

City of Whitewater
Parks and Recreation Board
Minutes
Monday, November 12, 2013 - 5:30pm
Cravath Lakefront Room - 2nd Floor, City Municipal Building
312 W. Whitewater St. Whitewater, WI 53190

Call to Order and Roll Call

Nathan Jaeger, Bruce Parker, Brandon Knedler, Rachel DePorter, Ken Kidd and Jen Kaina
Staff: Matt Amundson, Abby Schyvinch

Consent Agenda: Approval of Parks and Recreation Board minutes of October 21, 2013

Bruce Parker moved to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Nathan Jaeger. Ayes: Knedler, Jaeger, DePorter, Parker Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Kaina, Kidd, Gosh. Motion passed.

Hearing of 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.

There were no citizen comments

Staff Reports:

Senior Coordinator: WASC Conference was in September. Good turnout at the conference and learned about environment and social media and is sharing ideas with the university planet purple program. Holiday Luncheon is wed December 11, 2013. Event will be catered in. Deb is looking for volunteers to help out.

Sports Coordinator: Youth football recently ended. We were happy with the turnout of including Elkhorn in our league this year. We have an end of season meeting with Palmyra, Elkhorn and Eagle scheduled for Thursday to review the season. Tackle football registration is now open on RecDesk and Strive. We were able to go to the end of year banquet meeting to help show people the new registration system and help them sign up for next season. Youth basketball is just beginning. We have our instruction program up and running and soon the league play will begin. WPRA conference in Green Bay was a success! I came back with many ideas about implementing various programs and ways to current and up to date on many topics. Overall, it was a great experience.

Parks & Recreation Director: Treyton's Field of Dreams Construction is running smoothly. Both parking lots were prepped today for curb and gutter placement and asphalt will be paved before the end of next week. Next step is working on tying in the path on Fremont Street to new planned path. Matt will be meeting with field turf for pre-construction meeting soon to discuss project schedule. Turtle Mound Park Playground was completed and opened on Friday. The building process went well and it is a great addition to park. WPRA Conference-Michelle and Abby attended the entire conference and Matt came up on Thursday to hand out park awards. Park Board Photo is overdue and photo will be tonight. Teri Smith has resigned and vacancy applications are due by November 21, 2013. The Park and Recreation Department is hosting an Open House from 4-7pm at the Starin Park Community Building to showcase Rec Desk and Strive to the public.

Discussion and possible action on camp site for 4th of July carnival employees

Amundson designated 3 potential sites to discuss with the 4th of July committee. The 3 sites he mentioned were the alpha cast site near Starin/Jefferson, the remote control flying field, and the tech park off of Green Way Court. Mention made by board that there is water at two sites but not at the remote control flying field. Once site is determined have to have camping permit approval from council. Knedler suggested Trippe Lake but Amundson discussed that there was concern from community about having the employees stay there as well as maintenance and programming concerns from Chuck and Michelle. 4th of July committee asked the

board to reconsider Trippe Lake as the 4th of July carnival employee site because the proximity is good and they will supply porta-potties at a site that meets their needs. The committee also stated that they are willing to address past concerns, "No matter where we go, we'll get some complaints." Amundson states that he will strongly push for a different site because of feedback from Chuck (maintenance) and Michelle (programming). Suggestion by Parker and Kidd that the west side of Starin Park by the pavilions and new horse shoe pit. Parker suggests that the hill at Starin would be a good fit because the employees would have water, bathrooms, flat ground, electricity, and shade. The 4th of July committee agreed to look at the Starin Park hill site. Next step to take is the committee and parks and recreation will agree on a site and bring it back to the board/council for approval.

Discussion and possible action on Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan

Amundson states that it is a very good and thorough plan that consists of big vision planning. The edits done to Washington Elementary and city implementations to school gives the opportunity for the public to weigh in on the plan. Citizen complaint by Tiiu Gray-Fow; refers to Pg. 43 in plan (Washington issues/recommendations) and raises a concern regarding the Dann Street bridge. Plan states that they consider moving bridge to south ridge street. Gray-Fow states her house is in the vicinity of possible refurbish or rebuild of bridge and explains that there is a blind intersection from Ridge Street to E Milwaukee Street and has an states there are major safety issues involved. Amundson states the significant amount of money it will take to replace the bridge and keep it in its current location versus the lower amount it would cost to move the bridge to the suggested location. The expected life cycle of current bridge is not great and if it's replaced, we will need to make it bicycle friendly and ADA compliant. Gray-Fow suggests changing the wording of the plan to say, "Consider alternative places for relocation of bridge." Amundson and board agree to do so.

Amundson and Kidd reference Table 7:1-2 Short term Implementation

Parker mentions a side note about parking issues after bike lanes put in that it's a community concern;

Amundson agrees to add section to the table about where that could come into play.

Amundson Refers to Table 7-5: Cost Assumptions (Bike lanes vs. Shared use path)

Knedler suggests removing bridge (blue line going across Cravath Lake) on map

Brandon Knedler made a motion to approve editorial changes discussed in board meeting and also changes made by Amundson and Kidd prior to meeting, Rachel DePorter seconded the motion. Ayes: Kaina, Jager, Parker, Knedler, DePorter, Kidd Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Gosh. Motion passed.

Discussion and work session related to the Park & Open Space Plan/ Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan

Ideas mentioned by Amundson under Recommended Sustainable Practices:

Encouragement of recycling program → May include new receptacle areas, simpler process

Eco-friendly sustainable products → It may cost more to do projects in the short run but how will it affect the bottom line (long run) and commitment to the program

Water bottle refill stations → Indoor/Outdoor

Ideas discussed under Goals, Objectives, & Policies

- Update goals and objectives to what the Parks and Recreation Department wants to accomplish in the next 5, 10, 15 years
- Possible Community Center discussion, Before and After School Programming (Bringing our recreation programs into the BASP, another connection with the schools). Next step is to work with the schools to do a survey about the need and want for this program

Knedler asked about alternate funding methods, partnerships, etc. The board discussed different methods.

Request for future agenda items

Next meeting – December 10, 2013 at 5:30pm

Board members to review Park & Open Space Plan and Parks and Recreation Strategic Planning.

Ash update (shareholder meeting)

Motion to adjourn at 7:31pm by Parker, seconded by Knedler. Group voice confirmation.

Respectfully submitted,

Abby Schultz

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