

City of Whitewater
Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve Task Force
Monday, August 2, 2010 - 6:00pm
Cravath Lakefront Room - 2nd Floor, City Municipal Building
312 W. Whitewater St. Whitewater, WI 53190

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Matt Amundson at 6:04 pm.

Present: Mariann Scott, Carol Christ, Sue Scherer, Nancy Dade Stone, Linda Loomer, Richard Helmick, Denay Trykowski
City Staff: Matt Amundson

The minutes of the April 6th meeting were approved with a motion from Christ, seconded by Scott.

Scott and Amundson introduced the Jeffris Family Foundation grant and the Certified Local Government (CLG) grant. An application could be submitted to both programs for the purpose of hiring a consultant to develop a restoration/maintenance/preservation plan for the Preserve. Amundson will prepare a scope of services to be sent to various prairie restoration groups, Jay Toth, Kira Kaufman, and an individual that Scott indicated does this type of work. The scope will be sent to the task force prior to being mailed to potential consultants. The scope will also ask for prices on a controlled burn and other potential maintenance services that grants could be written to fund.

A review of the June 12th tour was discussed by Amundson, Stone, and Helmick. It was noted that mound sites are maintained in many different ways based on the site and needs/resources of the care takers. Amundson stated that our goal should be to develop a plan that works for Whitewater.

Amundson raised concerns over the current "no-mowing" maintenance of the park. Some neighbors have voiced concern over this issue. The Parks and Recreation Board has asked that the Task Force present a maintenance plan for the site prior to next spring's maintenance season so that we avoid a second summer of "limbo". The task force is committed to developing and presenting a plan prior to spring of 2011. Volunteer mowing maintenance was discussed if it is determined that the mounds need to be mowed with a push mower. Amundson will follow-up with the City Attorney.

Amundson shared the park sign proof with the updated name and previously requested changes. Everyone shared their excitement for the sign and recommended to the parks and recreation board to move forward with purchase of the sign. Amundson also has received two signs (white w/black text) from the Ho-Chunk that highlight State Statues regarding mounds and the burial law. Helmick suggested that the split rail fence be moved towards the sidewalk and flank the new park sign, centered with the entrance to the mounds. The white sign should be attached to the existing signage at the mounds entrance and the no dog sign should be put in a position that is viewable. It was also stated that the weeds around the signage needs to be maintained so that signs are viewable by the public.

Scott discussed the survey and maps that were created as a result of the survey work. The map illustrates that a private fence is on a mound and within park property. Scott has discussed the issue with the landowner and the landowner wants to remedy the issue. The City Attorney is preparing a letter from the City to address the issue.

Denay Trykowski wanted to thank all that worked for the name change and highlighted that it was a difficult process. A special thanks to the Parks and Recreation Board for their support on the issue.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.