

**PARKS, RECREATION, AND CONSERVATION ADVISORY  
COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES FOR  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2016  
DPW OPERATIONS CENTER  
2351 SPRINGBROOK COURT, БЕLOIT, WI 53511**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Isaac Deforest-Davis, Jeff Johnson, Carl Lange, Kristin Loehr,  
Carol Mankiewicz, Therese Oldenburg,

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Chad Larson, Anthony Stewart

**EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:** Brian Ramsey, Director of Parks & Leisure Services  
Greg Boysen, Public Works Director  
Marilyn Sloniker, City Council

**GUESTS:** Sheila DeForest  
Natalie Gorton

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Johnson at 6:30 p.m.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**

An amendment was made to change the motion of Action Report item B. Carol Mankiewicz voted no to the support of the Art Exhibit to be displayed in July in Riverside Park. The motion was not passed unanimously. Jeff Johnson then made a motion to approve those changes seconded by Carl Lange. Motion passed unanimously.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION** - None

**OLD BUSINESS-** The Turtle Creek Bath house needs further discussion. Hopefully we can have a listening session and work that out with the Landmark's commission. We want to make sure that nothing happens to the building in the meantime until a meeting can take place about what to do with it.

## **NEW BUSINESS – ACTION REPORT ITEM**

- A. Review and consideration of a proposed Eagle Scout project to install and construct a Promenade of Flags in the Veteran Section of Eastlawn Cemetery-** Joshua Mohorko presented a paper proposal as shown in the attachments providing highlights of his intended project, There will be 7 flag poles, representing selected military divisions, along with the US flag in the Veteran Section of Eastlawn Cemetery. Brian mentioned that the staff supports this project and thinks that it would be a good idea. The project would be funded by his own means, supplies, tools and materials. Jeff suggested that the decision be put off for a couple of months since Joshua did not show up to make a verbal presentation. There was discussion about if the project was put off for a couple of months if he would still have his project finished before his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. That has yet to be determined. Bob Pokorney had the details worked out with Joshua and is going to try to get in contact with him to see if he can make a presentation to the Commission before it's too late for him to complete his project. Therese Oldenburg inquired about the purchasing of the flags and who takes care of them after this is done. Brian stated that it will most likely be the city and the American Legion. The flags will never be lowered or raised. Jeff Johnson suggested that the decision will be held off until August so that more information can be received. Carl Lange made a motion to hold off the item seconded by Therese Oldenburg. Motion passed unanimously. Before item Action Report Item B, Jeff Johnson introduced the newest members of the Commission. Isaac DeForest-Davis and Kristin Loehr.
- B. Review and consideration of erecting a statue in Riverside Park to honor Ken Hendricks-** Has been removed from the agenda.
- C. Review and consideration of support of a proposed City Resolution that would acknowledge July as National Recreation & Parks Month as designated by the NRPA and the US Congress-** The National Recreation & Parks Association annually designates the month of July as National Recreation & Parks Month. All membered agencies are encouraged to join this initiative recognized upon by the US Congress. It's a wonderful attribute to bring forward. As a member of the NRPA the recommendation to support this initiative is highly recommended. This can be done by supporting the local City Proclamation with the same designation of July as NRPA within Beloit. Therese Oldenburg made a motion to accept and support the Proclamation as presented seconded by Carl Lange. Motion passed unanimously.
- D. Review and consideration of Naming the new Bike Trail in Big Hill Park-** The new Bike Trail will have ribbon cutting tomorrow at 4:30 pm. It has been formally known as the Beloit-Janesville Bike Trail and its unofficial name has been called the Peace Trail because it starts at Peace Park in Janesville. With the completion of the Bike Trail through Big Hill Park, it is the City's option to determine if the new Trail requires naming of this special amenity within the park at this time. The staff has developed a short list of suggested names however; the Commission is free to make additional suggestions. Brian explained more about the Trail since everyone might not be familiar with the area that it covers. This has been a major accomplishment for us. Before the

naming of the trail is final it has to go to the Planning Commission and City Council. From a marketing standpoint, the suggestion has been to name it the Peace Trail. This will go to the planning Commission next month if they have room on their agenda and then on to City Council. There is no guaranteed date but hopefully by August or September Therese Oldenburg made a motion to propose the name Peace Trail seconded by Kristin Loehr. Motion passed unanimously.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Attached for Committee Review.

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS**

- Carol Mankiewicz- Someone informed her that Telfer Park is being left dirty after usage. The person requested that another trash can be placed out there. Brian states that it could be anyone but he isn't sure. On her trip to Florida she ran into some people that follow minor league baseball and inquired about sanctions against teams and Beloit Snappers. Brian stated that's unknown to him and an issue exclusive to the snappers, not the City. Their contract runs out in 2020. She also informed the Commission that there are a lot of blue green algae in the river. Brian indicated we can't do anything about water conditions in the river, only the Lagoon. Currently it's not in the Lagoon.
- Therese Oldenburg- Passed out photos of Turtle Creek Trail there is what seems to be a lot of Hog Weed. The sap causes blister and isn't good for skin contact. Brian will have someone to go and check it out and see if we can remove it or not. Therese offered to make a sign warning people not to touch or mess with it until it is confirmed what it really is. In regards to the Snappers field, there are a lot of people who have positive things to say about it. They love the volunteers and the people there. There is also a phone app that can be downloaded to process information about problems in Beloit parks that may need maintenance attention right away. It can be found on the city website too.
- Carl Lange- None
- Isaac DeForest-Davis- None
- Kristin Loehr- None
- Marilyn Sloniker- None
- Jeff Johnson- None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Jeff Johnson made a motion for adjournment; seconded by Carl Lange. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.  
Minutes prepared by Travia Foy.