

City of Whitewater
Parks and Recreation Board
Draft Minutes
Tuesday, February 10, 2015 - 5:30 pm
Community Room – 1st Floor, Whitewater Municipal Building
312 W. Whitewater St. Whitewater, WI 53190

Call to Order and Roll Call

Rachel Deporter, Jen Kaina, Ken Kidd, Brandon Knedler, Nate Jaeger, Corey Oberlee, and Bruce Parker.

Absent: Sarah Hansberry.

Staff: Matt Amundson, Deb Weberpal, Nate Karraker, Chuck Nass, Intern Kelsy Nobilio, Michelle Dujardin

Guests: Karen Coburn, Beverly Stone, Ken Kienbaum, Denay Trykowski, Tiu Gray-Fow, Karen McCulloch,

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda was approved with no items removed on a motion from Kidd, seconded by Deporter which included the Approval of Parks and Recreation Board minutes of January 13, 2015 and Receipt and acknowledgement of Urban Forestry Commission minutes of July 22, 2014; September 23, 2014; September 29, 2014; November 25, 2014; & December 16, 2014

Ayes: Rachel Deporter, Jen Kaina, Ken Kidd, Brandon Knedler, Nate Jaeger, Kori Oberle, and Bruce Parker. Noes: None. Absent: Sarah Hansberry.

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 public comments.

Staff Reports:

Parks & Recreation Director

Armory, Community Center Update – Council will review plans for Armory ramp and stairs from Strand. To meet ADA, ramp may have switch backs. Landmarks Commission has recommended Armory to be Landmark. There is a group meeting in the community to discuss a community center.

Volunteer Policies – Previous request by Parker. City will look at City Wide per the City Manager.

Introduction of Nate Karraker, Recreation Program Coordinator

Recreation Program Coordinator

2015 Baseball & Softball Tournaments – Six tournaments at Starin Park in 2015. Most are new tournaments. Currently, 23 baseball teams and 21 softball teams have signed up for tournaments.

Senior Coordinator

Accreditation update – The committees have met and have a deadline of May 1 so everything can be pulled together for a review in June.

Chili Cook-off – Numbers are down this year for participants and the deadline has been extended.

Introduction of Student Intern, Kelsey Nobilio.

Considerations:

Discussion and possible action related to proposed tree removal, relocation, and replacement plan for trees in poor condition at Cravath Lakefront Park

Amundson referred to the packet and the board is looking for information on the removal and replanting of trees. Nass referred to the map previously submitted. Trees by the arch can be trimmed to not obscure the arch. Those with an X will be removed this year. Oak will be moved to where the red x's are. Blue x's may not be replaced or may be replaced with small, decorative trees.

Karen Coburn – UFC Chairperson; relocation of oaks by the stage. Feel trees should not be moved. Would like to see a tree replaced for one that is removed.

Karen McCoullough – Citizens feel there should be more shade. Don't attend events because there is no shade. Shade provides respite from sun's rays.

Anne Zarinnia asked the board to rush slowly. Take your time with the decision.

Tiu Gray Fow – Shared pictures of the Pig in the Park event.

Ken Kienbaum – People would like shade for the 4th of July. Would like to see more trees planted.

Beverly Stone – Fond du lac has a very large park that has trees and large events.

Board discussion: Kaina asked if the group came back with the shade structure ideas. No Downtown has not. Amundson commented Pig in the Park will not happen next year. The Best Dam bike ride may take their celebration to Cravath Lakefront beginning in 2016. Oberle asked if Nass had approved the plan, and if oaks would be replanted. Kidd inquired if one is bad or not. Nass said both would be transplanted. Oaks would be moved to where the red x's are if the board wishes. Nass clarified what would be removed. Knedler asked if there was space on the far southwest corner for more shade trees. Kidd moved to move the two oaks up by the parking lot and replant, plant shade trees on the east side of the walk near the lake and shade on the west south west side of the park between the crab-oak-crab and possibly the northwest corner. No second

Amundson commented the UFC now understands what we want. Tasked them to bring back a plan of what trees would be appropriate in the areas expressed by the board. Plan to be to the Park Board by the April meeting.

