



Parks and Recreation Board Minutes
Wednesday, June 28th, 2023 – 5:30 pm
Cravath Lakefront Room
312 W. Whitewater Street
Whitewater, WI 53190
Hybrid Meeting

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Dan Fuller, Megan Matthews, Steve Ryan, David Stone, Deb Weberpal, Kathleen Flemming, Stephanie Hicks, Mike Kilar, and Ben Prather, Absent: Korie Oberlie
Staff: Eric Boettcher, Jennifer French, Michelle Dujardin, Lorelei Bowen, & John Weidl
Attendee's: Chuck Mills, Jill Gerber, Jim Allen, Gayle Steller, and Neil Hicks

2. Approval of Minutes

Motioned by Dan Fuller. Seconded by David Stone. Ayes: Dan Fuller, Megan Matthews, Steve Ryan, David Stone, Deb Weberpal, Kathleen Flemming, Stephanie Hicks, Mike Kilar, and Ben Prather. Absent: Korie Oberlie

3. Hearing of Citizen Comments

Neil Hicks: Concern on abandoned sewer grate that has been uncovered on Treyton's ball diamond. Encouraged additional floats in 4th of July Parade and future parades.

4. Staff Reports

a. Director's Report:

i. Boettcher:

* Effigy Mounds has been 80% mowed by outside company, which helps create the ability for city staff to maintain area.

*Softball U16 Tournament was a good weekend and had four teams

b. Event Programs:

i. Dujardin:

* Generac was thanked for being the Summer Camp Sponsor and provide t-shirts for all the staff and campers

*Innovation Summer Camp has started and having a great time, they are lucky enough to visit the aquatic and fitness center twice a week.

*Concerts In The Park start on July 13th with Piper Road Spring Band

*The department will have a 4th of July parade float with the theme: Life is better at the Pool. City staff will walk and hand out little rubber ducks that equal a one day pass to the aquatic and fitness center

*Stevie the squirrel search is a great success, families look forward to each month

*After School Registration for the Fall is up and taking registration

c. Senior Programs:

i. French:

* Dairy Day's was amazing: The participants learned how to milk, make butter, took a virtual farm tour

d. Aquatic Center:

i. Bowen:

* Membership numbers are over 2,000 members

* Pool is getting used heavily by camps

* Four new lifeguards have been hired

Hicks suggested hosting a flick and float as a possible future event

5. Urban Forestry Commission Updates

Partnership with groups and Seniors In The Park has been amazing in new plantings and future projects. Arboretum grant follow-up report has been turned in.

6. Pedestrian and Bicycle Updates

No update

7. Considerations

7a. WAFC Park Board Committee Discussion: Boettcher presented the subject.

- Stone suggested the current board stay the way it stands with no changes
- Mathews commented that one more committee may not help
- Hicks commented open either way

No Action Taken

7b. WAFC Action Plan: Boettcher presented action plan included in packet

- Hicks questioned partnership with High School. Boettcher stated students will get credit for a 9th hour class to get lifeguard certified.
- Matthews stated AMA always looking to help with marketing and fundraising, questioned if we have looked in UWW Wellness program
- Gerber questioned friends group incentives for current employees, outdoor patio area options, volunteer programs, fundraising ideas, increase of birthday parties, and looking at past action plan for ideas.
- Mills stated the following areas need maintenance attention: Front entry way (metal pillars need painting, door jams replacement, dirt on carpet corners, paint on windows, banner faded in entry way, and brass plate in lap pool needing buffing)

Motioned by Hicks to approve current action plan with staff to supply past action plans to board. Seconded by Deb Weberpal. Ayes: Dan Fuller, Megan Matthews, Steve Ryan, David Stone, Deb Weberpal, Kathleen Flemming, Stephanie Hicks, and Mike Kilar. Abstain: Ben Prather Absent: Korie Oberlie

7c. Lakes Vegetation Project: Boettcher presented project included in the packet. Boettcher stated there are two quotes of harvesting and dredge. Boettcher personal recommendation is to dredge.

- Stone suggested importing animals that eat cattail such as muskrats. Stone also stated we need to be sure to be totally transparent
- Statements were made to remind everyone that DNR is making the guidelines
- Gerber questioned if the water could be increased to kill off cattail. Boettcher stated the Damns are all the way up.
- Mills questioned the number of cattail and how you stop the seeds from reseeding.
- Steller questioned how much is left in the budget?
- Allen questioned how the harvester cuts the cattail? Boettcher stated they would hydro cut by cutting the cattail just below the waterline. Allen questioned if they have to lower the water to dredge? Boettcher stated no. Allen questioned if the DNR will let you spray? Boettcher stated yes but doesn't recommend.

Motioned by Steve Ryan to take dredging option forward to City Council. Seconded by Dan Fuller.
Ayes: Dan Fuller, Megan Matthews, Steve Ryan, David Stone, Deb Weberpal, Kathleen Flemming,
Stephanie Hicks, Mike Kilar, and Ben Prather Absent: Korie Oberlie

8. Future Agenda Items

Hicks: Skyway park needs TLC (new wood chips & picnic tables)

9. Adjournment

Motioned by Stephanie Hicks to adjourn at 6:45pm. Second by Mike Kilar.

Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday July 19th, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Dujardin

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