

**City of Whitewater
Parks and Recreation Board
Minutes**

Monday, April 9, 2013 - 5:00pm

Cravath Lakefront Room - 2nd Floor, City Municipal Building
312 W. Whitewater St. Whitewater, WI 53190

Call to Order and Roll Call

Brandon Knedler, Bruce Parker, Rachel Deporter, and Nate Jaeger. Absent: Ken Kidd, Teri Smith, and Jen Kaina.

Staff: Matt Amundson, Deb Weberpal, Michelle Dujardin, Chuck Nass and Abby Schyvinch

Guests: Richard Helmick, Denay Trykowski, Jean Mills

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Parks and Recreation Board minutes of March 4, 2013, receipt and acknowledgement of Urban Forestry Commission minutes of February 26, 2013, and expedited approval of request by UW-W Student Group for waived rental fees at Starin Park to hold "Save Second Base" on April 27th which will benefit the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

Deporter moved to accept the consent agenda. Second by Parker. Ayes: Jaeger, Parker, Deporter, and Knedler. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Kidd, Smith, and 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 comments

Staff Reports:

Recreation and Special Events Coordinator

- We participated in W3 Wellfest on March 10. There was decent attendance. The Zumba and cooking sessions were very well attended. Weberpal taught the Tai Chi class.
- The Brochure went online last week and will be published within the next 1½ weeks. Online registration opened April 3. In person registration hours will be three Saturdays: April 12 and 27 and May 4. The brochure will go out in the Good Morning in the April 24 issue.

Streets, Parks and Forestry Superintendent

- The UFC has been tasked with obtaining information on becoming a Bird City USA.

Parks & Recreation Director

- Storm water projects have been approved for this year and include the James Street detention basin and the shoreline restoration along Whitewater Creek from Main Street to Starin Road.
- Applying for 2014 DNR grants for construction of detention basins in Clay Street Nature Park and Meadowsweet Park and the second phase of Whitewater Creek restoration going from Starin Rd to the Whitewater Creek Preserve.
- The project manager on the Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan has accepted a position with the DNR.
- The Cravath Lakefront stakeholders meeting is scheduled for April 18 at 6:00 pm to discuss the event space at the park and tree planting.
- Introduced Abby Schyvinch, the new Sports Coordinator.

Sports Coordinator

- There are 9 baseball and 4 softball teams. Currently she is visiting businesses for sponsorships. The 10u/12u schedules are started, on April 13 is a skills camp, April 17 is a coaches meeting and April 29 practices begin.

Senior Coordinator

- The volunteer appreciation will be Thursday April 25 with a baseball theme. The Madison Mallards have been invited. This is one of the intern's projects.
- The Senior Resource Fair on Thursday, May 2, currently has over 40 vendors committed. This is also an intern project.

Discussion related to camping location of 4th of July carnival employees

- Amundson referred to packet and gave a brief history of the carnival worker's "campsites". Trippe Lake Park is for public use and the site of our daily Kids Escape program and is not viewed as a viable site for the workers.
- Parker commented that wherever the camp is established in 2014 they need water and electricity for one week. Power was installed on the south side of Trippe Lake shelter for this and other purposes. They need to be within walking distance of Cravath Lakefront and the carnival owner is conscientious and willing to address any problems.
- Jean Mills commented that these are also families not just the workers to remember there are children involved when deciding on a site.
- A reminder was made to make sure the group has an exemption for camping while in the Starin Park this year.
- Parker suggested the old Alpha Cast Site

5:23 Dr. Kidd Arrived

Discussion and possible action related to the site and landscape plan for Treyton's Field of Dreams

Amundson reported there will be a site plan submission to the Plan Commission on May 13. The landscape plan will show the trees and will include the parking plan. The concession stand has been removed from Strand's plan. The Design Alliance is designing the concession stand. Comments from the last meeting have been sent to them and they agree with the ideas..

Knedler moved to accept the plan as presented and forward to the Plan commission. Second by Deporter . Ayes: Jaeger, Parker, Deporter, Kidd, and Knedler. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Smith and Kaina. Motion passed.

Discussion and possible action related to proposed treatment of garlic mustard at Effigy Mounds Preserve (Friends of the Effigy Mounds)

- Denay Trykowski with Friends of the Mounds (FOTM) showed videos of the garlic mustard, burdock and common mullein invasives at the Mounds. She commented that hand pulling of the rosettes is the best way to combat garlic mustard, but DNR doesn't allow pulling/digging on the Mounds.
- Amundson commented that the State Archeologist will allow hand digging, but this is not currently in writing. Amundson would like priorities established to combat invasives and also commented that the board previously approved removing the turf grass and planting prairie grass on the mounds.
- Kidd inquired as to what the Eagle Scout did last year and Trykowski commented that there isn't much difference this year and that it takes seven years of hand pulling to get rid of garlic mustard.
- Nass inquired about mowing the invasives. Stated it works until the natives come in. Mowing would put the prairie on hold for 7 years but the ability to identify the path may be an issue.

- Kidd: Thought mowing was approved last fall with perennials on eh Mounds and then we would decide areas to maintain.
- Questions to be answered: Can invasives be controlled by mowing and can it be mowed low enough to differentiate the trails and still combat invasives?

Discussion and possible action on landscaping improvements to the Effigy Mounds Preserve (Friends of the Effigy Mounds)

- Trykowski presented plans for plantings in the area between Indian Mounds Parkway and the fence. The plans are also in the board packet. Trykowski inquired if the fence is not catalogued can they plant there?
- Amundson commented the group should have the Wisconsin Archeologist onsite when the planting occur so it can be documented or have written permission.
- Knedler commented the project has the support of the UFC.
- Parker questioned the amount of staff time needed versus Volunteer time. Trykowski commented the intent is for the city to mow and the planting and weeding to be done by volunteers.
- Trykowski commented the funding is available for pods 1 & 2 this year provided that volunteers can water and weed, as in the first year water is very important to establishing the plants.
- Amundson commented the open area plan previously was for oak savannah and prairie. Trykowski commented that pods 1-5 are full sun plantings and any future oak trees may shade them.
- Kidd likes the plan as it is more garden like rather than prairie, which people often identify as weeds.
- Parker asked about signage so people know what the plan is for future plantings.

Kidd moved to approve the concept of the landscape plan with pods 1 & 2 this year and evaluate the success before moving forward with the plan. Adding signage so people will understand what the intent of the area is. Second by Knedler. Ayes: Jaeger, Parker, Deporter, Kidd, and Knedler. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Smith and Kaina. Motion passed.

C-5 and C-6 were tabled for next meeting

C-8 Request for future agenda items

C-9 Adjourn

7:00 pm. Motion by Parker. Second by Knedler. Affirmed by voice vote.

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 14, at 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Debra Weberpal