

CITY OF MARSHFIELD
PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY COMMITTEE
November 10, 2016 Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order by John White at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall Plaza, 630 S. Central Ave., Room 108.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chairperson John White, Jr.; Vice Chairperson Jane Yaeger; Alderperson Tom Witzel, Zoological Society Representative Tom Buttke; Members Chris Viegut, Ali Luedtke & Nick Faber

Also Present: Justin Casperson, Parks and Recreation Director; Kelly Cassidy, Parks and Recreation Supervisor; and Ben Steinbach, Parks Maintenance Supervisor

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

PR16-21 Motion by Buttke, seconded by Yaeger to approve the September 15, 2016 Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Committee meeting minutes. Motion Carried Unanimously.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Sculpture Donation at Zoo:

Justin Casperson explained to the committee that Clyde Wynia from Jurustic Park would like to donate a sculpture of a crane and cattails to the Wildwood Zoo. The sculpture would be located by the south entrance gate of the zoo on a concrete pad.

PR16-24 Motioned by Luedtke seconded by Viegut to approve the donation of the metal sculpture from Clyde Wynia, Jurustic Park to be placed at Wildwood Zoo outside the gate of the south parking lot.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

A. 2016 Pool Study Update:

Justin updated the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Committee on the pool plan of two pool vessels and will hold an open house next month which will be open to the public.

B. CORP Projects

Justin shared with the committee a short, medium, and long-term list of projects for the department. This list will be reviewed at the next meeting.

VI. REPORTS:

A. Zoological Society: Tom reported that the society held their annual meeting and all officers have stayed the same. They will be holding a Wild for Cats fundraiser at the Rosebowl Lanes. The zoo store will be open during Rotary Winter Wonderland in the warming house. Trick-or-Treating had over 2,500 people in attendance.

B. Recreation

1. Library/Community Center Project – The council has agreed to have ADRC as part of the community center.
2. Winter/Spring program brochure – Will go out to the public on Friday, December 2nd. Heinzen Printing will again be helping us to get this published and printed.
3. Programs
 - a. Tennis/Racquetball center usage has been low as the weather has remained summer-like and nets are still up at Boson courts.
 - b. The 2nd session of tennis lessons began Monday, November 7th.
 - c. Adult volleyball league started the week of October 17th.
 - d. Open Gym & Swim at the Sr. High is being held on Monday and Wednesday evenings.
 - e. The 4th grade co-ed basketball program started on Saturday, October 22nd with 31 participants.
 - f. Pickleball is being held on Tuesdays from 6-8 p.m. and Thursdays from 1-3 p.m.
 - g. Gymnastics started on Monday, November 7th at the Sr. High.
 - h. Family Fun with bounce houses was held at OACC on Wednesday, November 9th. This event was sponsored by Forward Financial Bank and Marshfield Parks & Recreation. Hiller's Hardware supplied the bounce houses.

C. Aquatics

1. Early Bird Lap Swim is held from 6 – 7:30 a.m. on Tuesdays & Thursdays, and the 2nd session of Aquacise started and runs from 6:30 – 7:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Sr. High pool.

D. Parks & Zoo

1. Parks Maintenance Operations

- a. Park staff assisted with Rotary Winter Wonderland, Trick-or-Treat on 5th Street, and a Fun Run at Braem Park.
- b. Staff is working on winterizing facilities and grounds. All restrooms have been closed for the season; soccer/tennis/baseball/softball equipment has been removed for the season. Swings have been removed at most playgrounds.
- c. Soccer field air-o-vation and rolling has been performed. Staff has started applying winter over-seeding on stress areas.
- d. A Little Free Library, garbage cans and a celebration bench were installed on the Wildwood Station Trail in October.
- e. A donation sign and canister were installed at Hamus Park.
- f. The Weinfurtnr field scoreboard at Griese Park is no longer operable. The motherboard is fried and the manufacture no longer makes replacement parts. This is an unexpected cost and we are looking at replacement options.

2. Forestry

- a. Large oak risk tree was removed that was near the west property line of Veterans Park.
- b. Friends of the Trail have been cutting and stacking buckthorn on the Wildwood Station Trail. Staff has been removing piles as needed.

3. Fairgrounds

- a. Staff coordinated and performed winter storage of campers, boats and vehicles at Expo, Knoll, Pat's and Sheep & Swine buildings.

4. Zoo

- a. Zoo winter hours have begun, the zoo is currently open 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. daily.
- b. Rotary Winter Wonderland began set up on Monday October 10th. The first large volunteer set up day was 10.15.16
- c. Staff began winterizing exhibits and grounds; one of the final things to do is shut down the bear waterfall and pool.
- d. The zoo has welcomed a new animal and species to the zoo on October 27th, Bets the Bobcat. See news release.

E. Director

1. Zoo Maintenance Building – Staff is still working on design, construction documents, cost estimates, utility extensions and a certified survey map. The goal is to move all of the zoo operations into one building to improve overall efficiency of the zoo operations. We anticipate the project planning to be complete in 2016 and built in 2017.
2. Fairgrounds - The long-term strategic planning meetings have been put on hold since July. The Fair Commission wants to sandblast and paint the grandstands steel roof structure and seal the concrete deck.
3. Wildwood-McMillian Trail – The state put a hold on funding until their 2017 fiscal year, which starts July 1, 2017.
4. 8th & Hemlock – The 8th & Hemlock property will be discussed at a closed session on Monday, November 14th Board of Public Works meeting. The Department would like to continue conversations with the School District about their use of the property.
5. Cemetery – The Board of Public Works declined a proposal for design and architectural services and cost estimates for chapel. It is staff's recommendation to remove the chapel because of significant restoration costs, lack of function and future use.
6. Wenzel Family Plaza – The City had its first meeting with SEH, an engineering and architectural company on Tuesday, November 8th. One of the items that came out of the meeting was the question about Plaza's management, operation, programming and maintenance needs.
7. Zoo Signage – New entrance signs were installed at all three pedestrian entrances in October. The signs were generously paid for by Floyd and Patricia Hamus.

VII. NEXT MEETING: December 8, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Kelly Cassidy, Parks & Recreation Supervisor