

Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Committee Minutes of April 11, 2013

Meeting called to order by Jim Wein, chairperson, at 6:00 p.m. in the Room 108 of City Hall Plaza, 630 S. Central Ave.

Present: Jim Wein, Julie Smith, Jane Yaeger, Chris Viegut, Corey Sullenger, Brenda Baur, and Alderman Tom Buttke.

Excused: None **Absent:** None.

Also Present: Ed Englehart, Parks & Recreation Director; Kelly Cassidy, Parks and Recreation Supervisor; Rick Cherney; Alex Hellmann-Sainterme; Josh Miller, Planner and Zoning Administrator; Diane and Ava Hellmann-Sainterme.

PR13-11 Motion by Viegut, seconded by Yaeger to approve the minutes of the March 14th meeting.

Motion Carried 7-0

Public Comments: None.

The committee set Thursday, May 9, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. as the date and time of their next meeting.

Josh Miller, City Planner and Zoning Administrator, presented information to the committee regarding the subdivision ordinance as it relates to parkland dedication or fee payment for new subdivisions. A new subdivision is being considered by a developer. Staff is recommending that the developer pay to the city the stated fee in lieu of land dedication. The funds would be placed in a separate fund and can only be used for development of or improvements to municipal park facilities. This will be the first sub-division being developed under the new ordinance.

PR13-12 Motion by Buttke, seconded by Baur to recommend to the Common Council a payment of the fee in lieu of land dedication.

Motion Carried 7-0

Alex Hellmann-Sainterme presented information to the committee regarding his Eagle Scout project to add lockable cabinets and a prep counter to the Griese Park concession stand room. Rick Cherney, Marshfield Youth Soccer Association representative, is working with Alex to complete the project.

PR13-13 Motion by Yeager, seconded by Sullinger to approve the project and direct Alex to complete his project under the supervision of Ben Steinbach, Parks and Recreation Maintenance Supervisor.

Motion Carried 7-0

Ed Englehart, Parks and Recreation Director, presented information regarding the Wisconsin D.N.R. Stewardship grant opportunity to possibly secure funding to assist with the construction of the Hewitt-Marshfield Connector Trail segment that needs to be completed to join the two trail systems. A coalition of groups including Hewitt Area Trails, the Marshfield Area Friends of the Trails, Wood County, Security Health Plan, and the City of Marshfield are working together to complete the trail. Recently, the Marshfield Common Council approved a resolution supporting the submission of a Wisconsin Stewardship grant application.

PR13-14 Motion by Viegut, seconded by Smith to approve submittal of the grant application for the Hewitt-Marshfield Connector Trail project.

Motion Carried 7-0

Jim Wein, Chairperson, acknowledged that this would be the last committee meeting for both Julie Smith and Brenda Baur as they had completed their term and will not be seeking another term on the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Committee. Jim thanked Julie and Brenda for their many years of service to the City and the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Committee. Julie served 12 years on the committee and Brenda served 18 years. They both performed a variety of special committee appointments while serving on the committee and volunteered at department and zoo functions.

Information Items: Staff updated the Committee on their respective areas of responsibility and answered questions regarding the monthly reports. Cassidy reviewed the 2012-13 Ice Rink report. Sullenger provided an update of the Zoo Society activities.

Volunteer Recognitions: Englehart noted that John Scheuer was recently awarded the Anne Adler Community Service Award by the Marshfield Area Community Foundation.

Other – None.

Committee Member Questions, Comments, and Suggestions: Viegut asked whether or not snowmobiling was permitted in the city parks, and stated that he recently observed a number of snowmobile tracks near the upper pond in Wildwood Park. Staff will double-check the city ordinance and report back. They have not observed this problem in the past few years in any of the parks. Buttke commented on the smelly ice that was encountered at Pickle Pond near the end of this year's ice skating season. Staff commented that this has been a problem at other times in the past

however it has not been a problem the past few years. It seems it occurs when we experience warm weather conditions and then it gets cold again and the ice rink season is extended. Buttke would like staff to identify what options we might have to investigate the situation and determine why this occurs at that location. Buttke also commented that he recently spoke with a representative of the Marshfield Lion's Club and they will not be holding their annual Dairyfest Youth Fishing Contest at the Upper Pond due to the water levels and the expected poor fish quantities. They also expressed an interest in stocking fish in the Upper Pond.

Future Agenda Items: None were noted.

Communications: Englehart reviewed some of the communications the department has received since the last meeting. Topics included snow removal on the hill portion of the Galvin Trail, water drainage concerns by neighbors living next to the former ice rink area at 8th and Hemlock, opening of the skate park, and parking issues near the dog park at the fairgrounds.

PR13-15 Motion by Baur, seconded by Smith to adjourn the meeting.

Motion Carried 7-0 Meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Ed Englehart, Parks and Recreation Director