

Park & Recreation Commission



Minutes

NEW BERLIN PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, January 22, 2001

(Amended 2/26/01)*

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Vice-Chairman Paul Gihring at 7:05 p.m. at the Parks and Recreation Office.

Present: Chairman Bill Christel (arrived at 8:15 p.m. – attended the Plan Commission meeting), Commissioners; Chuck Bedwell, Nancy Duff, Paul Gihring, James Gradel, Tony Mescher, Ralph Schroeder, and Council Representative Dave Patzer.

Also Present: Bruce Strege and Darrell Standish of the N.B.A.A., Director of Streets, Parks and Recreation Paul Leuthold and Office Coordinator Cheryl Bowers.

Absent: Rick Kocchi

MINUTES:

Motion by Commissioner Gradel to approve the minutes of the regular Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of November 27, 2000 as amended under the Council Representative Report under the Committee Reports. Seconded by Commissioner Schroeder and carried unanimously with Commissioners Duff and Gihring voting present.

Consensus of Commission to move to the Director's Report to accommodate the visitors.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Representatives from NBAA to discuss summer baseball program – Bruce Strege and Darrell Standish of the New Berlin Athletic Association (NBAA) discussed the board's unhappy response to the Commission's decision to charge the NBAA Select Teams the same fees as the New Berlin Independent Sports Club (NBISC). Mr. Strege stated the NBAA has no intention to compete with the NBISC. The NBAA Select Team is the next level of play and is not as competitive as the NBISC. Consensus of the Commission to have both the NBAA and NBISC present next year to discuss the fees for the 2002 season. The 2001 fees will remain as approved by the Commission.

CORRESPONDENCE:

SEWPRC has completed *A Lake Protection Plan for the Kelly Lakes, Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties, Wisconsin*. The Commission was invited to read the plan. This will enable the Kelly Lake Association to apply for grants from the State for matching funds to purchase the properties necessary to trade land with the City for Kelly Lake Park.

Waukesha Hospital Systems has donated 27 acres of parkland east of Sunny Slope and Fountain Square. This land was donated according to the conditions of the PUD. As part of the agreement, the parkland will be named *ProHealth Care Park* and the construction of the park could be anticipated for the year 2002.

BILLS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The Commission reviewed the November 2000 Expenditure Detail in the amount of \$27,640.03 and the December 2000 Expenditure Detail in the amount of \$33,311.44. They also reviewed

the copies of the November and December Revenues and Expenditures. After a brief discussion, motion by Commissioner Schroeder 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

UPDATES AND CONCERNS:

Koch property acquisition - The City Attorney is handling the negotiations for the acquisition of this parcel which is located between the Johnson Quarry and the Buffalo Farm.

VFW property acquisition - Representatives from the VFW have indicated that they were pleased with the management of their softball complex this past year and would not be interested in discussing City acquisition of these fields at this time.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Snow removal obligations for the Parks Division – Parks Division assumes many snow removal responsibilities. The Parks Division is required to remove snow from the walks and entryways at City Hall, the Library, Hickory Grove Center, Parks Maintenance garage, Public Safety Building, all park roadways and parking lots including New Berlin Hills Golf Course parking lot. Additionally, Parks plows the parking lots at the Fire Stations and the sledding hills at Calhoun Park and Valley View Park–West. After these areas were safe and passable, five ice ponds are cleaned and groomed for ice-skating. Cross-country ski trails are groomed at New Berlin Hills Golf Course, Stigler Nature Preserve and Valley View Park-West. In the City Campus, additional parking lots and walkways were added to the snow removal duties.

During the current winter, Park staff has (temporarily) assumed the responsibility of snow removal from all sidepaths on National Avenue from Calhoun Road to Moorland Road. In 2001 additional sidepaths will be constructed on National Avenue from Moorland Road to 124th Street, as well as along Greenfield Avenue. In anticipation of this action, the City adopted a snow removal ordinance that mandates that residents are responsible for snow removal from the sidepaths in front of their homes. To avoid complaints from citizens required to remove snow from the sidepaths, Mr. Leuthold proposed that the Common Council analyze the following options regarding snow removal from all sidepaths located on National Avenue and Greenfield Avenue:

1. Close these sidepaths during the winter months.
2. Enforce the existing snow removal ordinance.
3. Mandate that the City remove snow along all sidepaths (Casper Drive, Al Stigler Parkway, National Avenue and Greenfield Avenue). This option will require additional expenditures of approximately \$163,300 for equipment and labor. If this option is chosen, the maintenance on the five ice ponds that are used for ice-skating, would be eliminated. The pond rinks could be replaced with one large "land rink" located in Malone Park that could be lighted for night skating.
4. Have the City privately contract for snow removal on sidepaths.

Root River Watercourse Management Plan – The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewage District (MMSD) has identified areas in New Berlin for retention and detention ponds. One area in New Berlin considered for the ponds is New Berlin Hills Golf Course. The City and MMSD will be

working together on this storm water management plan.

*Proposal from Northern Environmental regarding the Jaeger Quarry - The Jaeger Quarry was located on Coffee Road in the area of the new proposed golf course. Northern Environmental has prepared a *Proposal Preliminary Site Evaluation* and soil boring samples. Some areas of this site will need to be capped as in Barrett Landfill and once capped, the membrane cannot be penetrated. Some areas have buried concrete and some areas are wetlands. Inquiries are being made with the DNR to determine if these areas must remain wetlands. Additional testing and monitoring could cost approximately \$26,000. Mr. Leuthold will keep the Commission informed with additional updates.

2001 – 2002 ice skating rink recommendations – The five ice ponds have been difficult to maintain for ice-skating. The ponds have trouble freezing solid and both Parks crews and equipment have fallen through the ice. Staff has recommended abandoning the ponds for ice-skating and creating a man-made rink at Malone. The rink would be located in and half the size of the picnic parking lot with flood lights installed for night skating. The remainder of the parking lot could be used for parking. This location is near the wooded picnic shelter that could be used as a warming shelter with small space heaters, restrooms, and a small concession stand.

Motion by Commissioner Schroeder for Mr. Leuthold to bring a cost and plan proposal for the Malone Park ice-skating rink to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Duff and carried unanimously.

2001 New Berlin Hills Golf Course Greens Fees Update – The Common Council approved the 2001 Greens Fees with the exception of the Senior/Junior rates. The Council changed the Senior/Junior resident ; 18 hole rate from \$14.50 to \$14.00, the 9 hole rate to \$9.00 and the 9 hole Senior/Junior nonresident rate to \$11.00.

Park and Open Space Plan Update – The Commission was distributed the staff recommendations for the improvements to the parks to be included in the Park and Open Space Plan. The Commission was asked to review these recommendations which would be discussed at a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Commissioner Schroeder to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Gradel and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Bowers for

Tony Mescher, Secretary
Parks and Recreation Commission

TM/cb

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