

**City of Whitewater
Parks and Recreation Board
Minutes**

Tuesday, August 12, 2014 - 5:30 pm

Community Room – 1st Floor, Whitewater Municipal Building
312 W. Whitewater St. Whitewater, WI 53190

Call to Order and Roll Call

Rachel Deporter, Jen Kaina, Ken Kidd, Brandon Knedler, Sarah Hansberry, and Bruce Parker. Absent: Nate Jaeger.

Staff: Matt Amundson, Deb Weberpal, Chuck Nass

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Parks and Recreation Board minutes of June 16, 2014

No items to be removed from consent agenda. Kidd moved to accept the consent agenda. Second by Parker. Ayes: Rachel Deporter, Jen Kaina, Ken Kidd, Brandon Knedler, Sarah Hansberry and Bruce Parker. Noes: None. Absent: Nate Jaeger .

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:

Concerts in the Park – Successful, fun concert on Thursday July 31 with over 100 people in attendance.
Senior Center Month – September is Senior Center Month and the theme is “Experts at Living Well”. There will be a lot of activities happening including an Open House on Friday September 5, National Cheese Pizza Day. After the Open House there will be a “Changing the Way We Age” PowerPoint from ICAA. The flash mob will return. The video is on the Whitewater Banner and in the Parks and Recreation newsletter this week.

Active Aging Week – is September 21-27 and the Theme is “Let the Adventure Begin”. There will be special adventure events every day.

Scheduleplus – implemented prepay accounts and online payments will be functional by the end of the week.

Parks & Recreation Director

Lake Harvesting – Both lakes harvested before July 4th. Holding off on second cutting until lake levels return to normal. Water is low because of Eastgate work.

Starin Park Improvements – Public works completed initial construction of dugout roofs, sheet metal will be installed soon. Benches will be installed and will bring us in line with ADA.

Treyton's Field of Dreams – Amundson showed pictures of the progress at the field and explained proposed schedule for the upcoming weeks. October 4 is scheduled Grand Opening Day with many events.

Wisconsin Street Bike Accommodations – The council approved both readings of the ordinance. There will be a bike lane on the east side of the street and a parking lane with a shared bike lane on the west side.

Considerations:

Discussion and direction related to drainage concerns at Minneiska Park

Chuck Nass reported that filling the low area with dirt was possible. Strand is not in favor of this solution. It will require a lot of fill and a permit from the DNR. Some fill and a drainage culvert under the path is preferred by Strand. Another solution is to run a culvert to the north to the detention pond which has a culvert. Time frame to accomplish is the end of September.

Discussion related to the erection of a Peace Pole in a City Park

Amundson referred to the packet. Indoor option is council chambers. Kidd prefers Mill Race park. It would be an interesting feature. What languages should be on the pole? Other proposed sites include end of Main Street mall near University or Ray Trost preserve. Will this pole create problems, vandalism, issues with language choice? There is a peace pole at Fairhaven. Would like to look for a better symbol. Park Board would like to look at peace pole location in the strategic plan.

Discussion and direction related to scheduling public meeting in coordination with the UFC to discuss Cravath Lakefront Park.

The meeting would also include downtown, university groups, 4th of July group and others who use the park to join in the discussion. Need strategic plan completed by end of the year and this will be part of the plan. October Park board meeting will be when all groups meet.

Discussion and direction related to alcohol in parks and possible ordinance changes

Wine is being requested for Concerts in the Park night at Cravath. Park rules are not consistent when it comes to alcohol. Several questions were brought up including: Can Trippe Lake Park be the same as Starin, alcohol is permitted anytime? Can Cravath allow wine only without a permit? Can city sponsored events be held with wine without a permit? Can city events be exempt and have wine? Can parks have alcohol as a midnight cutoff in the parks? Parks close at midnight. Matt will talk to Chief Lisa and check with Wally for an ordinance to have alcohol in parks until midnight. Kidd is not in favor of this, he prefers city events be able to have beer/wine. Police dept worried about students carrying alcohol across the street. Amundson will discuss concerns with Chief Lisa.

Review and Discussion of 2015 Budget

- Discussion and direction related to 2015 Goals
Amundson referred to packet. Kid expressed concern with staff time for tournaments. Plan is to increase Abby to full time. Good goals.

- Discussion and direction related to Enterprise Fund for Recreation Services
Parks and recreation may go to a special fund versus an enterprise fund. Knedler: Will we look at increasing recovering more funds including staff time? Do we want to look at a convenience fee for in person sign ups? Amundson will find out if enterprise fund will be best for Seniors in the Park or to remain as an offset account, especially as relates to grants.

Approve contract with SAA Design for the development of a comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian signage program

Amundson referred to the packet. . Kidd moved to accept the contract. Second by Parker. Ayes: Rachel Deporter, Jen Kaina, Ken Kidd, Brandon Knedler, Sarah Hansberry and Bruce Parker. Noes: None. Absent: Nate Jeager .

Request for future agenda items

Send UFC trail plans to review

7:19 pm. Motion to adjourn to closed session by Knedler. Second by Kidd. Affirmed by voice vote.

Next scheduled meeting: Tuesday, September 9, 5:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Debra Weberpal