

City of Whitewater
Parks and Recreation Board
Minutes
Monday, February 4, 2013 - 5:00pm
Cravath Lakefront Room - 2nd Floor, City Municipal Building
312 W. Whitewater St. Whitewater, WI 53190

Call to Order and Roll Call

Jen Kaina, Teri Smith, Bruce Parker, Brandon Knedler, Ken Kidd, Rachel DePorter, and Kim Gosh

Staff: Matt Amundson, Deb Weberpal, Michelle Dujardin

Guests: Karen Coburn, Blake Scharine, Tiiu-Gray-Fow, Richard Helmick, Dave Saalsaa

Consent Agenda: Approval of Parks and Recreation Board minutes of January 7, 2012, Receipt and acknowledgement of Urban Forestry Commission minutes of December 4, 2012, and Expedited approval of the following items, per staff recommendation: C1 (Approval of request by Minneiska Ski Team to be included in facility reservation policy as a partner organization)

No items to be removed from consent agenda. Kidd moved to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Smith. Ayes: Kaina, Smith, Parker, Knedler, DePorter, Kidd, and Gosh Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Jaeger. 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.

No Citizen Comments

Staff Reports:

Parks & Recreation Director

- Sports Coordinator: 5 Candidates have been selected for an interview; each candidate will receive a 30 minutes tour of Whitewater parks & facilities, and then meet with the interview team. Jeff Behrens is not able to be part of the interview panel.
- Strive: The program is up and running with Youth Baseball and Softball. Participants can register through the current settings. Whitewater, Fort Atkinson, and Milton are the test cities for Strive. The ultimate goal is to be completely mobile by summer.
- Treyton's Field of Dreams: The updated site plan is going to Council Tuesday, February 5th. Golden State Foods made a donation of \$50,000.
- Discover Whitewater Series: The half marathon/5K/Fun Run will take place on Sunday, September 22, 2013. A committee has been established and is moving forward with plans. The committee is also working on a health expo leading up to the event.
- Website & Social Media: The department is looking how to expand our presence through media. We are currently working on domain name for the department, if anyone has ideas please send to Matt.

Recreation & Community Events Programmer:

- Freeze Fest: Freeze Fest 2013 will take place Saturday, February 16th at Cravath Lakefront Park. As of January 29, 2013 there were 182 plungers, 3 chili cook off registrants. The Chamber of Commerce has also joined Freeze Fest and will be taking over the horse drawn wagon ride offering in store savings all day during the Freeze Fest.
- Tourism: Whitewater Tourism Council, Downtown Whitewater, Inc., and Whitewater Chamber of Commerce are coming together to be housed in one location downtown.

- W3 Wellfest: March 10th at Whitewater High School. Cooking classes, healthy seminars, and resource fair will be filling the High School. If anyone is interested in being part of the resource fair, contact W3.
- Slim Down Challenge: W3 is partnering with Fort Health Care in providing a healthy 12 week challenge of staying healthy and active. Teams need to be a minimum of 4 people but up to a maximum of 6 people. To register, visit www.forthhealthcareslimdown.com

Senior Coordinator

- Haney lecture series: The program is averaging over 60 participants per lecture. We are very excited to have home schooled children attending lectures.
- Chili Cook Off at Freeze Fest: Registrations are due by Friday. Looking for one more judge and participants.
- Newsletter Advertising Contact Referrals: If you know of anyone knew that would like advertise, please contact Deb.
- Community Senior Resource Meeting: A meeting will be held twice a year to explore and make sure we don't duplicate sources. A senior resource fair is being created for the first week of May.
- Classical Turkey Tour: Trips are part of fundraising and benefits Seniors In The Park directly.

Considerations:

Appointment to Whitewater Aquatic Center Board.

Amundson stated due to scheduling conflicts Jen Kaina is not able to continue serving on the Aquatic Center Board. The Aquatic Center Board is the third Thursday of the Month at the Aquatic Center at 7am. DePorter makes the motion to nominate Teri Smith for Whitewater Aquatic Center Board. Seconded by Kaina. Ayes: Kaina, Smith, Parker, Knedler, DePorter, Kidd, and Gosh Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Jaeger .

Smith accepted nomination.

