

## Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Committee Minutes of April 13, 2006

Meeting called to order by Jim Wein, Chairperson, at 6:00 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room in the lower level of City Hall Plaza, 630 S. Central Avenue.

**Present:** Jim Wein, Alderman Tom Buttke, Brenda Baur, Julie Smith, Jane Sautner-Yaeger, Marc-Oliver Wright, and Chris Viegut

**Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Ed Englehart, Parks and Recreation Director; Kelly Cassidy, Parks and Recreation Supervisor, and Mayor Meyers.

Jim Wein thanked Jane Sautner-Yaeger for her past years of service to the community. Yaeger commented that she has indicated to Mayor Meyers that she would be willing to serve another term.

Englehart informed the committee that the March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2006 committee meeting minutes were approved at the March 28<sup>th</sup> Council meeting by a 6-4 vote. Alderman Feirer expressed a concern over how an item was handled at the meeting. Buttke commented that he was made aware that Mr. Olson felt very uncomfortable during his presentation at the last meeting and did not feel welcome. The committee discussed the matter.

**PR06-15** Motion by Viegut, seconded by Buttke, to direct Englehart to send a letter to Mr. Olson to clarify the situation and apologize for any actions that were upsetting to Mr. Olson.

**Motion Carried** 4 -3 Wein, Yaeger, and Smith voted no.

**PR06-16** Motion by Viegut, seconded by Baur to rescind the previous motion and direct Englehart to draft a letter of apology from both Englehart and the Committee members

**Motion Carried** All ayes

Englehart reviewed the proposed 2006-2010 Capital Improvement Program. Information was distributed showing what Parks and Recreation Department projects were deleted and those projects listed in the non year category.

Englehart reviewed the request to submit a budget resolution to shift \$15,000 from project PR-L-2841 (On Road Bicycle Route Signage/Marking Project) to project PR-L-2815 (Veterans Parkway Trail project). Since the Friends of the Trails were able to extend the trail with a granite surface from 8<sup>th</sup> Street to 29<sup>th</sup> Street, it is desired to asphalt the surface as soon as possible to avoid deterioration of the surface. The 2006 budget included \$10,000 for the Veterans Parkway Trail project. It is estimated to cost \$70,000 to asphalt, black dirt, seed, sign and stripe the trail from 8<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> Street. The Wood County Economic Development Committee today approved providing \$35,000 to assist with the project. Final County approval will come in May.

**PR06-17** Motion by Smith, seconded by Buttke, to direct staff to request a budget resolution shifting \$15,000 from bicycle route project PR-L-2841 to the Veterans Trail project PR-L-2815.

**Motion Carried** All ayes

The Committee set the date for next meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Committee meeting for May 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Informational items were reviewed. Baur asked who made the \$500 donation to the parks and what was it for. Englehart will check into it and report at the next meeting. Cassidy distributed copies of the Summer Parks and Recreation Brochure. Englehart noted that Dallman had arranged for a demonstration of a lawn vacuum that he used at no cost to clean the branches and other debris from Veterans Park, Columbia Park and Wildwood Park. It did a very nice job and advanced our spring cleanup substantially at a considerably lower cost.

No committee member questions or comments were made. Englehart distributed a copy of a survey that three UW-Marshfield students had recently taken regarding available activities for college students. Wright stated that the Zoological Society did not meet in March due to a lack of a quorum. He reviewed their plans for the upcoming Campout with the Critter's special event. Baur inquired whether or not a "no swimming" sign should be posted at the Weber Park pond. Buttke asked about a status report on moving of the donated wooden eagle to the zoo.

Englehart reviewed the communications and thank you cards that he and the staff have received from the public.

**PR06-18 Motion** by Baur, seconded by Yaeger, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Ed Englehart, Parks and Recreation Director