

City of Whitewater
Parks and Recreation Board
Monday, June 20, 2011 - 5:00pm
Cravath Lakefront Room - 2nd Floor, City Municipal Building
312 W. Whitewater St. Whitewater, WI 53190

MINUTES

Call to Order and Roll Call

Javonni Butler, Brandon Knedler, Vance Dalzin, Pru Negley, and Ken Kidd(5:09) Absent: Rick Daniels and Jen Kaina (excused).

Staff: Matt Amundson, Michelle Dujardin, Deb Weberpal, and Rashelle Keener, P/R Intern

Guests: Richard Ehrenberg

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Parks and Recreation Board minutes of May 2, 2011 & June 6, 2011; receipt and acknowledgement of Urban Forestry Commission minutes of April 19, 2011; and approval of request by "Community Cat" to be included as a Partner Organization in the Facility Rental & Reservation Policy

Kidd questioned rental with heat in armory (May 2 meeting). Recommend Amundson send letter about venting the building and use of fans.

No items to be removed from consent agenda. Negley moved to accept the consent agenda. Second by Butler. Ayes: Knedler, Dalzin, Negley, Kidd, and Butler. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Daniels, Kaina. 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:

Parks & Recreation Director (Amundson) Youth Baseball and Softball are off to a good sort. A youth softball coach was removed as coach today, the assistant coach will be taking over. There are a total of 11 traveling teams. Fields at Starin Park are very busy Mon-Thurs as well as fields at the high school.

Treyton Kilar Family Fun Day event raised \$60,400. Art exhibit now in Fiskum Gallery features Trey and his love for baseball. There was an on campus event last week. High school student council did softball fundraiser. We are currently working with potential vendors to identify actual costs. A turf company is trying to lower their costs and may provide some engineering for free.

City Council is discussing reorganization of neighborhood services. It is proposed that Amundson will now be responsible for facility maintenance.

Recreation & Community Events Programmer (Dujardin) It's the first day of kids escape. Good group of kids and 3 staff members. Tee ball and rookie ball started last week with an additional 2 rookie ball teams above last year. Last Thursday was first family fun night.

A Summer Staff Kickoff event was held where seasonal staff came into meet each other, learn basic info about department, customer service, and projects and get to know you games. This will become an annual event.

Senior Coordinator (Deb Weberpal) is now a certified AHA Trainer for CCR, AED and First Aid. WE now have to find equipment we can use to hold classes. Weberpal hopes to train key senior volunteers and Amundson would like to eventually have summer staff and coaches trained. People can study and take the written test online and just do the physical testing with Weberpal.

Review and discussion related to Whitewater Effigy Mounds Restoration and presentation by Tom Jennings of Jennings & Associates

Tom Jennings, Jennings and Associates, discussed restoration and preservation plan. He referred to the plan. Inventoried site and discovered oak savannah remnant. Oak savannahs are rare in Wisconsin. The Whitewater Mounds have worldwide importance. We should look at linking with the Hoard museum. They have a lot of history on the Mounds and people can be referred there. He suggested an archeological study of the area.

Site Plan: Recommended the site be authentic. Would like one looped trail. Kiosk at entrance with brochures and links for PDA's. Identify a location for a larger kiosk/visitor's center in the plan. Conservancy for any new subdivision in the area with direction to have prairie as a segue into housing. Working with the mounds group and Richard Helmecht, lead volunteer, to assist the city in marking trails and mowing. Pru: Park Board and UFC needs to work diligently with Plan commission especially in the development of this area. Report has burn schedule. Amundson: We have the opportunity to establish guidelines for mounds care, restoration and preservation. Scott: working on a packet to give to school children. Krist: working on grants for education. Scott question: pg 17- remove fences that are not private? Need Kiosk near sidewalk before can remove. City Manager and Attorney are handling land issues with a landowner. Amundson is working on ability of volunteers to use city equipment and can work on land as long as they are following the established plan and communicate what they are doing with the city. Need also to communicate what adjacent neighbors can do.

Appointment of Parks and Recreation Board member to the Plan Commission.

Brandon has purchased a home outside of the city. He can remain on Park Board but not Plan Commission. Will put on July agenda as we meet before Plan Board's next scheduled meeting.

Discussion and possible action related to the closure of Brewery Hill Park during North Street construction.

Amundson referred to the packet and to closure of North Street for bridge repair and the possibility of extending the trail to downtown. There will be no emergency access to the park during construction. August 1 to end of October is scheduled construction. Police department and Public Works Department both support the closing. Kidd did suggest to have a backup plan in case someone does get injured. Amundson will talk to Tom Schopen. Dalzin moved to close the skate park and trail during the North Street construction. Second by Kidd. Ayes: Knedler, Dalzin, Negley, Kidd, and Butler. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Daniels, Kaina. Motion passed.

Approval of Lake Protection Plan for Cravath and Trippe Lakes

Amundson referred to the packet and the previous presentations on the plan. Amundson reviewed the highlights especially managing stormwater. Motion by Butler to approve the Lakes Management Plan. Second by Negley. Ayes: Knedler, Dalzin, Negley, Kidd, and Butler. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Daniels, Kaina. Motion passed.

Review and discuss survey results

Positives were ease of registration and appearance of parks. Requested programs included: health and wellness, middle school intramurals, nature based activities. Branding of the department: Talked about clings for cars that support the Parks. Could be a funding source.

(Dalzin left the meeting 5:55)

Discussion and possible action related to screening of Cravath Lakefront electrical boxes

Amundson referred to the packet. Chuck Nass will be working with K & W on a plan to screen the boxes with vegetation. Negley moved to direct Nass to do tall grass plantings around the electrical boxes working with K&W. Kidd second. Ayes: Knedler, Negley, Kidd, and Butler. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Dalzin, Daniels, Kaina. Motion passed.

Request for future agenda items

Solution for goose control

Adjourn

Next meeting July 11, 4:00 pm. 6:05 pm Motion by Kidd. Second by Negley. Affirmed by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

