent: Dalzin and Stone

Negley moved to rename the park formerly know as Indian Mounds Park, Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve. Second Knedler

Nancy: Friends of mounds prefer Effigy Mounds Preserve at Whitewater

Kindwall: does the Council have a problem with Whitewater implying ownership? Or was concern was with political correctness.

Scott: Potential objection to Indian not being in the name. Wished those people could have been at this meeting to hear the reasoning behind dropping Indian from the name. Effigy, preserve, and mounds were important to be in the name. Appreciated everyone coming to consensus.

Nancy: Mounds are some of the most spiritual mounds in the world. This area is a national treasure. Need to educate people to this.

Vote: Ayes: Daniels, Negley, and Taylor. Noes: Kaina, Knedler. Abstain: None Absent: Dalzin and Stone

Finalize and approve park signage proofs and quote

Amundson indicated that he will be removing the Indian Mound Park sign and Birge Fountain sign from the order. Amundson met with the Birge Fountain committee and although they appreciated the offer, they are working on restoring some of the original signage on the fountain. The park around the fountain is actually known as Flat Iron Park. There could be some traffic sight line problems with a sign there. Sign rep has been unavailable for revised signage quote. Amundson approximates cost at between \$9200-9400 Negley moved to accept signage purchase as presented. Second Kaina. Ayes: Kaina, Daniels, Negley, Knedler, and Taylor. Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: Dalzin, Stone.

Approval of Special Rental Rate Agreement for Lars Peterson use of Downtown Armory

Amundson referred to the packet and commented renter seems to be a responsible entrepreneur. He has liability insurance and a security plan. Recommend offering as a resident hourly rate which is an approximate reduction of \$400 in his rate. Have had similar agreements in the past with other groups.

Daniels moved to approve rental as presented. Taylor seconded.

Discussion: Geared to teens. Amundson has the right to deny the rental at any point during the process. Kaina has concerns. Could make approval of further rentals dependent on first event. Make as a friendly amendment?

Taylor-discount provides parks and Recreation Department with more income because of several concerts. Daniels likes additional income for department.

Ayes: Daniels, Negley, Knedler, and Taylor. Noes: Kaina Abstain: None Absent: Dalzin, Stone.

Consideration of waiving banner reservation fees for American Red Cross

Amundson referred to packet. Cost of hanging banners is approximately \$100. Negley moved to waive the banner fee for the American Red Cross. Second by Daniels. Ayes: Kaina, Daniels, Negley, Knedler, and Taylor. Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: Dalzin, Stone.

Select date and discuss annual Parks and Recreation Board Park Tour

June 7 at 4:00 pm beginning and ending at Starin Park

Review and approval of proposed trail construction in Moraine View Park

Amundson presented maps of current trails and proposed additions to the system in 2010. Knedler moved for approval of proposed trail construction in Moraine View Park and Kaina seconded. Ayes: Kaina, Daniels, Negley, Knedler, and Taylor. Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: Dalzin, Stone.

Review and approval of tree planting in regards to overhead utility lines.

(Urban Forestry Commission recommendation)

Amundson feels this policy is limiting and an overall policy would be more advantageous. Ehrenberg: Concern with small trees being planted in areas with no overhead lines. Would like to see this as part of an overall policy on planting. Forester asked that it just apply to this spring so a further policy could be implemented.

Amundson: Previous concerns with the narrow focus of the group in the past. Need an overall plan for all trees planted. Knedler motioned to table until next meeting with information from City Forester.. Second by Daniels.

Ayes: Kaina, Daniels, Negley, Knedler, and Taylor. Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: Dalzin, Stone.

Staff Reports:

Director Report (Amundson):

Make A Difference Day – successful 50 projects. 470 volunteers. Main St Shoppes Courtyard was replanted along with a rain garden completed at Trippe Lake Shelter funded and completed in partnership with the University and

Tall Grass Restoration. Now working on an interpretive sign. East Gate Park completed. Dedication June 3. Starin Park sign vandalized. 5-6 weeks for new sign.

Youth Baseball & Softball; Adult Softball – 13 youth teams, Adult increased (8 on Monday) 8 Tuesday, 4 Wednesday, Sunday Co-ed potentially 8 teams.

(Daniels left 7:30 pm)

Future Board Meeting to be televised

Recreation & Community Events Programmer (Dujardin):

The Dance Recital was held on April 24th, 65 youth participated and the theme was “Under the Sea”; will have 3 new staff for the summer.

Senior Coordinator (Weberpal):

The Park Bench Cable TV show has started and is airing. The Retired Senior Volunteer Program will cease to exist as of June 1. Meeting with the current coordinator of RSVP to obtain information on local entities which use volunteers and any other pertinent information that might be needed. Deb foresees seniors now calling Seniors in the Park for information on volunteering.

Board and Commission Reports: No action other than possible referral to another meeting, but there may be minimal response to Board member questions:

- A. Plan and Architectural Review Commission (Stone) –
Wal-Mart is on agenda tonight for first review. Main issues are pedestrian walkway, green requirement, and storm water. Green house is expanding to double in size.
- B. Whitewater Aquatics Center-Annual meeting tonight at 7:00 pm
- C. City Council (Taylor)-no report
- D. WPRA Legislative Advocacy (Stone)-No report
- E. Indian Mounds Park Task Force (Kaina)-No report
- F. Urban Forestry Commission (Stone)-No report

Request for future agenda items

Negley requested that we discuss that Landmarks and other groups give information to Park Board.

Adjourn:

Negley moved to adjourn at 7:45 pm with second by Kaina. Voice affirmation.