Discussion and possible action related to the maintenance of the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve

Amundson referred to the packet. Three companies are coming in to give us a plan. Nass will review and see what can be done in-house. UFC members are looking at potential grant programs. Process of clearing can take up to seven years.

Denay Trykowski – Questioned how companies can make plans with the snow cover? How based selection of companies? Amundson - Companies said this is appropriate time of year. Selection is because we have worked with them previously and chose third company from recommendation by the DNR. Matt will accompany them when they are onsite. Trykowski - Effigy Mounds is still under parks on the website. It is also under landmarks. Amundson commented a preserve is under the purview of a park. Trykowski commented snowmobiles have been in the park.

Ken Kienbaum – Weed problem is on the right upon entering the park. Mostly burdocks. Offer to donate stones to put near each mound to put plaques on. Amundson thanked him. We are still not ready for plaques as more planning is needed first.

Discussion and possible action on request from Lauderdale Aqua Skiers to be listed as a partner organization in Facility Reservation Policy.

Request is in the board packet. They are looking at a few Sunday afternoons. Armory use is down at that time. Parker - Ask for a performance on one of the Thursday night concert nights. Kidd commented a performance in lieu of payment would be acceptable.

Kidd moved to offer free usage of the Armory if they offer a performance in lieu of payment or a learn to ski class or some type of program. Second by Parker. Ayes: Rachel Deporter, Jen Kaina, Ken Kidd, Brandon Knedler, Nate Jaeger, Corey Oberlee, and Bruce Parker. Noes: None. Absent: Sarah Hansberry.

Presentation of Fall 2014 & Fiscal Year 2014 Recreation Programs Financial Report

Amundson referred to the packet. Explained overall income and program types. Income was at 115% and fee recovery is 110% so have exceeded our goal. Amundson will add in 2014 After School numbers and reshare with the board. Kidd question on staff costs. Staffing expense does not include Dujardin.

Discussion and possible action related to 2015 sponsorship program

Amundson referred to the packet. 2014 was first year of overall department sponsorship. Only change this year is addition of tournament sponsors. A couple of businesses are interested in selling product at the tournaments. This keeps the opportunity fair to all. Kaina questioned who would be acceptable as sponsors. Amundson is looking at food and possibly healthcare (not supplements).

Motion by Kidd second by Jaeger to approve the 2015 sponsorship program. Ayes: Rachel Deporter, Jen Kaina, Ken Kidd, Brandon Knedler, Nate Jaeger, Corey Oberlee, and Bruce Parker. Noes: None. Absent: Sarah Hansberry.

Discussion and possible action related to the development of a volunteer recognition program

Looking at including all volunteers in parks and recreation. Hoping to eventually honor number of years they volunteered. Paid out of budgeted fund. Board agrees with the idea.

Discussion and possible action related to changes made to Adult Softball program

Amundson referred to the packet. Amundson and Karraker brainstormed on how to best deal with the decrease in teams. The sponsorship is reduced to \$150 and each member will pay \$20 to join the league. Our software can now text everyone for cancellations. Will now be able to track players in the league. Fee will only need to be paid once.

Motion by Deporter to support the proposed changes to the Adult Softball program. Second by Knedler. Ayes: Rachel Deporter, Jen Kaina, Ken Kidd, Brandon Knedler, Nate Jaeger, Corey Oberlee, and Bruce Parker. Noes: None. Absent: Sarah Hansberry.

Request for future agenda items

March meeting to be public input on our strategic plan.

Motion to adjourn at 7:25 pm by Kaina. Second by Deporter. Affirmed by voice vote.

Next scheduled meeting: Tuesday, March 10, 5:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Debra Weberpal