

**MINUTES**  
**PARKS, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION ADVISORY**  
**COMMISSION**  
**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2011**  
**DPW OPERATIONS CENTER**  
**2351 SPRINGBROOK COURT, BELOIT, WI**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Roger Christiansen, Sheila De Forest, Steve Ferger,  
Pete Marino, Matt Parish, Mark Preuschl, Mike Ramsden

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Tia Johnson, Anna Kokity, Twinkle Patel

**STAFF:** Brian Ramsey

**GUESTS:** None

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called by Chair Marino at 6:31 p.m.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 8, 2011 MEETING**

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

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

None

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**A. Correspondence**

None

**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.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Consideration of the Rock River Trail Initiative and the adoption of a Resolution of Support.**

Sheila highlighted some of the benefits of supporting this Initiative. These include Federal designation to access funding, increase recreational access and continuity, and to acquire corporate support and sponsorship. Mark Preuschl made a motion to approve the Resolution as presented and forward it to the Planning Commission; seconded by Steve Ferger. The motion passed unanimously.

**B. Review of the Geese Abatement Proposal for Riverside Park and other designated areas as indicated within the Geese Police proposal.**

Steve suggested that Krueger-Haskell Golf Course be included in the Proposal. Brian indicated that this Proposal is a starting point in developing a program. We first want to see how effective the Geese Police are this fall before expanding. Staff is currently tracking geese at the Golf Course and Riverside Park. Sheila expressed concern with the response of animal rights activists. Mike feels this Proposal is a waste of money and will not work. Mark stated that it works very well in Whitewater where hardly any geese are seen. Mark Preuschl made a motion to approve the recommendation of hiring Geese Police; Roger Christiansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**C. Review of the Proposal for new park signs.**

Brian informed the Commission that all signs should be in by November 1.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS**

- Mike wants the Parks Patrol reinstated.
- Sheila enjoyed the Parks Tours and would like to see more City Councilors attend next year. Turtle Creek Corridor and Rock River Clean Sweep are projects she supports and would like to see more community involvement and volunteers. Residents would like to be able to use their I.D. at the pool instead of purchasing a card.

- Steve wanted to know the status of the Dog Park. Brian anticipates approval as part of the 2012 CIP. He also asked that signs be posted on trails stating that dogs must be on a leash. Parking needs to be coordinated between the pool and Golf Course on weekends and during big events. The parks look great and are a great resource for the community.
- Roger wanted to know what the State ordinance was regarding easement for waterways. In the future, he would like to see revenue vs. cost on financial reports.
- Mark was concerned that grass was not growing on the Water Street path. Brian indicated that the problem is bad soil; grass seed has been planted twice and the only other solution is to plant sod. Mark has observed traffic on Riverside Drive pausing for the stop signs in the parking lots. He would like to see the size of the signs reduced on both ends of the parking lots. Brian will see if anything can be done. Mark noticed a lot of work done with remediation of the grass after Riverfest.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mike Ramsden made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Mark Preuschl. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Matilda Purifoy.