

## Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Committee Minutes of May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Meeting called to order by Ed Englehart, Parks and Recreation Director, at 6:00 p.m. in room 108 in City Hall Plaza, 630 S. Central Avenue.

**Present:** John White, Chris Viegut, Jane Yaeger, Ali Luedtke, Kristy Palmer, Rich Reinart and Alderman Tom Buttke

**Excused:**

**Absent:**

**Also Present:** Ed Englehart, Parks and Recreation Director; Ben Steinbach, Parks and Recreation Maintenance Supervisor; and Kelly Cassidy Parks & Recreation Supervisor

Englehart introduced Rich Reinart as the new member to the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Committee.

Englehart requested nominations for chairperson. Buttke nominated John White. No other nominations were made.

**PR14-10** Motion by Buttke seconded Yaeger to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for John White.

**Motion Carried** 6-0

White requested nominations for the vice-chairperson. Buttke nominated Jane Yaeger. No other nominations were made.

PR14-11 Motion by Luedtke, seconded by White to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Jane Yaeger.

**Motion Carried** 6-0

**PR14-12** Motion by Buttke, seconded by Yaeger to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2014 meeting.

**Motion Carried** 6-0

**Public Comments:** None

The committee set Thursday, June 12, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. as the date and time of their next meeting.

Palmer arrived at 6:22 p.m.

**Information Items:** Staff updated the Committee on their respective areas of responsibility and answered questions regarding the monthly reports. Buttke and Palmer shared information on the Zoological Society store at the zoo, the Zoo Education week program, and activities scheduled at the zoo in the coming weeks. White and Viegut noted the seal coating was coming off of the Wildwood Station Trail. Englehart indicated he will be contacting Fahrner Asphalt about the problem and will report back at the June meeting.

Staff noted that the following groups had provided volunteer assistance in April to get the parks and trails cleaned up. They were Rotary Club (25-30 members) cleaned Wildwood Park, Target store employees picked up litter at Braem Park, Master Gardeners cleaned landscape beds at the Wildwood Zoo, and Friends of the Trails picked up litter from the city trails.

**Committee Member Questions, Comments, and Suggestions:** Viegut commented that blue plastic bristles from the department snow removal equipment brooms seemed to be in greater numbers this year along the trails, and he was curious if it was a problem with the brooms. Also he noted that the retaining wall at Steve J. Miller needs to be checked out, as it appears to have shifted over the winter and that the mud hole near the batting cage and trail intersection needs millings added. Kristy commented that it would be nice if the access sidewalks at Wildwood Station could be widened so vehicles could better access the entry doors without damaging the ground. Tom reviewed donations made for the new zoo store.

**Future Agenda Items:** Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update.

**Communications:** Staff shared information they had received from the public regarding facilities and programs.

**PR14-13 Motion** by Yaeger, seconded by Palmer to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion Carried** 7-0 Meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Ed Englehart, Parks & Recreation Director