

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Name of Committee: Parks & Recreation Committee
Date of Meeting & Time: Tuesday, March 18, 2019 at 1:30 P.M.
Place of Meeting: JP Coughlin Center Volunteer Rm.
625 E Cty Rd Y.
Oshkosh WI

Present: Tom Konetzke, Larry Lautenschlager, Mike Norton, Steve Binder. Excused; Jerry Finch.

Also present: Winnebago County Parks - Rob Way, Vicky Redlin and Tom McInnis, Trish Nau – ECWRPC.

1. Call to order – Vice Chairman Konetzke called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m..
2. Approval of Agenda – Vice Chairman Konetzke called for a motion to approve the agenda. Mike Norton moved to approve. Larry Lautenschlager seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
3. Approval of February 18th & 25th, 2018 Minutes – Vice Chairman Konetzke called for a motion to approve the February meeting minutes for the 18th and 25th. Mike Norton moved to approve. Steve Binder seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
4. Public Comment Relevant to Parks Related Matters - none
5. Discussion and possible Consensus in deciding on Utilization of WPS Street Light Lease Program to Curtail Development Costs associated with Soccer Complex Road Lighting Upgrades – A copy of the web page for the WPS light lease program was included in packets. Rob explained that the only LED lamp that is in the program is a cobra style similar to what is currently on city streets. This type does not match the rest of the new lighting in the park. Rob went on to mention that the standard round wooden pole is also available however it doesn't come with an option for use of a LED lamp. The other lamps in the program are ornamental, non LED and put on a composite pole that is not installed on a cement pedestal like the rest of the park lights. The pedestals have proven to be effective over the past two years as there have been at least 3 collisions by vehicles that did not damage the pole. Rob reported that the approximate cost of the 33 lights needed would be \$20/lamp which would be charged year 'round; WPS maintenance is included with this price. Currently the south end park lights are shut off during the winter months. The bill for the south end park lights is currently approximately \$4,500/year. The installation of the LED lights in the north end of the park have proven to cut the electrical bill in half, so if that is taken into consideration the cost of electricity for the south end with the same fixtures as the rest of the park should be approximately \$2,250/year. The cost of engineering and installation of the poles, lamps and labor will remain whether WPS does the job under their lease program or an outside contractor is selected. It was the consensus of the committee by a show of hands that the WPS lease program shall not be entered into for the above stated reasons.
6. Approval of Resolution addressing the Parks Department's 5 - Year Open Space Plan Update – Trish Nau went over the updated draft of the plan which included committee members' comments. She took questions on the plan as a whole. Larry Lautenschlager moved to approve the plan. Steve Binder seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

7. Discuss Elements of Parks' April County Board Presentation Regarding Parks Department's Economic Impact Study – Rob stated that the Economic Impact Study of the Expo that took place over the past year has been completed and will be presented to the county board at the April meeting. This will complete the three phase survey. Once the expo portion has been presented Trish Nau will compile the three phases into an overall report on the Economic Impact of Winnebago County Parks & Sunnyview Expo formal report.
8. Update on Enforcement of DNR Rules Governing allowable uses for LAWCON Grant Funded Projects and Properties – Rob explained that the issue of non-outdoor recreational use of parkland funded by DNR grants has finally come to a head with the DNR. This issue was previously brought up when the county was considering allowing the Military Veteran's Museum to be built within the park several years ago. This enforcement by the WDNR will impact the events that depend on use of the park for overflow parking during expo events. The current Hmong soccer tournaments do not charge for parking. DNR will allow a charge for admission within the park for events that are recreation based. Another requirement is that up until the parking fees are eliminated, any parking fees charged must have a portion returned to the park. The rules were meant to be in perpetuity but are now being fully enforced with inspections and formal written accountability taking place due to the initial use of federal monies to fund these projects. The park has been used for overflow expo parking since 1995. Rob has discussed the issue with the DNR and they have agreed to grandfather the rules for the park since a solution is being sought. The county must enter into an MOU with the DNR for a maximum of four-to-five years where charging for parking in the park by expo events will be allowed however some of those funds must be returned to the park. The use of the park for expo parking must be phased out over this time period with no paid for parking allowed thereafter. A maximum of between four-to-five events will be allowed to park in the park during this four-to-five year period. This compromise was just reached during discussion on March 11. Because the purchase and development of additional properties adjacent to the expo that can be used for parking is underway this compromise was allowed by the DNR. Rob will inform the County Board of this issue at March 19th's meeting.
9. Approval of Budget Transfer to address Purchase of Netzer Family's South 20 Acre Parcel – The need of this purchase has grown with the WDNR decision outlined above in item #8. Mike Norton moved to approve the transfer. Larry Lautenschlager seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Larry Lautenschlager excused 2:30 p.m..
10. Parks Director's Updates: North County Dog Park Update, Stroud Property Update, Nav. Aid Update – Rob reported that the process of working out a lease to submit to the DOT is underway. A survey must be made of the property for the lease which will cost \$1/year. There is \$79,000 in the budget carried over from last year to begin development after the lease has been signed and approved. The Stroud property lease has been received back from the lessor with very few changes. It will now be submitted to Corporation Counsel for approval. The nav aids currently in use will be refurbished as the new version of the pre-1996 buoys is much more substantial and can be used for a deadlift removal operation such as the county contractor uses. Due to this process the new marker for Little Blackbird Island Reef will probably be delayed until a more robust style of buoy can be found. The refurbishment should grant another 15-20 years of useful life. Also, both ranger positions are again open and interviews are being done March 20. There is also a search going on for a new southern county area launch permit vendor to replace one that dropped out of the program at the end of last season.
11. Committee Chairman's Updates: none
12. Committee Member's Updates: Mike Norton questioned the City of Oshkosh's inclusion of the county park in the calculation of green space it uses for its own open space plan. Steve

Binder questioned the progress on the Soccer shelter rebuild and the installation of the expo arch. Rob answered that the soccer shelter project is currently out for bids and the installation of the arch is on hold while expo master planning is underway as this may dictate the exact placement of the arch. The fund at the Community Foundation is being advertised and can take donations online for any amount.

13. Staff Updates: Meeting of Stadium Advisory Group, Potential Spring Flooding Issues. The stadium advisory group is an informal grouping of the individuals who program or will be programming the Sunnyview Stadium. The input is advisory only and dictated by their individual event needs meeting annually (probably in connection with the user group meeting in January). Vicky reported that Rick is working on set up and take down of the several events that take place over the winter season within the expo building and he is glad to have one seasonal onboard to help out. Vicky also reported that she is working with reThink to promote a new event within the park that will highlight the park amenities while raising funds for reThink. The Winnebago Warrior Scavenger Hunt Trivia Contest Race will be held on June 9. Further details will be released soon. Tom reported that due to a large amount of pre-planning flood damage has been kept to a minimum within the park and at the expo. The Waukau Dam Nature Preserve is closed due to flooding until further notice. The south park entrance sign has been removed and is currently being refurbished within the parks workshop. The bulkhead at Black Wolf and the dock at Boom Bay have also been replaced. Normally \$2,000 is spent per year on boat landings for such construction.
14. Next Meeting Date and Future Agenda Items: April 15, 2019 @ 1:30 p.m.. Mike would like to begin planning for the park tour at the next meeting.
15. Adjournment – Vice Chairman Konezke called for a motion to adjourn. Mike Norton moved to adjourn. Steve Binder seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned 3:58 p.m..

Respectively Submitted
Vicky Redlin
Program Manager