

MINUTES
PARKS, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION ADVISORY
COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2011
DPW OPERATIONS CENTER
2351 SPRINGBROOK COURT, BELOIT, WI

MEMBERS PRESENT: Marty Densch, Steve Ferger, Anna Kokity,
Matt Parish, Mark Preuschl, Mike Ramsden

MEMBERS ABSENT: Roger Christiansen, Tia Johnson, Pete Marino,
Twinkle Patel, Dave Botts

STAFF: Brian Ramsey

GUESTS: None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called by Vice Chair Kokity at 6:32 p.m.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 9, 2011 MEETING

Mark Preuschl made a motion to accept the minutes; seconded by Mike Ramsden.
Motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Mark Preuschl made a motion to move Citizen Participation after Old Business; seconded by Mike Ramsden. Kenneth Niles voiced his concern with oak trees that are dying in Big Hill Park. Brian indicated that a forester will look at the trees to determine what the issue is. Rob Ballard, a Parks seasonal, who is very knowledgeable in this area, will be working with the forester.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Correspondence

Brian Ramsey presented the Correspondence Report.

A letter along with an informal petition was received from Ms. Cecilia Joy requesting that basketball fixtures be reinstated at Vernon Park. Brian asked for any thoughts on this request. Mike stated that, in the past, the neighbors feel this has created a noise problem. Marty suggested that we have another neighborhood meeting in the park to address any concerns with this request.

B. Recreation Report

Brian Ramsey presented the Recreation Report.

C. Parks Report

Brian Ramsey presented the Parks Report.

D. Horticulture Report

Brian Ramsey presented the Horticulture Report.

E. Grinnell Hall Senior Center

Brian Ramsey presented a list of events planned at Grinnell Hall.

F. Special Projects

Brian Ramsey presented the Special Projects.

G. Miscellaneous

Brian Ramsey presented information on Krueger-Haskell Golf Course.

DOG PARK COMMITTEE REPORT

Mark Edwards has done a cost analysis and a meeting has been planned to finalize the project.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Update on the Parks & Open Space Plan (POSP) as presented by Tod Stanton of Design Perspectives and /or Dave Emanuelson of Public Research Group.

Dave Emanuelson of Public Research Group began with a brief background on his company. Dave explained that he was here presenting data to digest and Reflecting on how residents feel about certain issues. We are currently in the data

gathering phase of the POSP. A preliminary analysis of 573 completed random surveys was presented.

The report begins with a brief analysis of demographic data, to show that the sample is representative of Beloit residents. It then discusses levels of familiarity, park usage, participation in recreation programs, and satisfaction levels for both. Open-ended responses to questions about park improvements are also considered, as are open-ended responses to questions about going elsewhere for recreational services, and what recreational services residents would like to see added to the Beloit Parks and Leisure Services Division.

In summary, Beloit parks are good, with some attention needed to pavement of paths. Focus must be on levels of communication, specifically, website, Brochures, etc.

B. Parks & Open Space Plan (POSP) Visioning Workshop as presented by Tod Stanton of Design Perspectives and/or Dave Emanuelson of Public Research Group.

The Delphi Committee has met on two (2) occasions and the consensus of the group was that there is opportunity for improvements in several areas.

- Parks & Leisure Services needs its own website
- Parks & Leisure Services need to implement a strong branding campaign
- Parks & Leisure Services need a targeted brochure program
- The “Parks & Leisure Services” name versus “Parks & Recreation”

COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS

- Steve confirmed that we are running behind on the Golf Course as predicted; also, he noted that there is a negative sentiment around town regarding this delay.
- Marty indicated that this would be his last meeting after over ten years of service on the Commission. He expressed that he was grateful for the experience and opportunity to serve.
- Mark Preuschl stated that he observed the turf being installed at Turtle Island and trees being trimmed at Riverside Park recently.
- Anna thanked Marty for his years of service.

ADJOURNMENT

Matt Parish made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Mark Preuschl. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Matilda Purifoy.