

Park & Recreation Commission



Minutes

NEW BERLIN PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, May 21, 2001

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairman Bill Christel at 7:02 p.m. at the Parks and Recreation Office.

Present: Chairman Bill Christel, Commissioners; Chuck Bedwell, Nancy Duff, Paul Gihring, James Gradel, Rick Kocchi, Tony Mescher and Council Representative Paul Gallagher.

Also Present: Robbie Robinson and Nancy Anderson of SEWRPC, Director of Streets, Parks and Recreation Paul Leuthold and Office Coordinator Cheryl Bowers.

Absent: Larry Kilmer

MINUTES:

Motion by Commissioner Paul Gihring to approve the minutes of the regular Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of April 23, 2001 as amended under the Update on Communication Tower RFP of the Director's Report. Seconded by Commissioner Rick Kocchi and carried unanimously with Commissioner Gallagher voting present.

BY-LAWS:

The Plan Commission and the State Statues no longer require the Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission to serve on the Plan Commission. Motion by Commissioner Duff to support the change of Article II – Duties of Officers of the Parks and Recreation Commission Procedural By-Laws to state "The Chairman shall recommend to the Mayor's Office a designated member of the Parks & Recreation Commission to serve on the City Plan Commission. This appointed member shall also serve on the Commission's Plan Committee." Seconded by Commissioner Mescher and carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Consensus of the Commissioners to move to the update on the Park and Open Space Plan by SEWRPC (Chapter IV) of the Director's Report to accommodate Robbie Robinson and Nancy Anderson of SEWRPC.

Robbie Robinson of SEWRPC reviewed Chapter IV – Framework for Plan Development. Recommendations that would be implemented were discussed with the Commission. SEWRPC and the Commission discussed if the parkland not acquired in the current Park Plan should be; moved to another area, eliminated, or included in the 2010 Plan. Additional parkland for the east side of the City and the possibility of a City pool were also considered for the 2010 Plan.

Consensus of the Commissioners for the Plan Committee to meet to review the entire Park and Open Space Plan and report back to the full Commission to discuss their recommendations. Mr. Leuthold will forward any Commission questions to SEWRPC. SEWRPC is working on one last chapter that will be presented to the Commission. The remaining Summary has a target time in September or October. The Commission will be able to review the plan in November with SEWRPC. After the Commission approval, the plan will be sent to the Plan Commission for review, a public informational meeting will be held, and then it will be presented to the Common Council for final approval.

ELECTIONS:

The floor was open for nominations for Chairman of the Commission. Commissioner Christel was nominated by Commissioner Duff and seconded by Commissioner Gradel. Commissioner Gihring was nominated by Commissioner Gallagher and seconded by Commissioner Mescher. The floor closed for nominations. Upon voting Commissioner Christel was elected Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission by a vote of 5 to 3.

The floor was open for nominations for Vice Chairman of the Commission. Commissioner Gihring was nominated by Commissioner Gallagher and seconded by Jim Gradel. The floor closed for nominations. Upon voting Commissioner Gihring was elected Vice- Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission by a vote of 8 to 0.

The floor was open for nominations for Secretary of the Commission. Commissioner Mescher was nominated by Commissioner Gihring and seconded by Commissioner Duff. The floor closed for nominations. Upon voting Commissioner Mescher was elected Secretary of the Parks and Recreation Commission by a vote of 8 to 0.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

The committees only meet when additional research is needed on a project or concern. The following are Chairman Christel's new appointments to the committees:

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

Parks and Facilities Committee - Chuck Bedwell*, Paul Gallagher, and Larry Kilmer

Recreation Committee - Tony Mescher, Nancy Duff*, and Rick Kocchi

Golf Course Committee – Pat Clark, Ray McInerney, Rush Wilkins, Charles Bedwell, and Dir. of Streets, Parks & Rec.

(*) indicates chairman

Chairman Christel will recommend to the Mayor's Office the appointment of Paul Gihring as the Parks and Recreation Commission representative to the City Plan Commission.

Motion by Commissioner Mescher to approve the Chairman's Committee appointments and designate to the Plan Commission. Seconded by Nancy Duff and carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

BILLS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The Commission reviewed the April 2001 Expenditure Detail in the amount of \$54,814.91. They also reviewed the copies of the April Revenues and Expenditures. After a brief discussion, motion by Commissioner Kocchi to approve these 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 welcomed Alderman Gallagher to the Commission. The Commission was informed on current items the Plan Commission is working on. There are several communication towers proposed in various locations in the City, one is proposed at Eisenhower

High School.

UPDATES AND CONCERNS:

Update on Park and Open Space Plan – Motion by Commissioner Kocchi for the Plan Committee to meet and review the proposed Park and Open Space Plan and report back to the Commission with their recommendations. Seconded by Commissioner Duff and carried unanimously.

Update on Playground Construction at High Grove Park – Currently the playground area is being installed. The park development should be completed by the Fall of 2001.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Letter from NB Ecology Association requesting a study of the impacts that the well will have on Johnson Quarry Park –

The Ecology Association is concerned about placing the proposed well in Johnson Quarry Park and the effects it will have on the conservancy of the wetlands. The Commission was concerned that it will be forced to build the park around the well and the effect the well will have on the two existing lakes.

Consensus of the Commission for the Engineering Dept. to attend a future Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to answer the Commissioners questions, such as; the impact the well will have on the park, the effect on the water levels of the lakes, and the reason the well must placed in the park.

Request by Chain Reactions, Inc. to sell discs (Frisbees) at Valley View Park Disc Golf Course – Chain Reactions, Inc. is requesting permission to sell discs at the Valley View Park Disc Golf Course. Motion by Commissioner Gihring for a probation approval for Chain Reactions, Inc. to sell discs at the Valley View Park Disc Golf Course until December 31, 2001. Seconded by Commissioner Duff and carried with Commissioner Gallagher voting no.

Request by New Berlin Senior Citizens' Club to contract with EBSCO Industries for magazines and rack – The Senior Citizens' Club Board of Directors approved to contract with EBSCO Industries to display magazines at the Center and is seeking the Commissions approval. Motion by Commissioner Mescher to support the Senior Citizens' Club Board of Directors' request to contract with EBSCO Industries to display magazines and rack at the New Berlin Senior Citizens' Center. Seconded by Commissioner Kocchi and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Christel thanked Mr. Leuthold or his years of service to New Berlin and the progress made with his great efforts in Parks and Recreation. Motion by Commissioner Gallagher to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Mescher and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Bowers for Tony Mescher, Secretary Parks and Recreation Commission

TM/cb

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City of New Berlin

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