

Park & Recreation Commission



Minutes

PARKS & FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Tuesday December 4, 2001

The Parks and Facilities Committee meeting was called to order by Chuck Bedwell at 6:37 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Present: Chuck Bedwell, Larry Kilmer, and Council Representative Paul Gallagher.

Also Present: Bill Christel, Nancy Duff, James Gradel, Director of Streets, Parks and Recreation Mark Schroeder, Clerk/Typist Lori Schulpius, and Brian Lennie from Bonestroo, Rosene, Anderlik, and Associates.

Excused: Rick Kocchi

WELCOME/INTRODUCTION:

Chuck Bedwell gave a brief introduction and a welcome to the citizens.

HISTORY OF PARK PROJECT & REVIEW OF MASTER PLANNING PROCESS:

Mark Schroeder, Director of Streets, Parks and Recreation gave a history on the Pro-Health Care site. In 1995 this site was looked at by the Parks & Recreation Commission in the Park and Open Space Plan to be a neighborhood park. A neighborhood park is 25 acres or less and has a service area of 1 mile. The two things the Commission tries to accomplish is to improve the natural resource base and to provide recreational opportunities. In 1996, preliminary research was done on this site. In 1999, the City negotiated with Pro-Health Care to donate the land, and in 2000 the area was acquired by the City.

PRESENTATION & OVERVIEW OF PRO-HEALTH CARE PARK MASTER PLAN:

Brian Lennie from Bonestroo, Rosene, Anderlik & Associates gave an overview of the park site. They had to look at a couple of things when designing the park: permits for the wetlands and the floodplains, design & construction for possible 2002/ 2003 completion of the park, and surveyors to do a wetland delineation and mapping of the site. Once these are decided, there are three phases; grading, the features installed in the park, and a shelter building erected. Bonestroo, Rosene, Anderlik & Associates are looking at completing the design in the spring and beginning construction in the summer of 2002.

COMMUNITY INPUT:

There were several comments by the citizens of New Berlin, they are as follows:

- Leave the area as is for wildlife.
- What about the maintenance and safety for the area?
- If developed what about the litter, vandalism, and unleashed dogs and finally if this is a neighborhood park, why do we need a pavilion or a parking lot?
- Need athletic fields - 1200 kids in the soccer program and 1300 in the baseball program.

Would have about 75 to 100 kids a week use the fields. Would use the fields for practice only, not games.

- Diamonds would be used for practice.
- Actively used.
- The more people using the parks the safer it is.
- Have to think of the retired people.
- Would like trails for hiking.
- Check to see if walkways can be put in to connect subdivision.
- The geese are a problem with the ponds.
- Make an access walkway from the senior living to the park.
- Surveyed people around the area and they do not want athletic fields.
- There will be more traffic and more noise.
- Put in an artificial putting green.
- Walking paths, asphalt or wood chips.
- Cross country skiing.
- Put in gardens instead of basketball courts.
- Put in a band shell.
- The park would be good for special education kids.

E-mails received:

- Parking spaces would depend on what goes in the park.
- Time the park would be open (from 8:00 AM – 9:00 PM)?
- Traffic pattern – Contacted the Police Dept to see if traffic would be a problem, have not responded yet.
- Will be no lights and no bleachers.

KEY POINTS:

Refine the map (Over the next month).

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

The next meeting for Parks & Facilities Committee is scheduled for Jan 9th in the Council Chambers. Then the Plan will go to the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting which is scheduled for Jan 28th in the Parks & Recreation Dept, at this time the Commission hopes to have an approved plan. Then it would go to the Plan Commission for site plan approval. At that time the Parks and Recreation Department will prepare design plans and construction documents.

NEXT MEETING:

January 9, 2002 in the Council Chambers

ADJOURNMENT:

Adjourned at 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by Lori Schulpus for Chuck Bedwell

CB/ls

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City of New Berlin

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