

**PARKS, RECREATION, AND CONSERVATION ADVISORY
COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES FOR
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2015
DPW OPERATIONS CENTER
2351 SPRINGBROOK COURT, BELOIT, WI 53511**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeff Johnson, Carl Lange, Therese Oldenburg Mark Preuschl

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chad Larson, Carol Mankiewicz, Anthony Stewart, Mark Smullen

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS: Brian Ramsey, Director of Parks & Leisure Services
Greg Boysen, Public Works Director
Sheila DeForest, City Council

GUESTS: Chuck Kincaid, City Council
Lori Luther, City Manager

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mark Preuschl at 6:35 p.m.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 13, 2015 MEETING

Jeff Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Carl Lange. Motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

None

OLD BUSINESS-

None

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION REPORT ITEM

Therese Oldenburg moved that Item C be moved in front of Item A on the agenda seconded by Jeff Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

- A. Review and consideration of a Remembrance Garden in Horace White Park as proposed and presented by Beloit Family Services.** The update of this project was presented by John Pfleiderer, the Executive Director of Family Services. Angus Young was supposed to be donating architectural drawings but they have been a little busy. He is worried that if he waits any longer, there won't be a chance to continue. He did meet with Jim Tibbits from Angus Young about designing a garden in the southwest quadrant of the park and as its close to their offices. Jim is working on the architectural drawing right now and decided to change the centerpiece to butterflies and have a butterfly theme. Would like to come back again to present to commission before August. A natural finish may work better and be very low maintenance. It will be easier to get volunteers when there isn't as much work to do. Jim will contact Brian about getting the plans of Horace White Park. The commission agreed to add it to the July meeting prior to the Parks Bus Tour.
- B. Review and consideration of the proposed schedule for the annual Parks Tour.** Our annual parks tour will be held on the east side of town this year. The schedule has been revised due to the conversation from the last meeting. There was also a request to stop at the cemetery. Everything has been confirmed with Transit. We will be ordering from Jimmy Johns for lunch so the order forms were handed out. There was discussion about doing a quick 15 minute meeting while eating at Telfer Park before the bus tour starts. Carl Lange made motion to approve the plan as outlined seconded by Therese Oldenburg. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Review and consideration of support of a proposed City Proclamation that would acknowledge July as National Parks and Recreation Month as designated by the NRPA and the US Congress.** The NRPA has been designating July as National Parks and Recreation month for decades, and as a member of NRPA, the City annually acknowledges this designation. Jeff Johnson made a motion to accept and support the Proclamation as presented seconded by Carl Lange. Motion passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Attached for Committee review.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS

- Sheila DeForest- What kind of herbicide are we using? Brian indicated that we have a certified sprayer and are permitted by DNR to spray. Maybe consider the Parks Division becoming its own department. Possibly we can have some more discussion about that.

- Carl Lange- Passed out a flyer for the 5k course run 1 mile walk which will be held on August 14, 2015. There was discussion about citizens possibly having control on being able to open or close the gates in Leeson's Park. City Manager, Lori Luther indicated that this could create a liability for the City and advise not to pursue this idea. Hopefully mark a permanent start line for the races and having access to close or barricade the upper level during races. Brian indicated that they could meet and discuss logistic issues related to BMHS CC Meets.
- Therese Oldenburg- Will be leaving from the Confluence and paddling to Mack Town. Too many trees have fallen in Turtle Creek. There is a new Friends of Turtle Creek group forming. There are some trees that need to be removed along the creek. The welcome to Beloit sign is non-legible coming into the city on Milwaukee Road can we get it taken down or replace it?
- Mark Preuschl- None
- Jeff Johnson- Dancing at Harry's Place starts soon on Fridays. Square dancing is scheduled for Monday night. Attended a bike facility meeting. Do we empty all the trash bins regularly? Brian indicated that the parks crew empties trash containers regularly on Mondays and Fridays. What's going on with the batting cages? Brian stated that the Snappers are required to find funds and are being built by Bill Doors and volunteers as a MiLB requirement.

ADJOURNMENT

Jeff Johnson made a motion for adjournment; seconded by Mark Preuschl. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Travia Foy.