



# Park & Recreation Commission



## Minutes

### New Berlin Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Monday, January 25, 1999

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairman Bill Christel at 7:12 p.m. at the Parks and Recreation Office.

Present: Chairman Bill Christel, Commissioners; Jim Blake, Paul Gihring, Tony Mescher, Michael Porter, and Ralph Schroeder

Also Present: Jeffrey Thornton of SEWRPC, Director of Parks and Recreation Paul Leuthold, and Office Coordinator Cheryl Bowers.

Excused: Council Representative Dave Patzer

Absent: Gregg Hallberg and Peter Piotrowski

#### MINUTES:

Motion by Paul Gihring to approve the minutes of the regular Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of December 21, 1999. Seconded by Jim Blake and carried unanimously with Tony Mescher and Mike Porter voting present.

Consensus of Commissioners to move to Director's Report to accommodate guests.

#### DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

A. Presentation by Jeff Thornton of Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission regarding the Preservation Plan for Kelly Lake - Jeff Thornton presented the Commission with the recommended Lake Management Plan for Kelly Lakes, Kelly Lakes Park Conceptual Development Plan, and the Recommended Protection Plan Elements for Kelly Lakes. Mr. Thornton has met with Mike Casio to discuss these plans and the Storm Water Management plans now being prepared by the City of New Berlin Department of Public Works. The Kelly Lake Association agrees with the concept of these plans but has not yet actually seen or approved these particular plans.

Mr Thornton reported that the interest of the Kelly Lake Association is for the City to trade the current Kelly Lake Park for three parcels north of the existing park for storm water management. The Association is looking into acquisition of these parcels through grants. The property owners are aware of the interest to purchase but negotiations have not been made to acquire the parcels. The existing Kelly Lake Park would be used as a wetland cleansing basin for water quality protection. The Association would like to see the reconnection between upper and lower Kelly Lakes. The parcels that would be the new park area (one parcel is in a flood plain and is unbuildable) could be used as educational areas with pedestrian and bike trails. There is also an Outlot to Woodfield Park that could serve as a trail linkage. Woodfield Park is interested in the concept of the development plan. There would be cost sharing for these plans between the City of New Berlin and the Kelly Lake Association for Storm Water Management in an effort to maintain quality runoff into Kelly Lake. The Association is hopeful there may be grants available for their portion of the costs but no other means of cost sharing have been discussed.

Mr. Leuthold stated the fishing pier grant from the DNR may not be in jeopardy if it is not installed immediately, however, the DNR is reluctant to issue other grants to municipalities that have outstanding grants.

The Commission discussed their concern of the plan to develop the current Kelly Park in the very near future for public access to the Lake. They were also concerned about the Associations availability to acquire funds for their portion of the cost sharing grants. Mr. Thornton recommended the Association could become a Lake District and thereby be allowed to tax. Motion by Tony Mescher to end debate and approved by unanimous consent. Mr. Christel thanked Mr. Thornton for his presentation.

**Motion by Ralph Schroeder to hold off on the park development and the installation of the fishing pier at Kelly Lake Park until the year 2000. Seconded by Mike Porter and carried unanimously.**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Mr. Leuthold informed the Commissioners that Betty Strege has resigned from the NBAA and has been a Board Member for the last 19 years and President for the past 10 years. The Commissioners expressed their gratitude for all her years of service to the NBAA and asked Mr. Leuthold to contact the NBAA on their plans for a gift.

#### **BILLS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

The Commission reviewed the December 1998 Expenditure Detail in the amount of \$26,560.96. They also reviewed the copies of the December Revenues and Expenditures. Mr. Leuthold explained that the department was overspent by 1.1% of the approved budget due to such items as; vandalism in the parks, the summer storms, and the Program Specialist position going from part-time to full-time, however, the revenues were greater than the projected the budget amount. After a brief discussion, motion by Tony Mescher to approve these financial documents. Seconded by Jim Blake and carried unanimously.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Council Representative - Bill Christel stated that Alderman Patzer is very interested in supporting another golf course for New Berlin and will discuss this a future meeting.

