

Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Committee Minutes of October 16, 2014

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

Present: John White, Jr.; Jane Yaeger; Rich Reinart; and Alderman Tom Buttke

Excused: Chris Viegut; Ali Luedtke; and Kristy Palmer

Absent: None

Also Present: Ed Englehart, Parks and Recreation Director; Ben Steinbach, Parks and Recreation Maintenance Supervisor; Kelly Cassidy, Parks & Recreation Supervisor; Noah Taylor, Steve Taylor, Steve Coy, and Jean Coy.

PR14-30 Motion by Buttke, seconded by Reinart to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2014 meeting.

Motion Carried 4-0

Public Comments: None

The committee set Thursday, November 13, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in room 108 for the date and time of their next meeting.

Noah Taylor and his father, Steve, presented Noah's request to construct and install player equipment cubicles for the six dugouts on the two G.P. Olson and Reeths baseball fields at Steve J. Miller Recreation Area as his Eagle Scout project. They will be approximately 13 feet long and 13 inches deep. Noah distributed his project manual to the committee members and displayed an actual example of what he will be building and installing at the fields. He is estimating the total cost will be \$3,000. Marshfield Area Baseball has agreed to cover the material costs. The project has been reviewed with Parks and Recreation Department staff. Noah would like to complete the project yet this fall.

PR14-31 Motion by Yaeger, seconded by Reinart to approve the project with final design and coordination of installation to be approved by the Parks and Recreation Maintenance Supervisor.

Motion Carried 4-0

White presented information to the committee regarding the selection of the Parks and Recreation 2014 Volunteer of the Year. The selection committee is recommending that Jim Wein be recognized as the 2014 Parks and Recreation Volunteer of the Year for his many years of service as a volunteer on the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Committee, and his assistance in a variety of other volunteer efforts to support the Parks and Recreation Department.

PR14-32 Motion by Yaeger, seconded by Buttke to approve Jim Wein as the 2014 Parks and Recreation Department Volunteer of the Year, and to make the presentation of the plaque to Jim at an upcoming Common Council meeting.

Motion Carried 4-0

White shared opened discussion on the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and the review meetings with the Board of Public Works and the Plan Commission. Both meetings went well and there was good discussion and comments at both meetings. Both groups approved the document to be presented to the Common Council for adoption. The revised language regarding Hefko Swimming Pool was previously sent to the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Committee members and only two minor corrections were noted. Englehart noted that he will be meeting with the consultant next week to review the final revisions; however, they do not plan to print the final documents until following the adoption by the Common Council at their October 28th meeting.

PR14-33 Motion by Buttke, seconded by Reinart to approve the final changes and additions and direct staff to forward the CORP to the Common Council for their consideration and approval.

Motion Carried 4-0

Information Items: Buttke updated the committee on the Zoo Society's recent, very successful Halloween event that was held at the Wildwood Zoo. Over 1,500 people participated. He also commented that the zoo store has closed for the season and it was very successful, and that they plan to have it again next year.

Buttke left the meeting at 5:58 p.m. to attend the Zoological Society Annual meeting. It was noted that with Buttke leaving the meeting that a quorum did not exist, so no further action could be taken.

Staff updated the Committee on their respective areas of responsibility and answered questions regarding the monthly report. Cassidy presented the 2014 Hefko Swimming Pool report and commented it was a relatively cool summer and it was reflected in the total attendance. Englehart updated the committee on the Ludwig building renovations, the two trail projects and the new Grizzly Bear exhibit. He also mentioned that he has been assisting the Fair Commission with the improvement projects for the Round Barn. It was noted that the following groups had performed volunteer work in the parks in the past month. Wipfil, LLP staff picked up trash and litter in Braem and Wildwood Parks, the School to Work students also assisted with trash and litter pick up in the parks, and the Marshfield Area Friends of the Trails removed buckthorn from along a section of the Wildwood Station Trail.

Committee Member Questions, Comments, and Suggestions: Cassidy shared a question that Ali Luedtke had emailed to her regarding use of the Tennis and Racquetball Center with the reduced fees that were implemented earlier this year. Cassidy plans to prepare a more complete report to present to the committee in December. White inquired if there are some other ways to get the word out about the Tennis and Racquetball Center and the reduced fees.

Future Agenda Items: None were identified

Meeting adjourned by White at 6:30 p.m.

Ed Englehart, Parks & Recreation Director