Discussion and possible action on ideas for possible educational programming to create awareness of Emerald Ash Borer treatment options among private homeowners (Urban Forestry Commission)

Amundson referred to packet for proposed EAB document. Kidd complemented information and questioned the elimination of the wording on page 12 "Possibility of partnership with City of Whitewater to help defray cost". Kidd commented the statement on page 13 "The City of Whitewater does not endorse soil applied products due to high toxicity of products and increased chance of harm to mammals and aquatics species" , should highlight the caution but not be a blanket statement.

Gray: Commented that the topic of partnership was brought as a suggestion

Weberpal: Suggested using the TV Show Park Bench to talk about EAB in April.

Smith: Suggested taking the statement and replacing the word "high" with "possible"

Knedler. Suggests changing the statement to read: The City of Whitewater recommends carefully following the manufacturing instructions when applying soil applied products due to high toxicity of products and potential harm.

Smith moved to accept the Information for homeowners on Emerald Ash Borer with the deletion of the sentence on page 12 "Possibility of partnership with City of Whitewater to help defray cost" and the sentence adjustment on page 13 to read "The City of Whitewater recommends carefully following the manufacturing instructions when applying soil applied products due to high toxicity of products and potential

harm. “ Seconded by Kaina. Ayes: Kaina, Smith, Parker, Knedler, DePorter, Kidd, and Gosh Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Jaeger . Motion passed.

Discussion and possible action related to future tree planting in Cravath Lakefront Park

Amundson commented that concerns were raised over trees that were planted at Cravath Lakefront Park and their impact to the ability to host events in the park. Amundson stated City Manager, Cameron Clapper has stated the two newly planted trees located on the top area of the park will be relocated in the lower end of the park due to problems these trees currently pose to events. Amundson also informed the audience that any board member can request an agenda item and it will be on a future agenda.

Amundson referred to minutes from the Parks& Recreation Board Minutes of November 2 , 2009 and Whitewater Street Corridor Redevelopment Plan 9/6/94 in regards to tree planting.

Parker: Stated that event set up, moving of equipment, the weight of equipment damaging root system, safety concerns, and growing events will be constricted by these additional trees. Parker recommends we have a plan that we adopt for future discussions. Parker suggests that trees being moved could also be used as replacement trees for those ash trees marked to be taken down.

Gray: This is a much bigger issue than just a few trees, but what is this park suppose to be. Gray proposed a spring meeting with all stakeholders that use the park.

Knedler: Any group who would like to come to the Park & Recreation Board to talk usage or concerns about parks is more than welcome. Changes and recommendations to parks need to come through the Parks & Recreation Board.

Weberpal: It’s good to have a variety of types of parks. An open space event park is what Cravath Lakefront Park was set to be.

Coburn: Not to say we can’t change or adapt as time goes by.

Saalsaa: It was smart planning of Cravath Lakefront Park as an open park. We need to have events to bring in as much tourism as possible to stimulate economy and promote economic development.

Parker: When the designated ash trees are taken out, hold off on replacing them until all the stake holders can get together and talk about options.

Amundson: The current GIS map will be asked to get updated and can be used for the stakeholders meeting.

Scharine: We don’t want a grass parking lot but we like trees. We need to let time pass and see what the trees make the park look like for the future.

The Board directed Parks & Recreation Director to find a neutral location and individual to facilitate the stakeholders meeting.

Review and direction related to results of the “Recreation Clothing” quotations

Amundson referred to chart of three clothing bids received by Sassy Shirts, Aropa Designs, and Will Enterprise.

Kidd moved to split the order between Sassy Shirt and Aropa for selected items and have Matt negotiate prices, Seconded by Smith. Ayes: Kaina, Smith, Parker, Knedler, DePorter, Kidd, and Gosh Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Jaeger . Motion passed.

Discussion and direction related to planning efforts of the Parks & Recreation Department

Amundson referred to packet and draft timeline for planning efforts in 2013.

Kidd suggested asking consultant to review draft plan and creation of separate line for Cravath Lakefront Park meeting.

Smith motioned to approve chart with the addition of adding Cravath Lakefront Park meeting. Seconded by Kidd. Ayes: Kaina, Smith, Parker, Knedler, DePorter, Kidd, and Gosh Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Jaeger . Motion passed.

Request for future agenda items

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 7:09pm by Kidd, seconded by Smith. Group voice confirmation.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Dujardin

Michelle Dujardin