

**PARKS, RECREATION, AND CONSERVATION ADVISORY
COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES FOR
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10TH, 2016
DPW OPERATIONS CENTER
2351 SPRINGBROOK COURT, BELOIT, WI 53511**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Isaac Deforest-Davis, Jeff Johnson, Carl Lange, Chad Larson, Kristin Loehr, Carol Mankiewicz, Anthony Stewart

MEMBERS ABSENT: Greg Boysen, Therese Oldenburg

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS: Brian Ramsey, Director of Parks & Leisure Services
Marilyn Sloniker, City Council

GUESTS: Shelia DeForest, Joshua Mohoko and John Mohoko

CALL TO ORDER

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

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 8TH MEETING

A change was made to New Business Action Report Item A. Kristin Loehr is not our student representative Isaac DeForest-Davis is our student representative. Carl Lange made a motion to approve the minutes with the change seconded by Kristin Loehr. Motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - None

OLD BUSINESS-

- 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 was in attendance to present his proposal. He is a Life Scout with Troop 615 and one of the things required to become an Eagle is to complete an Eagle Scout project. His passion is Veteran's and wants to do a memorial for all Veterans' in Leeson's Park. He presented his diagram for the Commission to view. He would like to put 6 flagpoles for each Military Branch, The American Flag, 2 benches, and a flag retirement bowl to retire them annually. 18 ft. tall flag poles would be put in place, 1 ft. in the ground. The City does not have any expenses for this project. Galvanized poles will be used because of the sturdiness and less maintenance. Chad Larson inquired about how far into the ground the poles go. Is it too shallow? Brian indicated, no the galvanized poles are stronger poles.

We would like to omit the fire bowl for burning the flags because of the threat of vandalism. Would like to know if it can be temporarily set out however; Brian suggested it would be best to just not do it at all. The Troop would take care of all the maintenance and account for the project. Would like to have it out by mid-late September. Chad made a motion to approve the project with the removal of the fire bowl from the project seconded by Carl Lange. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION REPORT ITEM

- A. Review and consideration of selecting a new Playground to purchase and install in Leeson Park.** Brian explained the process for selecting a new Playground for parks to the new Commission members and how we get down to the last two finalists to choose from. Nick McHone and staff represented Commercial Recreation and Eric Denning represented GameTime. Nothing from the proposal can change. Color can change but not the construction of the playground itself. Brian passed around photos of Leeson's park playground and the equipment that will be replaced and also did an interview with the press and asked them to invite the public to our meeting but they failed to do so however; an article was published in today's paper. Jeff Corniea made a presentation for Commercial Recreation Specialist and allowed questions from the Commission afterwards. There are multiple entry and exit points on the play area so that parents can stand closer and interact with their children.

Eric Denning made his presentation. The players can graduate as they go along playing on the equipment. There are various challenges for them to play. A lot of playgrounds lately have become passive and they are putting more challenges for children to be active. Want to give kids the ability to test themselves as they play. Basically, this proposals includes as much equipment as you currently have in Leeson Park now, and what was recently installed in Vernon Park.

After each presentation the Commission was given the chance to discuss each proposal before voting on which equipment they would like to see placed in the park. Neither company was present for the discussion. This is so far the most expensive playground we have being installed, however Brian encouraged everyone that there is no wrong choice to make. Everything in these proposals meets and exceeds guideline standards. Installers are certified to inspect equipment during and before installation and there is a 1-year warranty on moving parts. Brian Ramsey, Mark Edwards and Jamie Stanek have scored and reviewed the equipment in advance. With a show of hands the vote was 6-1 in favor of Game Time.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Attached for Committee Review. Brian had an addendum to the report to address the issues with Turtle Creek Park and what would be done with it. There was a request to replace the corroded piping in the basement to prevent additional water from coming in the building however; the water is shut off so there isn't an issue. There was also a request to repair concrete on the exterior of the building. Unfortunately all park structure maintenance funding has been used on other

projects. Staff will be cleaning up the debris remaining from when the Fire department conducted training inside. Parks maintenance budget will be cut by \$20,000 in 2017 so there may not be any extra funding available. There was discussion of how can something be done to this building to restore it and who will put forth the effort to make it happen.

RECEATION REPORT

Attached for Committee Review.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS

- Jeff Johnson- Ride across Wisconsin is happening on Saturday, August 27th and there will be 1,000 riders from Wisconsin. There will be a party on that day from 5pm-until. Proceeds will benefit the Rock Trail Coalition. Handed out flyers for everyone.
- Carol Mankiewicz- None
- Anthony Stewart- None
- Carl Lange- None
- Isaac DeForest-Davis- None
- Kristin Loehr- None
- Marilyn Sloniker- None

ADJOURNMENT

Carl Lange made a motion for adjournment; seconded by Chad Larson. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.
Minutes prepared by Travia Foy.