

MINUTES
PARKS, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION ADVISORY
COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2014
DPW OPERATIONS CENTER
2351 SPRINGBROOK COURT, BELOIT, WI

MEMBERS PRESENT: Roger Christiansen, Jeff Johnson, Chad Larson, Carol Mankiewicz, Mark Preuschl

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rebecca Charles, Keston Geistwalker, Therese Oldenburg, Mark Smullen

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

GUESTS: Steven Penberton, BMHS student
Drew Pennington
John Pfleiderer, Family Services
Sardaris Young, BMHS student
Horace White Park Master Plan Sub-Committee

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mark Preuschl at 6:31 p.m.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 8, 2014 MEETING

A change was made under the review of minutes. The spelling of waving was changed to waiving. Also, Sheila DeForest's committee member comment was changed to read "Sheila would like to have further discussion about lowering our initial fees and prices to reflect those of Floral Lawns in another meeting and add this to an agenda in the near future. The word "possibly" was removed. Jeff Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes seconded by Rodger Christiansen. Motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

None

OLD BUSINESS-

A. Review and consideration of a Remembrance Garden in Horace White Park. The Horace White Park sub-committee was in attendance to give their input to the location of the Remembrance Garden that may be placed in Horace White Park. An appropriate design will be made once a location is decided upon. There was discussion about where to put the garden if placed in Horace White Park because of how busy the corners of the park are. The planning committee doesn't think that there is a place in the park quite enough for the garden since it is a heavily used park. There was discussion about moving it to another park completely. The initial location was deemed by the planning committee not to be a very quiet or peaceful spot. John stated that having the garden located close to the office is an advantage and will be easier to monitor. The other location that was discussed was where the old wishing well was located. Angus Young will be designing the garden and there is flexibility on size and placement. Nothing is set in stone yet. It was recommended for John to get a sketch of both areas to see what it would look like when finished and then a decision can be made about using this location or moving to a different one. Jeff Johnson made a motion to consider the south west corner of Horace White Park near the old wishing well and have Family Services provide a design to bring back to the commission and the planning committee to review. Seconded by Chad Larson. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Review and discussion regarding Parking Lots and curbing regulations. (Pennington) There was discussion regarding parking lots and curbing rules. Drew Pennington was in attendance to hand out design standards and explain how to get Landscaping Code Exceptions. He explained that having paved lots opens up the door for the rules to come into play. In parking lots that require curb and gutter there is the need to protect landscaping and sidewalks. However, a parking lot with less than 25 stalls does not require curb and gutter. There is room to apply for an exemption and it is very possible that it would be granted. If there were no curb and gutter along Milwaukee Road that would cause a lot of flack compared to a place like Big Hill or Leeson. It would be best to handle this on a case by case basis instead of trying to change a whole ordinance. Drew indicated that the existing tree by the entrance would be enough to meet the code requirement for landscaping and that we may only be required to install a curb and gutter on the south end of the new parking list on Milwaukee Road. Engineering should complete a design plan and submit to the Planning Dept. for site review with any request for exceptions to the current code.

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION REPORT ITEM

None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Correspondence- None

- B. Parks Report-** Attached for Committee review.
- C. Horticulture Report-** Attached for Committee review.
- D. CIP Funds/Projects-**
- 1) **Hinckley Park:** The Zip-Line Swing has been replaced and there will be one more renovation to it in the spring.
 - 2) **New Park Benches:** Ten new park benches have been purchased and the Hort Crew will be installing them. Also brochures were passed out of the Nature and Cross Country Ski Trail Guide.
- E. Recreation Report: September's Program Report-** Was not available for review this month.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS

- Mark Preuschl- Is super impressed with Big Hill Park. Also while bike riding noticed some graffiti and reported it at Horace White Park gazebo.
- Chad Larson- The Try Hockey for Free program was a success and in 5 sessions there were a total of about 161 participants ranging from 3-12 years old.
- Jeff Johnson- Is glad that the ski hill is cleared and drove by to see it.
- Rodger Christiansen- Is very proud and glad that the Horace White Group attended the meeting to give their input.
- Carol Mankiewicz- Has been hearing a lot of great things about Big Hill Park.
- Sheila De Forest- None

ADJOURNMENT

Jeff Johnson made a motion for adjournment; seconded by Chad Larson. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Travia Foy.