

Minutes

NEW BERLIN PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, May 19, 2003

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

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairman Bill Christel at 7:04 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers at New Berlin City Hall.

Present: Chairman Bill Christel, Commissioners; Chuck Bedwell, Nancy Duff, Paul Gihring, James Gradel, Vern Radtke, and Council Representative Paul Gallagher.

Also Present: Eric Nitschke, Storm Water Division Engineer; Dan Hanlon, Representative from the New Berlin Chamber of Commerce; Gary Driman and Wayne Hamilton of the New Berlin Lakers Baseball; Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry Mark Schroeder; and Administrative Coordinator Cheryl Bowers.

Excused: Larry Kilmer and Rick Kocchi

MINUTES:

Motion by Commissioner Gallagher to approve the minutes of the regular Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of April 21, 2003. Seconded by Commissioner Radtke and carried unanimously with Commissioners Duff, Gihring, and Gradel voting present.

Consensus of the Commission to proceed to the Update on the Dog Exercise Park under Updates and Concerns to accommodate the visitors present.

UPDATES AND CONCERNS:

Mark Schroeder, Commissioner Bedwell and Denise Lucas toured various park areas for possible use as a dog exercise park. It is still a work in process and the Parks and Facilities Committee will meet in the near future, to discuss the possibilities.

Consensus of the Commission to proceed to the Storm Water Projects (Malone Park, Calhoun Park, Buena Park, Gatewood Park – Presentation by Eric Nitschke, Storm Water Division Engineer under Director's Report to accommodate staff present.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Storm Water Projects (Malone Park, Calhoun Park, Buena Park, Gatewood Park – Presentation by Eric Nitschke, Storm Water Division Engineer – Eric Nitschke was present to update the Commission on Storm Water Projects. The department is in the preliminary stages of the City Storm Water Projects.

There were problems with the contractor at the Calhoun pond and creek project and another contractor is now on board so the project will again proceed.

Buena Park Subdivision has poor drainage and the first option being researched is lowering the park three to four feet. This will help reduce the flooding of the subdivision with the 25 – 50 year storms. The second option would involve three to four feet deep swales or shallow V shaped ditches in the park. The park may then need bridges to bring back the continuity to the park. This will keep the water away from the subdivision and into Deer Creek.

In 1998, Gatewood Park flooded due to poor drainage. The department is considering increasing the size of the retention pond and/or removing the 15" culvert but inserting a shallow swale.

There are no longer plans to put in a retention pond in Malone Park but the use of underground storm water storage system is being researched.

The Commission asked Eric Nitschke to return to the Commission in future. He will be back in the summer with project updates and maps.

Consensus of the Commission to proceed to Harley Event August 22, 2003 under Director's Report to accommodate visitors present.

Harley Event August 22, 2003 Malone Park – Review and approval on extension of park hours – Dan Hanlon on behalf of the New Berlin Chamber of Commerce is requesting permission for a “pep rally” concert in Malone Park on August 22nd to celebrate the Harley-Davidson 100th reunion that will take place the following week. The Chamber would like to hold the event from 6:30 PM to 11 PM and is requesting the Commission to authorize the extension of the park hours. The Chamber has already obtained Police, Alcohol, and Noise Permits. The profits from this event will be donated to the canine unit at the New Berlin Police Department.

Motion by Commissioner Duff to approve the extension of Malone Park hours until 11:00 PM on August 22, 2003 to accommodate the New Berlin Chamber of Commerce “pep rally” concert for the Harley-Davidson 100th reunion. Seconded by Commissioner Gihring and carries with Commissioner Gallagher voting no.

New Berlin Lakers Baseball – Request for placement of banner at Malone Park - Gary Driman and Wayne Hamilton of the New Berlin Lakers Baseball, requested approval to allow placement of a vinyl banner on the outfield fence at Malone Park, diamond #3 in recognition of the 1977 Land O' Lakes Grand Championship.

Motion by Commissioner Gradel to approve placement of a vinyl banner on the outfield fence at Malone Park, diamond #3 in recognition of the 1977 Land O' Lakes Grand Championship. Seconded by Commissioner Radtke and carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Robert Hay, Cold-blooded Species Manager from the Bureau of Endangered Resources of the DNR, has requested permission to do Butler Gartersnake assessment work at Malone and ProHealth Care Parks. There is no cost to the City since it is funded by the DNR.

