

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE & TIME: June 4, 2015 @ 3:45 p.m.

PLACE: JP Coughlin Center
Volunteer Rm. B
625 E. Cty. Rd. Y
Oshkosh WI 54901

PRESENT: Parks Committee – Jerry Finch, Mike Norton, Tom Konetzke, Brady Kiel, Guy Hegg.

ALSO PRESENT: Rob Way, Vicky Redlin – Winnebago County Parks Dept., Leslie Burns – OYSC, Larry Lautenschlager – County Board

1. Call to order – Chairman Finch called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m..
2. Approval of Minutes from May 7, 2015 – Chairman Finch called for a motion to approve the May 7 meeting minutes. Tom Konetzke moved to approve with clarification on item #8 that the monies for playground equipment at shelter #2 be proposed for the 2016 budget in lieu of the Gametime grant that did not materialize, and #14 changed to Vice Chairman Konetzke moved to adjourn as Chairman Finch left a couple of minutes early. Guy Hegg seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
3. Public Comments - none
4. Oshkosh Youth Soccer Club's Role in Programming at the Soccer Complex – Leslie Burns, Administrator for Oshkosh Youth Soccer Club, provided background and history on the relationship between the parks and OYSC, as well as future plans the club has for the soccer complex. She stated that she has received many compliments on the new shared use path and roadway project. OYSC does scheduling for all fields throughout the entire area every year. They also provide weed and feed applications for the county park fields, additional soil and grass seed to repair damaged areas (which they also provide the labor for), an additional portable toilet for the southwestern most fields along with additional mowing to a lower height for fields being used on a weekly basis. OYSC also provides the goals, team benches and labor for 200 – 300 volunteer hours. OYSC budgets \$20,000.00 annually for county park. The breakdown of participants is approximately 75% Oshkosh and 25% from other areas of the county. Registration fees depend on age and range from \$56.00 to \$70.00 per participant. This is a rec league unlike the various private leagues where registration is considerably higher. There are 1,400 participants and 100 teams, 20 of which are from the Winneconne area. There is always a field or two left open for public use whenever OYSC has programmed the area. The fundraising for the approved new shelter building, field improvements and lighting is being done in phases over the next three years.
5. Discussion of Information Relating to User Fees as They Relate to Soccer, Dog Park and Disc Golf Activities in the Community Park – Rob asked that committee members provide input on some of the items that he will be researching for his September report to the committee on possible user fees. One of the areas under consideration is the dog park. Rob passed out a sheet with some comparison fees from around the state. In going over the items listed, the possibility of providing a water source within the current dog park was extensively discussed. The Friends of Winnebago County Dog Parks has been raising money for a couple of years for this project. The source should be placed at the entrance to the park for drainage purposes and also for other park users to access. Placement and cost of putting in such a water source was extensively discussed. Rob asked the committee for direction on where the fee monies collected would be allocated. Guy Hegg responded that the fees should go to off set the current levy. They should not be applied to a formula for raising the Parks levy limit in association with greater revenues. He does not want any proposed fees going towards additional maintenance or improvements to the areas where users would be paying a fee. Mr. Hegg went on to ask to have resolutions drawn up for

the next meeting to enact user fees for soccer, disc golf, and the dog park. Rob questioned where the funding should come from to enact these fees in this budget year. At that time Chairman Finch stated that all proposed fees should be brought in on the same resolution, after Rob's September report has been studied by committee members. Chairman Finch would like this item put on the next agenda as well. Mike Norton stated his belief that since none of the supervisors who made negative comments regarding the parks' income versus expenses has attended any parks committee meetings since the topic was mentioned during budget hearings even though the topic has been noticed on several agendas, that going to the extent of proposing fees is an over reaction.

Chairman Finch asked members to bring in days, dates, and times again for changing the standing meeting date. The next regularly scheduled meeting is July 2, with the parks tour taking place on June 8.

6. Background Information Relating the Weight of the Fox Valley Program – By committee consensus, item #6 moved ahead of item #5 for Emily Dieringer to speak. Emily proceeded to explain what WOFV is and how a healthy lifestyle benefits everyone in the community. Discussion followed. It was feared by some members that promoting or supporting this program would require a significant dollar investment, though currently no funding is being requested. The resolution is being brought before the Health Board tomorrow and with their approval it will go on to the county board. Bring back for next meeting.
7. Parks Director's Updates: Parks Tour – The annual tour is set for 8:30 a.m. on Monday June 8. The only other supervisor attending not on the committee is Susan Locke. Rob briefly went over the sites to be visited. Rob added that he would be e-mailing each member the itinerary and that the agenda probably would not arrive at their respective residences until later on Monday. He ended by pointing out that he would have extra copies of the itinerary to hand-out just prior to the start of the tour.
Guy Hegg left at 5:23 p.m..
Brady Kiel left at 5:28 p.m..
8. Committee Chairman's Updates: none
9. Committee Member's Updates: none
10. Staff Updates: Vicky Redlin reported that as of today the Tribal Heritage Crossing has been designated an Official National Recreational Trail by the U.S. Department of the Interior. Only 10 other trails were offered this designation this year. She also handed out flyers for the park economic impact survey being done in partnership with OCVB and ECWRPC. Committee members were asked to put up flyers in their districts if possible. Hard copy surveys were also provided. Another promotional flyer was also given out for the Picture Yourselfie in Winnebago County Parks marketing piece being done with the parks radio station and newspaper sponsors. Information for this year's Lifest was given for those committee members who may be attending.
11. Future Agenda Items: WOFV, user fees, new date and time for standing meetings
12. Next Meeting Date: June 8, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. for Parks tour, July 2, 2015 at 3:45 p.m. regular monthly meeting.
13. Adjournment – Chairman Finch called for a motion to adjourn. Tom Konetzke moved to adjourn. Mike Norton seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned 5:40 p.m..

Respectfully Submitted,
Vicky Redlin
Program Manager