Recreation Program Committee - None

Parks and Facilities Committee - None

Planning Committee - None

Golf Course Committee - None

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Bill Christel stated that the Plan Commission discussed a loan from the Trail Fees account, on a temporary basis, to pay for the contract for the Master Plan in the amount of \$37,000. Three properties now being discussed at the Plan Commission that may effect the Parks and Recreation Commission are 166<sup>th</sup> & Coffee - The Preserves, 139<sup>th</sup> & National - Medical Clinic, and 179<sup>th</sup> & National - Land Division.

#### **UPDATES AND CONCERNS:**

A. Golf Course Clubhouse - This project is proceeding a bit behind schedule. The relatively mild weather of late has allowed the installation of a roof so now rough electric may be installed. All furniture, paint colors and carpeting have been decided.

B. Shelter/restroom Replacement at Malone Park - Progress is consistent. Interior work is now being completed.

C. Johnson Quarry - Another meeting was held on January 6 with representatives of Johnson Quarry and Graef, Anhalt, Schloemer Engineering. Johnson is now amending their reclamation plan to meet the proposed park plan. The City Attorney is working on the offer to purchase.

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

A. Presentation by Jeff Thornton of Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission regarding the Preservation Plan for Kelly Lake - Discussed earlier.

B. Progress on Renegotiated Lease with Crown Golf Properties LP for the Management of New Berlin Hills Golf Course - The draft of the City response to Crown Golf's request for renegotiations of the Golf Course Lease was distributed to the Commissioners.

1. Lessee will have option for one additional five year period.
2. Lessee agrees to allow and manage public rental of clubhouse during the non-golf season.
3. Lessee shall complete CIP totaling approximately \$525,000.

4. The Lessee's general combined single liability limits will be increased to not less than \$5 million.

Other potential changes may include maintenance enhancements, customer service enhancements, and the memorial tree program. A meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss the draft form.

C. Draft Copy of Off-Season Use Program for New Berlin Hills Golf Course - There has been interest in the rental use of the new golf course clubhouse for Christmas parties, family reunions, trade seminars, weddings, etc. Motion by Jim Blake to support the concept of Crown Golf to operate the off season rental of the clubhouse with a 50/50 split of the profits. Seconded by Ralph Schroeder and carried unanimously.

D. Contract with Edwards and Kelcey (Consulting) for the Preparation of Bid Documents for the Development of a Neighborhood Park in High Grove Subdivision - The contract has been received for the preparation of the bid documents for High Grove. This contract will be forwarded to the City Attorney for his review. Motion by Tony Mescher to forward the contract to the City Attorney for review. Seconded by Ralph Schroeder and carried unanimously.

E. Potential Acquisition of Barrett Landfill for Park Purposes - The DNR will be issuing bids for capping of the landfill. The Landfill will be graded, a fabric laid, and vent caps will be exposed. The private wells in the area have been tested safe and the ground water will continue to be monitored. The DNR is scheduled to go before the Plan Commission on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Parks and Recreation now has the opportunity to acquire these 40 acres for park use. Once the land is graded the fabric can not be penetrated, so no additional grading may be done or trees planted. The area could be used as a dog park or just left as open space or prairie land.

Brownsfield Grants maybe available for the \$4 million capping project and leveling of the hills. The private wells must continue to be monitored. The Commissioners were very concerned about the liability issue of the materials dumped at the site and the responsibility of monitoring the existing and future private wells in the area. Consensus of the Commissioners to abandon the opportunity of acquiring Barrett Landfill for park purposes if any liabilities or cost are involved to obtain the property.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Goose Dropping Problems in Parks - Ralph Schroeder expressed his disgust with the goose droppings in the parks especially at Lions Park. Jim Blake attended a DNR meeting approximately two years ago to discuss the goose dropping problems. Groups and individuals from parks to animal activists were present. At that time, New Berlin Parks Supervisor David Jeske stated there was not a great problem in our parks. Mr. Blake stated there were several suggestions at this meeting on how to manage the geese such as; ordinances to prohibit feeding of the geese, spray the lawns with smells offensive to the geese, place dogs on the golf course, destroy the goose eggs, hunting, birth control, and planting high grass (50 ft. - 100 ft.) around the ponds. Consensus of the Commissioners for Mr. Leuthold and Mr. Blake to research this issue further and to update the Commission at a future meeting.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Ralph Schroeder to adjourn at 10:05 p.m. Seconded by Tony Mescher and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Blake, Secretary  
Parks and Recreation Commission

JEB/cb

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