



Parks and Recreation Board Minutes
Wednesday, May 17th, 2023 – 5:30 pm
Cravath Lakefront Room
312 W. Whitewater Street
Whitewater, WI 53190
Hybrid Meeting

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Dan Fuller, Megan Matthews, Steve Ryan, David Stone, Deb Weberpal, Korie Oberlie. Absent: Kathleen Flemming, Stephanie Hicks, Mike Kilar, Ben Prather
Staff: Eric Boettcher, Jennifer French, Michelle Dujardin, Lorelei Bowen, Hunter Karnitz & John Weidl

2. Approval of Minutes

Motioned by David Stone. Seconded by Megan Matthews. Ayes: Dan Fuller, Megan Matthews, Steve Ryan, David Stone, Deb Weberpal, Korie Oberlie. Absent: Kathleen Flemming, Stephanie Hicks, Mike Kilar, Ben Prather

3. Hearing of Citizen Comments

No citizen comments to report at this time.

4. Staff Reports

- a. **Director's Report:** Eric Boettcher said he control burn at the Efigy Mounds went well on April 21st. The City did not get awarded the Vibrant Spaces Grant, so improvements will be kept under the \$25,000 original budget. That money will go to building pathways through the mounds-they need to be at least 15 feet from each mound. This will provide better access to the community as well as mowers/maintenance.
- b. **Athletic Programs:** Hunter Karnitz talked about the start of the Quad County baseball and softball seasons. The first day was May 15th. There was a tournament of five teams on April 29th, with a Janesville team winning the championship. There are 3 tournaments scheduled in June. The Parks and Rec program is working on a partnership between local club teams and Whitewater High School to host larger tournaments during the 2024 summer.
- c. **Event Programs:** Michelle Dujardin brought up the growing popularity of the Tae-Kwon Do program. She also discussed the Concerts in the Park events this summer and listed each performing group. Those events run July 13th-September 7th and are sponsored by

TDS. The after school program is ending at the end of the school year and Summer Camp starts up June 19th. The Special Olympics is coming to Whitewater June 8-10th. With enough support, she feels like they could make Whitewater their new permanent home after spending 40+ years in Stevens Point.

- d. **Senior Programs:** Senior programs can really use volunteer van drivers to assist with field trips.
- e. **Aquatic Center:** May is Water Safety Month. All Police, EMS, and Fire Dept. employees can receive a free day pass. The WAFC partnered with Drive Nutrition for a “drink of the week” where all who purchase the drink get a free day pass. Fathers will also get a free day pass on Father’s Day and there will also be a belly flop contest. The summer is planned to be busy with parties and summer groups/camps coming in to use the pool.

5. Urban Forestry Commission Updates

12 attendees were present for the Purple Martin House dedication

6. Considerations

- a. Eric Boettcher is meeting with the DNR to discuss our vegetation level and will also be getting quotes for cutting.
- b. WAFC Marketing Report: the WAFC website, Facebook and Instagram posts/likes have increased.
 - i. Marketing Plan Meeting – Eric, Lorelei, and Kristina from Kreative Solutions meets monthly to set up plans for promotions, social media posts, and events.
- c. Friends of the Aquatic Center group is going to do some fundraising as well as work with the high school to set up lifeguard training courses in the curriculum which will then lead them to employment at the WAFC.
- d. The board discussed the idea of forming a subcommittee for the WAFC. This subcommittee would take a deeper look into all things related to the Aquatic Center.

7. Pedestrian and Bicycle Items

Throughout the summer, there will be path maintenance happening by filling holes.

8. Future Agenda Items

None at this time

9. Adjournment

Motioned by Steve Ryan to adjourn at 6:34pm. Second by Korie Oberlie.

Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday June 21st, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

Hunter Karnitz

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