

NEW BERLIN PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, March 15, 2004

Please note: Minutes are unofficial until approved by the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

The regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission was called to order by Chairman Bill Christel at 7:05 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers at New Berlin City Hall.

Present: Commissioners; Chuck Bedwell, Nancy Duff, Paul Gihring, James Gradel, Rick Kocchi (arrived 7:40 p.m.), Michael McAdams, Vern Radtke and Council Representative Paul Gallagher.

Also Present: Site Acquisition Consultant Bryan Lazuka, Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry Mark Schroeder and Administrative Coordinator Cheryl Bowers.

This meeting was noticed on March 11, 2004 in accordance with Open Meetings law.

MINUTES:

February 16, 2004 Minutes - Motion by Commissioner Gihring to approve the minutes of the regular Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission Meeting of February 16, 2004. Seconded by Commissioner Gallagher and carried unanimously.

Consensus of the Commission to proceed to the review and recommendation on Verizon Wireless proposal at Hickory Grove Center and the dedication of the environmental corridor land of the Gerald Timmers property, under the Director's Report to accommodate the visitors present.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Review and recommendation from Site Acquisition Consultant Bryan Lazuka on the Verizon Wireless Proposal at Hickory Grove Center – Bryan Lazuka reviewed the two proposals that were presented to the Commission; one proposal reflected the flagpole, with a flag, northwest and in front of Hickory Grove Center and the second proposal reflected the flagpole, without a flag, on the northeast side of the building. The Commission was informed that the pole could be: either metal or white in color, as low as 77 ft. with only one carrier or 100 ft. with two carriers, along with a 18" wide base. Verizon agrees to supply a shelter for the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department or a donation of \$8,000 to be used for park or tree enhancements.

The City Attorney and the Finance Director are reviewing the lease agreement, which will include a monthly payment to the City and an annual 3% increase. At a future date, this agreement may be presented to the Common Council for approval. Additional carriers would need to negotiate their own lease agreement with the City, which would provide additional income.

Motion by Commissioner Jim Gradel to recommend to the Plan Commission to locate the Verizon 100 ft. stealth flag pole cell tower at Hickory Grove Center; at the eastern location known as option B, which will include an American Flag and night lighting, with the color of the pole to be determined at a future date. Seconded by Commissioner Vern Radtke. Motion passes with Commissioner Rick Kocchi abstaining due to his late arrival.

Consensus of the Commission for staff and legal to review the lease and send back to the Commission for approval. Revenues from the lease and the \$8,000 from Verizon for park improvements should be placed in the Public Site and Open Space Fund.

Review and recommendation on the dedication of environmental corridor land on the Gerald Timmers' property (19925 W. Pinecrest Lane) – This item was referred to the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission by the Plan Commission for purposes of review and recommendation on potential acquisition of environmental corridor land. The applicant/owner made a request to rezone this 6.6 acre property for the purpose of dividing into two lots. The environmental corridor on the property is designated as Proposed City Ownership - Open Space Preservation or Outdoor Recreation Site - in the Park & Open Space Plan. A future park (Site B) is designated southeast of this property. This future neighborhood park is recommended to be 35 acres in size, including 23 acres of primary environmental corridor (see pages 46 and 47 of the park

plan). The following is the commission's recommendation on whether the City should purchase the environmental corridor on this 6.6 acre parcel.

Mr. Timmers was granted permission to speak by consensus of the Commission. Mr. Timmers indicated that the property is only wetlands since a ditch was not constructed nor a culvert maintained as promised by the City. The environmental corridor consists of a few Elm trees.

Motion by Commissioner Rick Kocchi to recommend to the Plan Commission that the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission considers the Timmers property, located at 19925 West Pinecrest Lane, to be important for protection of the primary environmental corridor. However, this property is not part of the future park site recommended for this area in the Park and Open Space Plan, and therefore, the Commission is not interested in purchasing this property. Seconded by Commissioner Duff. Motion passes with Commissioner Paul Gallagher voting no.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Communication on Earth Day Festival 2004 - The Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department has scheduled this year's Earth Day Festival for April 24th at Calhoun Park from noon to 3:00 p.m. Parks, Recreation and Forestry Program Specialist, Mary Berg has done a great job preparing for this program, which is sponsored by "Trees On the Move". The activities include; environmental and educational booths, earth ball rides, kite workshop, crafts, Yard Dogs Concert, concessions, tree planting and family nature games and activities. This year there will be the "First Annual Big Tree Contest". Participants are asked to locate the biggest Red Oak in New Berlin. Entry forms and rules can be obtained at the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department Office, off the City website www.newberlin.org, or at "Trees On the Move".

