

Park & Recreation Commission



Minutes

NEW BERLIN PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, July 23, 2001

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Vice-Chairman Paul Gihring at 7:01 p.m. at the Parks and Recreation Office.

Present: Commissioners; Chuck Bedwell, Paul Gihring, James Gradel, Larry Kilmer, Tony Mescher, and Council Representative Paul Gallagher.

Also Present: Mayor Ted Wysocki, Alderman Paul Scheuble, Civil War Re-enactors Terry Lipchow and Tim Herrick, Library Director Katie Schultz, New Berlin Historical Society Representatives Roy Meidenbauer and Vera Stroud, Director of Streets, Parks and Recreation Mark Schroeder, and Office Coordinator Cheryl Bowers.

Excused: Bill Christel and Nancy Duff

Absent: Rick Kocchi

On behalf of the Commission, Vice-Chairman Gihring welcomed the new Streets, Parks and Recreation Director Mark Schroeder. Mr. Schroeder worked for the Village of Germantown for the past 17 years and is looking forward to the new challenges in New Berlin. He will officially start with the City on Wednesday, July 25, 2001. Vice-Chairman Gihring also welcomed Commissioner Kilmer to his first meeting.

MINUTES:

Motion by Commissioner Bedwell to approve the minutes of the regular Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of June 25, 2001. Seconded by Commissioner Gradel and carried unanimously with Commissioners Kilmer and Mescher voting present.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

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

Terry Lipchow and Tim Herrick from the Civil War reenactment Group suggested the Commission establish a volunteer committee to organize and run the event. Consensus of the Commission for the Parks & Facilities subcommittee to meet and create the makeup of the event committee which will report to the Parks & Facilities subcommittee.

The event will take place on Memorial Day weekend starting on Friday to encourage school children to attend. The reenactment group will have an encampment. This will allow the attendees to ask questions and have an up-close view of the soldiers and army life. There are plans also for a twilight cannon battle.

In November, Mr. Lipchow and Mr. Herrick will advise the Parks & Facilities subcommittee of the fees. The Mayor suggested the event committee duties include finding sponsors so the event can be free of charge.

Library Director Katie Schultz presented the Commission with the Library Board plans for the new library. The library will remain at the current site and the existing building will remain as will the pond and prairie areas. The RFPs will be sent out for the 48,000 square foot planned building which is planned for two stories.

The Library Board will be working with Ecology Association, the Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Historical Society. A committee consisting of representatives from Community Development, Inspection, and the Common Council will follow the construction process. The plans for the existing building may include a youth center, recreation center, and or theater/community center.

New Berlin Historical Society President Roy Meidenbauer informed the Commission the funds have been raised to move the Youmans' house and it will be moved in the early morning on October 21st. The chimney needs to be cut down to pass under the electrical wires. There are plans for an exposed basement for use by the Historical Society for meetings and workshops. Mr. Meidenbauer asked the Commission if it would be possible for the City to dig the basement for the Youmans' house. Consensus of the Commission for the digging of the basement to be the responsibility of the Historical Society. Mr. Meidenbauer thanked the Commission for their time and complimented Park Supervisor Dave Jeske for the great job on maintaining Historic Park especially during the open houses.

Mary Fennig represented the neighbors adjacent to Valley View Park and presented their concerns to the Commission regarding the disc golf course. There have been behavior problems such as: urination on private property, alcohol consumption, and offensive language. Park goers using the trails are being verbally threatened by the disc golf players and are unable to use the trails.

The Fennigs met with the Mayor prior to the Commission meeting and outlined viable solutions to these problems such as; closing at dusk to eliminate the noise, moving the three disc golf tees/baskets that create the majority of the problems, increase the presence of police in the park, assign Parks and Recreation employees to monitor the patrons, establish a fee for using the disc golf course.

Consensus of the Commission for Mr. Schroeder to tour the area and recommend possible relocation of the three disc golf tees/baskets.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Curtis Gaska has requested bike racks be placed in Biber, Valley View and Weatherstone Parks. Mr. Jeske reported it would cost approximately \$3,500 to install bike racks in all the City Parks.

Motion by Commissioner Gradel to install permanently cemented bike racks in all the parks over the next few years. Seconded by Commissioner Kilmer and carried unanimously.

BILLS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The Commission reviewed the June 2001 Expenditure Detail in the amount of \$31,452.86. They also reviewed the copies of the June Revenues and Expenditures. After a brief discussion, motion by Commissioner Gradel to approve these financial documents. Seconded by Commissioner Bedwell 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:

Commissioner Gihring informed the Commission on current items the Plan Commission is working on. The Commission and the Community Development Department is working overtime

to complete the Zoning Ordinance.

UPDATES AND CONCERNS: None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

The Plan Committee will be meeting on July 30, 2001 to discuss the Park and Open Space Plan.

Victor Hill would like to donate his property at Lot 56 in Linnie Lac Subdivision to the City. Mayor Wysocki received correspondence from Mr. Hill and has forward it to the City Attorney. It is a small lot (50 x 125.5) that is in a floodplain. The property also pays taxes to the Linnie Lac Lake District.

Motion by Commissioner Mescher to request that City Attorney Reilly inform Mr. Hill the Parks and Recreation Commission is not interested in Lot 56 in Linnie Lac Subdivision as parkland. Seconded by Commissioner Gradel and carried unanimously.

Mr. Jeske reported that the New Hope Community Church did not cause any damage to Valley View Park with their pony rides.

NEW BUSINESS: None

NEXT MEETING: August 27, 2001

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Commissioner Mescher to adjourn at 8:50 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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City of New Berlin

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