

CITY OF MARSHFIELD
PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY COMMITTEE
June 9, 2016 Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order by Justin Casperson at 5:30 p.m. in room 108 in City Hall Plaza, 630 S. Central Avenue.

ROLL CALL:

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

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

PR16-15 Motion by Buttke, seconded by Yaeger to approve the May 12, 2016 Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Committee meeting minutes. Motion Carried Unanimously.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

A. CORP Plan:

1. Connor Park - 5.60-acre park located on Blodgett Street on the east end of Marshfield, this park contains picnic tables, biking /walking trail, and a nature area.
2. Strohman Park - .18 acres located on the corner of Central Ave. and 6th Street, this park serves as a local fire fighters memorial park and contains picnic tables, landscape beds, and a fountain.
3. Praschak Wayside - 6.78-acre park located just east of Wildwood Zoo between Central and Maple Avenue, this park contains picnic tables and a nature area.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Community Center:

Justin Casperson updated the committee on the Community Center plans and questions about how the community center will be operated.

PR16-16 Motioned by Luedtke, seconded by Yaeger to recommend the Community Center design and the procedural and policy questions and answers as presented.

B. Zoo Maintenance Building:

- Justin Casperson shared the drawings of the zoo maintenance building. Discussion was held about the building plans.

VI. REPORTS:

A. Zoological Society: Tom reported that the zoo store is open and will have regular hours once school is out. There are several new items that have been added to the store. They have worked out an agreement to share the warming area during the Rotary lights. Zoofest will be held June 18th from 11am-2pm at the zoo. Trick-or-Treating will be held in October. There will be a contest to name the wolves this summer.

Recreation

1. Library/Community Center Project – On June 20th, cost estimates will be received from Boson for the remodel.

Programs

1. Tennis/Racquetball center is operating under the summer hours. Players can still use the courts after hours, but they need to enter the center with a code. Payment is made before the code is given out.
2. Summer Adventure Camp was canceled due to lack of enrollment.
3. Summer staff has been hired during the month of May for all the summer programs.
4. Pickleball is being held at OACC on Tuesday & Thursday from 6-8pm and Thursday from 1–3pm.
5. Staff trainings started May 19th for summer programs.

Aquatics

1. Staff training for Hefko Pool lifeguards began Monday, May 16th. Lifeguard skills check was held on May 18th & 19th. All other training for staff will be held May 31st – June 3th. Hefko Pool will open for the summer on Saturday, June 4th.

2. Early Bird Lap Swim and Aquacise are being held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the Sr. High pool.

Parks & Zoo

1. Parks Maintenance Operations
 - a. Park staff assisted with the AMS State Bow Fishing event.
 - b. Park staff assisted in Dairy Fest. This is a city-wide event that takes a large amount of resources. It usually takes staff about 2-3 weeks to get things ready and cleaned up after the event.
 - c. Hefko Pool is up and running for the summer. Staff spent about 4 weeks patching, cleaning, painting, etc. No major setbacks to-date.
 - d. We were proud to host both high school sectional finals games for softball and baseball this spring. One was at Hackman Field and one at Lee Field. MSA also hosted a sanctioned co-ed softball tournament over Dairy Fest weekend.
2. Forestry
 - a. The new seasonal forester position has been filled. He is currently working on updating the parks, trails and cemetery tree inventory that was last completed in 2010.
3. Fairgrounds – The re-keying project on several of the main buildings at the Fairgrounds Park is complete.
4. Zoo
 - a. The USDA inspection has been completed; no violations were reported.
 - b. The City of Marshfield Parks and Recreation Department regrets to announce the death of its beloved male Canada Lynx, Kiki. He was born on May 19, 2001 at Wildwood Wildlife Park in Minocqua, WI. Kiki had just turned 15 years old, which is the top life expectancy of a lynx in the wild. Over the past year, Kiki's health had been declining, and for the past month he had been receiving medicine daily for an infection. When he showed no signs of improvement, Kiki was brought to the Athens Veterinary Clinic on May 27th for additional examinations. Their staff, along with our own, decided that the most humane course of action for Kiki would be to euthanize him, given his current, irreversible quality of life. Kiki will be greatly missed by both the staff and many visitors to the zoo.

Director

1. Hackman Field Storage Building – The project is progressing nicely. Don Nikolai Construction anticipates completion in two weeks.
2. Zoo Maintenance Building – The zoo maintenance building design, construction documents, cost estimates, utility extensions and certified survey map are on-going. 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.
3. Fairgrounds
 - a. The Director has been part of several fairgrounds long term strategic planning meetings. The goals of the meetings are to: ensure the fair's sustainability; increase property usage; define stakeholder's roles; streamline event management; improvement of facilities; develop clear communication.
 - b. The Director has been working with the CWSF and Fair Commission on the development of a permanent stage in front of the grandstands.
 - c. The Director has been working with the Marshfield Area Friends of the Dog Park on the installation of lights for the dog park.
 - d. The Director has been actively soliciting quotes for the sandblasting and painting of the grandstands.
4. Historical Society – The Director has been working with Josh Miller from Development Services and the Historical Preservation Society on display racks at Wildwood Park. The Society has donated one rack to the zoo store and purchased one rack to be placed next to Engine 2442. They are also conducting an Engine 2442 open house on June 18.
5. Hardacre Park – The painter has begun work on the murals at Hardacre Park.
6. Wildwood-McMillian Trail – The Director has been working with the Public Works Director on forecasting and estimating the revenues and expenses associated with the project. The state put a hold on funding until their 2017 fiscal year, which starts July 1, 2017.

E. Committee: None

VII. NEXT MEETING: July 14, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: PR16-10 Motion by Yeager, seconded by Luedtke to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Kelly Cassidy, Parks & Recreation Supervisor