BILLS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS:

February 2004 Bills & Financial Reports - The Commission reviewed the February 2004 Expenditure Detail in the amount of \$12,686.47. They also reviewed the copies of the February Revenues and Expenditures. After a brief discussion, motion by Commissioner Kocchi to approve these financial documents. Seconded by Commissioner Gradel and carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Council Representative – No Report

Recreation Program Committee – No Report

Parks and Facilities Committee – No Report

Planning Committee – No Report

Golf Course Committee – No Report

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: No Report

PLAN COMMISSION MEMBER REPORT: No Report

UPDATES AND CONCERNS:

ProHealth Care Park – The park sign will be installed in May or June.

Weston's Antique Apple Orchard – The Ad-Hoc Committee met on March 15th and will meet again the end of March. It continues to be a work in progress.

New Berlin Hills Streambank Stabilization Project – If the good weather continues next week, the contractor should be close to completing Phase III which is the area near 124th Street, then the restoration can begin. The final project walk through is scheduled for April 2nd. New Berlin Hills will open on March 19th with the back nine. The front nine will remain closed due to the streambank project, but may open in the next two weeks.

Quarry Park – An addendum has been approved to the lease agreement with "Johnson Sand & Gravel, Inc." and the City of New Berlin to extend the restoration date of Quarry Park to December 31, 2005.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Tess Corners Creek Pond Project – Review and recommendation on Parkland Buffer – The Plan Committee met on March 1st to discuss the size and location of the parkland buffer, which will surround the Tess Corners Creek Pond Project. The City Parks and Open Space Plan recommends the development of a neighborhood park in Section 35, and to integrate the proposed park with the storm water basin to take advantage of this water resource.

Staff also reviewed the park amenities that will be included with the storm water pond project including the 8' wide asphalt trail system which will loop the site, the parking area and bus turn around, the gazebo, security lighting and signage. The Commission then focused on the size and location of the parkland buffer. The City would like to purchase the buffer area at the same time as the land is acquired for the pond. The buffer will provide an area to locate utilities to serve the future development of Section 35, serve as part of the future linear environmental corridor, and also serve to provide adequate distance between City parkland and future residential development.

Motion by Commissioner Jim Gradel to recommend to the Department of Community Development that the City purchase a minimum 100' buffer area from the proposed 100-year flood elevation boundary. Seconded by Commissioner Vern Radtke. Motion passes unanimously.

Carleton Point Condominiums – Review and recommendation on Impact of New Berlin Hills Golf Course - The developer is proposing to solve drainage problems of both this area and the private property through the joint effort of creating a detention basin built at the private developments expense on the City owned New Berlin Hills Golf Course. The Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission discussed the potential impact this facility would have on the golf course, specifically the 16th fairway.

Motion by Commissioner Rick Kocchi that the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission recommends to the Plan Commission, that any development of a storm water detention basin on the New Berlin Hills Golf Course property, include the following recommendations.

- The project needs to enhance the value and aesthetics of New Berlin Hills.
- Proposed location of the storm water facility should not impact the woods on city property.
- Access for constructing the facility should come from the private development to the south and not across the golf course.
- Storm water basin should be a minimum of 10-15 yards from the fairway, final project design and construction limits should be field staked and approved by the City staff including Parks, Recreation and Forestry, Engineering and Planning Departments, along with the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission and the Golf Course Committee, before final project approval.
- The basin could be wet or dry, and should be designed as an amenity to course play.
- Both City staff including Parks, Recreation and Forestry, Engineering and Planning Departments, along with the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission, the Golf Course Committee, and Crown Golf Properties Inc., should review the landscaping plan, including seed mixes and plantings, before approval.
- All funding for this project to be paid for by the developer.
- The financial responsibility for maintenance of the detention basin should be shared by the developer and the City.

Seconded by Commissioner Chuck Bedwell. Motion passes with Commissioner Paul Gallagher voting no.

Annual Report – Mark Schroeder thanked his staff for the joint effort on completion of the 2003 Annual Report. Chairman Bill Christel also thanked staff and commented it was the best Annual Report to date.

NEW BUSINESS: None

NEXT MEETING: April 19, 2004

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Commissioner Kocchi to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Duff and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Bowers for
Nancy Duff, Secretary
Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission

ND/cb