

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: July 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, Tom Konetzke,
Harold Singstock. Excused – Don Miller.
ALSO PRESENT: Rob Way, Vicky Redlin – Winnebago County Parks Dept..

1. Call to order - meeting called to order by Chairman Finch at 8:30 a.m..
2. Approval of June 12, 2012 Minutes – Chairman Finch called for a motion to approve the June 12, 2012 meeting minutes. Tom Konetzke moved for approval. Harold Singstock seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Mike Norton arrived.
3. Public Comments - none
4. Update on Parks – Parkview Campus Storage Needs – Rob Way reiterated that at this time the Parks Dept. is somewhat on the sidelines of the storage issue. Parks will continue with the status quo where implements and such must be left exposed to the elements instead of being stored under roof where they would not age as quickly. The Expo garage will be modified this fall to comply with OFD requests and is granted temporary use status as a seasonal use facility for our purposes. Because there will be no new storage/workshop facility built the dump station fence will not be realigned and access to the site will remain limited instead of being opened for around the clock use by expo patrons as staff would have liked. If the UWEX garage becomes available and is deemed viable for use Parks would like to use it for additional storage. It will not address all storage needs but will provide for space for those smaller items that are currently stored outdoors. Rob provided an update from Mike Elder stating that the gray shed has been emptied and is in need of some attention; the estimate for \$4,000.00 each for 4 trailers to be used by 4H and the fair would be taken from the Facilities budget either via transfer this year or in next year's budget; and, the Butler building (DA storage) is in the process of being cleared out and there is a July 13 deadline for the various departments to have addressed what they would like to be done with any of their items that remain in the building. Facilities will pay for an architect to look at the UWEX garage on the Expo property to see if it is viable or in need of repair or razing. It was not clear what departments would be using which buildings for storage once all cleaning out and repairs are finished.
5. Recommendation Regarding Future of Community Park Tennis Courts – Rob has been approached by an individual and the Oshkosh Rec Dept.'s Al Wenig regarding the installation of a pickle ball court within the tennis court refurbishment project. Rob is recommending the refurbishment of 3 courts as multi-use sport courts, with tennis, pickle ball, and basketball available. The costs would be even for 2 or 3 courts once excavation and fencing is included. A 2 court option will leave an unusable portion of grassy area with little option for programming. Pickle ball has really taken off in the Oshkosh area and has gained popularity especially among seniors. The committee requested that the individual who approached Rob come in to the next meeting to explain his goals, how pickle ball is growing and any plans for a future league. Rob will also bring in other options for other sports to be played on the projected sport court.

6. Discussion of Asylum Point Lease Renewal – Rob went over a map of what is leased from the WDNR. The 20 year lease is up at the end of 2012. It has been a mutually beneficial and cooperative agreement over the years. The major changes that the WDNR is looking at for the next contract is the installation of cattle gates just past the boat landing area to help cut down on the reoccurring vandalism taking place out at the WDNR Fish Camp . The current park ordinance states that the Asylum Point Parks close at 11:00 p.m. and open at 7:00 a.m.. consequently, such a change would not conflict with any Parks ordinance. If this were to go through, the WDNR would like to contract with Cty. Hwy. to have their night watchman close the gates and the DNR would open them in the morning. Another change to the lease would require liability for the DNR buildings on the boat landing site to be specifically mentioned as the responsibility of the DNR, whether it is the current building or the proposed new building for the site. There will also be a clause that does not allow duck hunting which is concurrent with Parks policy. The new contract should be received from the WDNR in the next month or so.
7. Review of Parks `12 Accomplishments to Date - Rob went over the accomplishments for 2012 list that will also have some items included in the next budget book.
8. Highlights of Anticipated Parks `13 Budget – Rob went over a handout of the high points and any significant changes for the 2013 budget.
9. Parks Director's Updates: ADA, Upcoming Events, Open Space Plan Update, Follow-up on Farm Bureau Letter, Hmong Labor Day Festival, - Rob reported that the re:Think committee of which he is a member is having a meeting tomorrow for input on a ped/bike trail for the County Community Park. Trish from East Central Planning has had some issues and will not be available until September to meet on the open space plan however she is getting the preliminaries in place, a meeting took place between staff, 4H and the Farm Bureau regarding the food court policy and the outcome was favorable the issue stemmed from a lack of communication between parties, there is an issue coming to light with the Labor Day Hmong tournament similar to the Memorial Day tournament where two groups claimed ownership of the event Rob will keep the committee posted on how this works out.
10. Committee Chairman's Updates: a meeting should be scheduled in the future with the chairmen of the Parks, UWEX and F&P committees and the County Exec. A previously scheduled meeting had to be disbanded as a miscommunication occurred between the Clerks Office and the Parks Office as to which parties the notice was to go out to. It had been the original intent to have only the department Chairs attend the meeting but instead the notice was sent-out to all the committee members.
11. Committee Member's Updates: Mike Norton questioned whether there was a shower for seasonal laborers use. Yes at the Parks workshop. Mike would also like to meet with Officer Andrew Lecker regarding vandalism in the Community Park, he requested that a date be set at next month's meeting. Mike also stated that the Outagamie portion of the Tri-Cty Arena will be reassigned when that county relinquishes its stake in the facility soon. It is Mike's belief that the Parks Dept. specifically Vicky should have oversight of the group that will continue to run the facility. Mike went on to praise Vicky's contributions to the Parks and Expo over the years and Chairman Finch agreed. Harold Singstock stated that he noticed the Cty. Crosswalk striping and wondered if a flashing light would be appropriate.

Rob stated that the Hwy. commissioner would like to wait a year to see if a light is needed.

12. Staff Updates: Lifest is going on this week. If committee members plan to attend and want to park at the workshop give Vicky or Loren a call on their cell phones for a ride onto the grounds.
13. Future Agenda Items: Updating of Parks Department's Segments of the General Code, north dog park, final update of budget, park lighting project
14. Next Meeting Date – Aug. 7, 2012 @ 8:30 a.m..
15. Adjournment – Chairman Finch called for a motion to adjourn. Tom Konetzke moved to adjourn. Mike Norton seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned 10:43 a.m..

Respectfully Submitted,
Vicky Redlin
Asst. Expo Mgr.