

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: April 10, 2012
PLACE: JP Coughlin Center
Volunteer Rm.
625 E. Cty. Rd. Y
Oshkosh WI 54901
8:30 a.m..
PRESENT: Parks Committee - Jerry Finch, Mike Norton, Don Miller, Tom Konetzke, Harold Singstock.
ALSO PRESENT: Rob Way, Vicky Redlin – Winnebago County Parks Dept., Guy Hegg – Winnebago County Board Supervisor

1. Call to order – meeting called to order by Chairman Finch at 8:30 a.m..
2. Approval of March 13, 2012 Minutes - Chairman Finch called for a motion to approve the March 13, 2012 meeting minutes. Don Miller moved to approve. Mike Norton seconded. Tom Konetzke asked that a typo be corrected in item #5 to replace the word ‘to’ with ‘two’. Motion carried as corrected 5-0.
3. Public Comments – Supervisor Hegg expressed his thanks for the informative tour that was held last week of the parks facilities. He also stated that he will be introducing a resolution to the County Board to direct the County Executive to assign ‘orphan’ buildings to the appropriate departments for upkeep.
4. Approval for Friends of Winnebago County Dog Parks Organization to Submit a Grant Application on Behalf of Winnebago County for Funding of up to \$100,000 to go towards Improvements in the Community Park Dog Park – Rob Way went over the material provided for this annual grant. It was generally questioned whether this grant is given to existing parks or only those undergoing development. Rob will contact the FWCDP and let them know that the committee endorses their pursuit of grant funding.
5. Approve Acceptance of up to \$2,000 in Funding from Wisconsin Midwest Festival Inc. to go towards Electrical Upgrades in the Expo 11 Acre Area - Vicky Redlin went over the basics of what this new event will entail. Since it is the first year it is being held there is not a lot known about ticket sales and attendance etc.. Once the event gets closer we will be able to get a gauge on how many advance tickets are sold. The promoter at this time decided not to pursue funding for upgrading the electrical in the 11 acres.
6. Approve Modification to Sunnyview Exposition Center Policy Statement as it relates to the Utility Fees charged to 4-H – Rob started out by reminding members that as a rule the committee comes into play in the approval process anytime staff brings forward a modification in the 4H Policy Statement. Vicky Redlin then outlined the basics of the 4H use policy for the Expo and the change that is being sought. Since all other organizations are required to pay the utility fee approved by the Winnebago County Board it was deemed only fair that 4H be assessed the same fee. This will apply to only 1 horse show event at this time. Vicky met with Rene Mehlberg of 4H and the policy now before the committee is the result. This policy is reviewed every few years for needed upgrades. Mike Norton would like a report at the end of the year on how much the expo grants the 4H for in-kind donations ie. rent, etc.. Tom Konetzke moved to approve the updated 4H policy. Mike Norton seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

7. Discussion of Expo Workshop/Storage Building – Rob asked for any questions the committee may have that resulted from last week’s tour following the dictates that had been laid-out by the Oshkosh Fire Dept. and State just the previous week. Mike Norton stated that he found the tour informative and feels it will be more productive to use existing buildings where possible. Tom Konetzke stated that he is comfortable with taking a new direction with the project. Another meeting may be called of the committee chairs and department heads to discuss what will become of the various properties pertinent to this subject. If any meeting(s) were to be held, they would not occur until May.
8. Parks Director’s Updates: ADA update – Rob stated that the conference attended was productive. Vicky is working on the ADA plan update for all properties that currently have new regulations. The regulations for trails have not been introduced yet. The purple loosestrife project is taking place in the Coughlin Nature area to grow beetles for Butte des Morts landing nature area. The Hmong Memorial Day event is acknowledged to be the product of the Hmong Service Center, there is another group vying for control of the event. Seasonal workers are coming in slowly. Expo still is in need of two male workers for the season and the Park is in need of at least one.
9. Committee Chairman’s Updates: - none
10. Committee Member’s Updates: Don Miller stated that he supports Guy Hegg’s resolution regarding ‘orphan buildings’.
11. Staff Updates: - Vicky Redlin stated that the Expo exterior buildings and grounds will be open on May 1st. The corrections crew will be coming in for opening work the last week in April and the first week in May. There will be a Winnebago County Electronics Recycling day at the Expo May 9 from 7am to 6pm. All electronics will be accepted. The Winnebago County Sustainability Committee of is holding the event for Winnebago County employees. Winnebago County Board members are welcome to bring their electronics to be recycled. A \$1.00 per item is suggested to benefit future sustainability efforts within the county.
12. Future Agenda Items: Dog Park grant with Michelle Kennedy.
13. Next Meeting Date – May 8, 2012 at 8:30 a.m..
14. Adjournment – Chairman Finch called for a motion to adjourn. Tom Konetzke moved to adjourn. Don Miller seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned 9:56 a.m..

Respectfully Submitted,
Vicky Redlin
Asst. Expo Mgr.