



Parks and Recreation Board Minutes
Wednesday, March 15th 2023 - 5:30 pm
Hybrid Meeting

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Kathleen Flemming, Carol McCormick, Steve Ryan, Ben Prather (arrived 5:54pm), Korie Oberlie, Deb Weberpal absent: Dan Fuller, Jen Kaina, Mike Kilar, Megan Mathews
Staff: Eric Boettcher, Jennifer French, and Lorelei Bowen, Hunter Karnitz
Guests: Wesley Enterline

2. Approval of Minutes

Motioned by Steve Ryan. Second by Deb Weberpal. Ayes: Kathleen Flemming, Carol McCormick, Steve Ryan, Ben Prather (arrived 5:54pm), Korie Oberlie, Deb Weberpal

3. Consent Agenda

4. Hearing of Citizen comments

Chuck Mills: Notice of meeting on March 17th, item #3 to be discussed why is it in closed session?

Boettcher: It is an organizational meeting; no decisions will be made during this session.

5. Staff reports

5.a. Directors Report-Lakes Lakes Management, Facilities, and Staff Updates Eric Boettcher

Controlled burn did not happen due to weather. Eco water Ways and Field & Stream Restoration have been contact to provide cattail removal and cutting quotes. The community will be notified of any updates

McCormick: What about private land owners? And Chemical treatment?

Boettcher: chemical treatment is still being considered. Chemical treatments would take place in the fall if they were to take place.

Facilities update: Urban Forestry received a donation from Generac. A dedication will take place on April 28th at 10:00a.m.

Staff updates Jennifer French: Polar Plunge and Chili cookoff this Saturday, March 18th. \$5.00 per regular bowl and \$10.00 for a Stevie mug

5b. WAFC January Membership and Facility update Lorelei Bowen- 24/7 access to the fitness center starts tonight March 15th. This access is for WAFC members 18 years of age or older and only for the fitness center. Pools, locker rooms and fitness studio will be locked not permitted for access. See packet for February revenue and membership numbers. Lifeguarding class will take place April 21st-23rd

5c. Athletic Program Coordinator Hunter Karnitz introduction and updates.

Registration for tournaments for baseball and softball start in one month. Flyers will be sent to Whitewater Schools. First tournament has 19 teams signed up.

6. Considerations

6.a Discussion on combining Pedestrian and Bicycle Committee into Park Board.

Boettcher: Combining this committee into park board may solve the issue of the committee not having enough people and may result in a more productive meeting.

Discussion:

McCormick would the committee agendas become part of the Park and Rec board agenda?

Wes: Overseas the parks on campus, this aspect factors into what he contributes to the Park and Rec board.

Motion made to combine Pedestrian and Bicycle Committee into the Park and Rec Board Ben Prather.

Seconded by Megan Matthews

Ayes: Kathleen Flemming, Carol McCormick, Steve Ryan, Ben Prather (arrived 5:54pm), Korie Oberlie, Deb Weberpal

6B Effigy Mounds and Walton Oaks Management Updates.

Boettcher: Refer to packet. Plan to map out all mounds in back area and put in a permeant trail of limestone. This portion of the project can be done with grant funding, if received. Alternatively, this city has funding to pay for the project.

Oberlie: Common Wealth, archeologist group will be doing a survey over the summer to properly locate mounds. In between mounds and park area is very wet, a controlled burn is scheduled for spring using a grant.

Citizen questions:

On the map, what are the circles? Oberlie: Placement of Sculptures of Oak trees as a visual guide to the path.

Eric: Shaded areas on map are happening with or without grant funding. Public works dept will make the trail 15 ft away from mounds.

McCormick: Walton Oaks update?

Boettcher: We are catching up on maintenance to keep it under control. Midwest Prairie will be doing a spray control as part of our park maintenance plan.

Citizen question: Chuck Mills, what is the "plan b"?

Boettcher: Midwest Prairie will do a controlled burn, they will be able to reschedule. Oberlie: If not able to get Midwest Prairie in for a burn soon the other option is to wait until June.

Wesley Enterline: Is there a plan to reseed? Boettcher and Oberlie: Yes, in addition to reseeding planting trees will take place over an amount of years.

Enterline: I can contribute with reseeding.

7. Future Agenda Items

Ryan: Soccer Field concessions?

Boettcher: yes a meeting has taking place with the soccer club.

Oberlie: Walking path behind Minneiska park is cracked.

8. Adjournment

Motion by Deb Weberpal to adjourn. Second by Carol McCormick. Ayes: Kathleen Flemming, Carol McCormick, Steve Ryan, Ben Prather (arrived 5:54pm), Korie Oberlie, Deb Weberpal

Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, April 26th

Respectfully submitted,

Lorelei Bowen

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DRAFT