

**City of Whitewater**  
**Parks and Recreation Board**  
**Monday, August 1, 2011 - 4:00pm**  
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, Rick Daniels, Jen Kaina (4:10), Kim Gosh, and Ken Kidd Absent: Vance Dalzin (excused) and Pru Negley.

Staff: Matt Amundson, Michelle Dujardin, Deb Weberpal

Guests: Bruce Parker (4:20), Marianne Scott (4:30), Richard Helmick (4:43)

**Consent Agenda Approval of Parks and Recreation Board minutes of July 11, 2011 and expedited approval of request for recreation program refund to high school softball program participants, and approval of request for refund of banner reservation**

Kidd moved to accept the consent agenda. Second by butler. Ayes: Knedler, Daniels, Kidd, Gosh, and Butler. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Kaina, Dalzin, Negley. 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:

- Youth Baseball & Softball ended last week
- 12 & Under Baseball League Tournament – hosted 16 teams; concession proceeds went to Treyton’s Field of Dreams fund. Whitewater teams finished 1st, 3rd, 4th. Coaches have done good job of developing all youth and their skills.
- Youth Football registration deadline was yesterday and expect additional registrations.

Recreation & Community Events Programmer:

Dance and gymnastics went well. T-ball/rookie ball had cookout to end the season. 134 kids were in the program, kids escape had a great staff and group of kids. 5 field trips have been offered and all went over well.

Senior Coordinator

September is Senior Center Month. The National Council on Aging and the National Institute of Senior centers have developed marketing tools including posters in which you can insert pictures of your own activities.

### **Discussion and direction regarding recreation related municipal facilities and new conceal/carry legislation**

Amundson referred to memo. City Council would like feedback from boards and commissions on the issue of post city facilities to prevent carry of concealed weapons into buildings.

(Bruce Parker arrived 4:20)

Kidd-youth sports parents can become irrational. Adding opportunity for something bad is not wise. Possibility of gun being stuck into a gym bag while participant is playing makes it accessible to others. Knedler-What does a person do with gun who cannot bring it into a building? Does it go into a car where it is accessible? Someone with bad intention would ignore sign anyway.

Kidd moved to ask Council to ban dangerous weapons in recreation facilities (Starin Park Community Building, Downtown Armory, and Cravath Lakefront Center). Second by Daniels. Ayes: Daniels, Kidd, Kaina, and Gosh. Noes: Knedler, Butler. Abstain: None. Absent: Dalzin, Negley. Motion passed.

### **Discussion and direction regarding scoreboard replacement at Starin Park**

There are electrical problems with the wiring so some bulbs will not work. Lettering is almost illegible. Amundson is trying to replace the scoreboard with no impact to the budget by approaching donors. The Public Works Crew will be able to fabricate panel for sponsor logos to attach to the scoreboard as well as complete installation, helping to keep cost down. Streets dept will install, also. Long term cost savings include LED lights and that an umpire can now control the scoreboard with hand held remote. Board will fit on the frame that is currently in use. Daniels moved to approve purchase of board with sponsors. Second by Butler. Ayes: Knedler, Daniels, Kidd, Kaina, Gosh, and Butler. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Dalzin, Negley. Motion passed.

### **Request for free facility use for Get Your Guts in Gear fundraiser event**

Amundson referred to the packet and commented that the use was approved last year. This is just a rest stop on their way through Whitewater. Motion by Daniels to approve use of facility for free. Second by Butler. Ayes: Knedler, Daniels, Kidd, Kaina, Gosh, and Butler. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Dalzin, Negley. Motion passed.

### **Presentation of 2010 Winter/2011 Spring Recreation Program Financial Report**

Staffing costs do not include Amundson, Dujardin or Weberpal only seasonal personnel and instructors. This report allows staff to look at programming, costs, evaluate attendance, see trends of interest, and success of programs. This report is done three times per year with each season. Biggest change is the reduction in the number of fitness classes offered through the department.

### **C-1 Approval of Whitewater Effigy Mounds Restoration Plan**

Amundson reported that Heather Patti (Restoration Ecologist who worked on restoration plan) walked area with him last week. She feels things are going well and a burn should be scheduled for fall. Desirable plants were present and will eventually crowd out invasives. Volunteers have removed invasives on the mounds. Financials are an outline not necessarily what will be needed.

(4:43) R. Helmick arrived)

Scott-Concern that staff, boards and councils change. The Landmarks Commission would like the plan voted on year by year. Per ordinance, changes in landmarks goes before that commission, also. They feel we need time to work out how the two groups will work together.

Amundson commented that an agreement will be voted on next that refers to the plan. The plan is needed for several reasons for staff, neighbors, and the Friends Group so that everyone is operating from a consistent approach.

Amundson reviewed highlights of the plan: addresses periodic burns, (this will change as the plan is a working document), next section: keep turf covering on the mounds, which is a change to the current plan, establish prairie off of the mounds then address possibility of prairie on mounds, plant native tree saplings to increase oak savannah (area from street to current park area), Helmick: Preserving the mounds lost to agricultural use might want to be added to the plan and no trees planted there. Kidd would like the DOT area west of park to be clarified as oak savannah. Pg 15: Control of invasive species. Heather Patti will be back in fall to assist friends group in identifying and removing invasives. Pg 16: Not ready to implement this portion of the plan yet, but potential in the future working with the Friends group. P17-18: Gives concepts of trail, working with neighbors and fencing, and identifying location for entry kiosk, Kidd questioned need for kiosk and was concerned with pamphlets littering the area. Would prefer signs. Currently, signs are within the five foot area of the mounds. Looking at being able to call a phone number on a sign and get info on mounds while touring on cell phones. Would like to investigate replacement signs as current signs are not very informative. Others felt brochures needed. Possibly laminated so don't litter. Conservation and neighborhood planning on how the park transitions to neighborhoods along with a protection zone is also in the document. Council will need to receipt and acknowledge the plan. All plans are working documents and often there are changes. Motion by Daniels to approve the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Restoration Plan with the changes. Second by Kidd. Ayes: Knedler, Daniels, Kidd, Kaina, Gosh, and Butler. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Dalzin, Negley. Motion passed.

#### **Approval of agreement with Friends of the Effigy Mounds (FOTEM)**

This agreement formalizes the process where volunteers can assist the city with park maintenance. Amundson referred to packet and highlighted main points. Helmick questions: Section 2 - change of wording to open property/space not park. What notifications also need to be made to the Landmarks commission? Scott: Any new improvements or earth disruption must notify Landmarks and the state archeologist. Section 5: Concerned on clarification of liability especially personal for Helmick. Who is agreement actually made with? Amundson will clarify and set up a meeting with city attorney and Helmick.

#### **Request for future agenda items**

Plan commission member  
Discussion of resident/non-resident fees

#### **Adjourn**

5:35 pm Motion by Daniels. Second by Kidd. Affirmed by voice vote.

**Next meeting September 12, 4:00 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,



Debra Weberpal