

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

Wednesday, August 17, 2016 - 6:30 pm

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

Call to Order and Roll Call

Bruce Parker, Kori Oberle, Brandon Knedler, Steve Ryan, Ken Kidd, Larry Kachel and Chris Grady

Absent: Nate Jaeger, Jen Kaina, and Rachel Deporter

Staff: Matt Amundson, Debbie Oas, Jenna Stine, and Michelle Dujardin

Guests: Melissa Walton, Ross Walton, Ruth Walton, Karen McCulloch, Rose Mary Leaver, Anne Zasinnia, Karen Coburn, and Sherry Stanek

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Parks and Recreation Board minutes of July 6th, 2016

No items to be removed from consent agenda. Kachel moved to accept the consent agenda. Second by Ryan. Ayes: Ken Kidd, Steve Ryan, Chris Grady, Larry Kachel and Kori Oberle. Noes: None. Abstain: Bruce Parker, Brandon Knedler. Absent: Nate Jaeger, Jen Kaina, Rachel Deporter

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

Nate Jaeger and Jen Kaina arrive at 6:35pm

Staff Reports: Parks & Recreation Director

Amundson introduced the new Whitewater Aquatic Center Customer Service Coordinator Jenna Stine and welcomes her to the Department. Amundson also commented that there was a recent harvest of Cravath Lake which also found a recently large fish kill due to warm water and low oxygen level. The feasibility study is also still currently in the works.

Considerations:

Discussion and possible action related to Urban Forestry Commission plans for Clay Street Nature Park, Minneiska Park and Walton Oaks

Karen Coburn postponed the report on Minneiska Park while reporting that the plantings in Clay Street Nature Park have been delayed due to heat. Plantings for this location are currently scheduled for this Fall in hopes of a higher survival rate. Coburn also reported that Walton Oaks is a very unique location with a large population of birds and rare aging oak trees. Coburn informed the board on her proposed

partnership with Wesley Enterline and the Sustainability Office on the UWW Campus to help provide volunteers to clear invasive species and clean areas within the park.

Knedler moved to accept the offer from Wesley Enterline and the Sustainability Office to provide volunteers to help within Walton Oaks Park. The group must work with Chuck Nass and City Staff to create a plan and proposed projects for the volunteers. Seconded by Kidd. Ayes: Ken Kidd, Steve Ryan, Chris Grady, Larry Kachel, Nate Jaeger, Jen Kaina, Bruce Parker, Brandon Knedler, and Kori Oberle. Noes: None. Abstain: None Absent: Rachel Deporter

Discussion and possible action related to donation by Kim Adams and Angie Alesci to Walton Oaks Park

Amundson introduced the topic and the letter from the home owners included in the packet indicating the donation of the two small perennial gardens that were mistakenly built on City property. The home owners stated in the letter continuance of maintenance of the two gardens.

Amundson introduced a letter from Cameron addressing the subject and an aerial map of the property.

Parker suggested placing posts at the boundaries to visually show the outline of the park

Kachel suggested creating a counter offer to the letter stating that anything outside the boundaries of the home owners' property would become property of the City

Knedler moved to go forward and work with the City Attorney to provide a counter offer to the letter to the home owners. The counter offer would give the home owners the option to retrieve any wanted plantings by a specified date and the remaining items would be become part of the Walton Oaks Park and need to fall within the parks plan. The Board also instructed to have boundary posts installed on the property lines to delineate the park boundaries. Seconded by Oberle. Ayes: Ken Kidd, Steve Ryan, Chris Grady, Larry Kachel, Nate Jaeger, Jen Kaina, Bruce Parker, Brandon Knedler, and Kori Oberle. Noes: None. Abstain: None Absent: Rachel Deporter

Discussion and possible action related to future CIP planning and timeline regarding the future construction of a splash pad and Cravath Lakefront amphitheatre

Amundson introduced that the Capital Improvement Plan of the City includes two large park improvement projects over the next few years and when staff met to review the CIP wanted input on the order of these two projects. Currently the CIP includes \$250,000 in 2017-2018 for the planning and construction of an improved amphitheatre at Cravath Lakefront Park. An additional \$400,000 is included in 2018-2019 for the planning and construction of a splash pad.

Group discussion took place on the necessity of the splash pad over the amphitheatre, location of a splash pad, and positive programming with an improved amphitheatre.

The Board directed Amundson to keep the CIP planning timeline in its current order.

Discussion and feedback regarding additional programming at Starin Park

Amundson introduced the topic regarding non-baseball and softball programming for the fall and winter seasons to be moved or held at Starin Park so that we can continue to utilize the concession building. Amundson asked for ideas/feedback the Parks & Recreation Board has regarding this item.

Amundson discussed a movie night at Treyton's Field on a Saturday in September, moving flag football games from the High School to the outfields of the ball diamonds, holding Start Smart sports programs on Treyton's Field, and possibly the relocation of the ice rink to Starin Park from Big Brick.

Ryan suggested creating a snow track for cross country skiing in the winter months throughout the park.

Amundson asked the Board to send any other ideas to him as they come to mind.

Discussion and presentation related to Aquatic Center financials

Item was tabled

Discussion and possible action related to proposed shut down of the Whitewater Aquatic & Fitness Center from August 28-31 for maintenance purposes

Staff is requesting that the Board consider closing the facility from August 28-31 for the primary reasons of installation of the new carpet and installation of new LED lighting in the lap pool. In addition, staff has developed a long list of tasks that the lifeguards and other staff of the facility will be working to complete during the closure.

Kidd moved to approve the closure. Seconded by Oberle. Ayes: Ken Kidd, Steve Ryan, Chris Grady, Larry Kachel, Nate Jaeger, Jen Kaina, Bruce Parker, Brandon Knedler, and Kori Oberle. Noes: None. Abstain: None Absent: Rachel Deporter

Discussion and possible action related to 2017 Budget Goals

Item was tabled

Discussion and possible action related to location of August 24th work session

The location of the August 24th work session will take place at Starin Park Community Building at 6:30pm

Request for future agenda items

None listed at this time

Adjourn

Grady moved to adjourn at 8:15pm. Second by Parker. Ayes: Ken Kidd, Steve Ryan, Chris Grady, Larry Kachel, Nate Jaeger, Jen Kaina, Bruce Parker, Brandon Knedler, and Kori Oberle. Noes: None. Abstain: None Absent: Rachel Deporter

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Dujardin