

MINUTES
PARKS, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2012
DPW OPERATIONS CENTER
2351 SPRINGBROOK COURT, BELOIT, WI

MEMBERS PRESENT: Roger Christiansen, Christopher Brown, Chad Larson, Michael McNulty, Mark Preuschl, Mike Ramsden

MEMBERS ABSENT: Steve Ferger, Sheila De Forest, Tia Johnson

STAFF: Brian Ramsey, Larry Arft, Mike Flesch

GUESTS: Will O'Brien, BDN

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called by Roger Christiansen at 6:30 p.m. Roger opened the meeting by welcoming Chad Larson as a new Commissioner recently appointed to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 11, 2011 MEETING

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

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

None

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY BLAKE THEISEN, SAA DESIGN GROUP –
BELOIT- JANESVILLE BIKE TRAIL MASTER PLAN**

The purpose of the Master Plan is to establish a connection between north trailhead in Beloit and the south trailhead in Janesville. The trail begins at Pride Park in Beloit and ends at Peace Trail in Janesville. The corridor is broken into 4 segments as follows:

Segment 1 -	10 ft. wide on-road trail ends at Hwy. Q; off-road at Hwy. D
Segment 2 -	East off County D through Big Hill Park (scenic route)
Segment 3A -	Three (3) Options; most difficult segment due to private, county, and DNR owned property
Segment 3B -	Two (2) Options
Segment 4 -	Two (2) Options

We are currently in the implementation process before preparing grant applications for funding.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Correspondence**
Brian Ramsey presented the Correspondence Report

- B. Parks Report**
Brian Ramsey presented the Parks Report.

- C. Horticulture Report**
Brian Ramsey presented the Horticulture Report.

- D. Grinnell Hall Senior Center Report**
Brian Ramsey presented a list of events planned at Grinnell Hall.

- E. Special Projects**
Brian Ramsey presented the Special Projects.

- F. Leisure Services/Recreation Report**
Brian Ramsey presented the Recreation Report.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION REPORT ITEM

- A. Review and discussion of the Ken Hendricks Monument and consideration of installing it in Wootton Park.**
Design for the Monument has been received and a meeting is planned with the family for final approval of the design before going to City Council next week. City Manager Larry Arft and City Engineer Mike Flesch provided general information regarding the design and reasons Wootton Park was selected as the location for the monument. TIFF funding will cover the cost of the Memorial along with possible funding from Beloit 2020. Jeff Adams has suggested that we dedicate both the bridge and Memorial during Heritage Week in September. Mark Preuschl made a motion to accept the design and location of the monument as approved by the family of Ken Hendricks; seconded by Mike McNulty. Motion passed unanimously.

- B. Consideration of adopting a Resolution Supporting the Beloit-Janesville Bike Trail Master Plan.**
Michael McNulty made a motion to support the Beloit-Janesville Bike Trail Master Plan; seconded by Mark Preuschl. Motion passed unanimously.

- C. Discussion and consideration of honoring former Parks Patrol employee Tina Lomax by retiring her Patrol Badge.**

Mike Ramsden recommended that Mr. Lomax should be involved in the process of honoring his mother, Tina Lomax; Roger and Michael McNulty agreed. The consensus was that Director Ramsey contact Mr. Lomax and suggest the concept of retiring Tina's Park Patrol Badge during a formal presentation to the family at the next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. He would also ask if they would still prefer to discuss any other form of honoring her that would meet the criteria of the Parks & Facility Naming Policy. Mike Ramsden made a motion to approve the process of honoring Tina Lomax in conjunction with input/approval from Mr. Lomax; seconded by Michael McNulty. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS

- Mike Ramsden welcomed Chad Larson to the Commission.
- Mark Preuschl welcomed Chad Larson to the Commission. He also asked if overseeding the Water Street area would be delayed due to Riverfest. Brian stated that we still plan to oversee the area yet this spring before Riverfest. Additionally, the Geese Police started harassing birds in designated city parks, as well as the site for this year's Riverfest; the hope is that they will detour birds from nesting and eating all the grass seed as they have done previously.
- Roger Christiansen asked if Shirland Avenue would be closed during Riverfest. City Manager Larry Arft informed him that Shirland Avenue would remain open with designated pedestrian walkways. City Manager Larry Arft also commented regarding a letter that has been drafted for Council's approval regarding Riverfest use of this new site on Water Street and the City's expectations of Riverfest in using this site.

ADJOURNMENT

Roger Christiansen adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Matilda Purifoy.