BILLS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The Commission reviewed the April 2003 Expenditure Detail in the amount of \$46,227.33. They also reviewed the copies of the April Revenues and Expenditures. Mark Schroeder informed the Commission that the negative balance of the Contracted Services – Forestry account was caused by the Gypsy Moth aerial spraying. The DNR will reimburse the City 50% of the cost through a grant. Motion by Commissioner Radtke to approve the April 2003 financial documents. Seconded by Commissioner Gihring 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:

Chairman Christel thanked Alderman & Commissioner Gallagher for his help with the approval of the Park and Open Space Plan. A tie vote by the Common Council was broken by Mayor Wysocki and the Plan was approved. Chairman

Christel challenged the Aldermen that voted against the Plan to give their reasons for not approving it to the Commission for use in future Plan updates. Chairman Christel also expressed the Commission's thanks for all the work Commissioner Gihring was involved with the Plan on the Plan Commission. Appreciation was also given to SEWRPC and the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Staff.

PLAN COMMISSION MEMBER REPORT: No Report

UPDATES AND CONCERNS:

ProHealth Care Park – Notice to Bidders will be published in June with the Bid Opening scheduled in mid-June, contract review and award in July, and ground breaking in August.

Update on New Berlin Hills Stream Bank Stabilization Project – The DNR permit has been received for this project and the Notice to Bidders will be published in June. The Bid Opening is scheduled for mid-June with the contract review and award in July. Construction will start at the conclusion of the 2003 season. This project is being funded by the Storm Water Utility and potential DNR grants.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

New Berlin Hills Streambank Stabilization – Resolution to apply for DNR River Protection Grant – Staff is recommending the submittal of a DNR River Protection Grant to offset a portion of the construction costs.

Motion by Commissioner Gallagher to recommend to the Common Council to adopt a resolution authorizing Mark Schroeder, Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry on behalf of the City of New Berlin to submit an application to the State of Wisconsin for financial aid for River Protection purposes for the New Berlin Hills/Root River Stream bank Stabilization Project. Seconded by Commissioner Gradel and carried unanimously.

Request to Acquire Weston's Antique Apple Orchard – The UW-Extension is not interested in maintaining the orchard, due to its size and budget cuts. Mayor Wysocki and Mark Schroeder met with City Attorney Mark Blum and Weston Attorney Mike Schober. A copy of the preliminary agreement from Mike Schober, Ken Weston's attorney, was distributed along with comment from City Attorney Mark Blum. The Commission was extremely concerned about the maintenance costs to the City especially in this economic climate and State Revenue sharing cuts. Consensus of the Commission to form an Ad-Hoc Weston Apple Orchard Committee. Commissioners Duff, Radtke, and Gihring as the Chairman, volunteered to serve on the committee.

Park & Open Space Plan - Mark Schroeder also thanked Alderman/Commissioner Gallagher and Mayor Wysocki for their support and help in passing the Plan.

Hickory Grove Window Replacement – Phase IV – Review and Recommendation on Contract Award - A total of \$105,000 was budgeted in the 2003 CIP Budget for the window project. Following Council reallocation of monies for the Hickory Grove roof repair project, and review of roof replacement bids, \$71,000 is available for the window replacement project.

Motion by Commissioner Radtke to recommend to the Common Council to award the contract to Ver Halen Pella in the amount of \$70,699, for materials and labor for Phase IV of Window Replacement at Hickory Grove Center. Seconded by Commissioner Gallagher and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The floor was open for nominations for Chairman of the Commission. Commissioner Christel was nominated by Commissioner Gihring and seconded by Commissioner Bedwell. The floor closed for nominations. Upon voting Commissioner Christel was elected Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission by a vote of 6 to 0.

The floor was open for nominations for Vice Chairman of the Commission. Commissioner Gihring was nominated by Commissioner Duff and seconded by Commissioner Gallagher. The floor closed for nominations. Upon voting Commissioner Gihring was elected Vice- Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission by a vote of 6 to 0.

The floor was open for nominations for Secretary of the Commission. Commissioner Duff was nominated by Commissioner Bedwell and seconded by Commissioner Radtke. The floor closed for nominations. Upon voting Commissioner Duff was elected Secretary of the Parks and Recreation Commission by a vote of 6 to 0.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

The Sub-committees only meet when additional research is needed on a project or concern. Committee Appointments – Chairman Christel appointed the following Commissioners to the Park and Recreation Commission Committees:

Plan Committee – Bill Christel, Paul Gihring* and Jim Gradel

Parks and Facilities Committee – Chuck Bedwell*, Paul Gallagher, Larry Kilmer and Vern Radtke

Recreation Committee – Nancy Duff* and Rick Kocchi

(*) indicates chairman

The Golf Course Committee appointments were John Rader (Crown Golf Representative), Chuck Bedwell (Commission Representative), Rush Wilkens (Council Representative), and Mark Schroeder.

NEW BUSINESS: None

NEXT MEETING: June 16th

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Commissioner Duff to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Gihring and carried unanimously.

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

ND/cb