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Park & Recreation Commission

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Minutes

NEW BERLIN PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, February 22, 1999

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairman Bill Christel at 7:00 p.m. at the Parks and Recreation Office.

Present: Chairman Bill Christel, Commissioners; Jim Blake, Paul Gihring, Gregg Hallberg, Tony Mescher, and Council Representative Dave Patzer.

Also Present: Mayor Jim Gatzke, Director of Parks and Recreation Paul Leuthold and Office Coordinator Cheryl Bowers.

Excused: Michael Porter and Ralph Schroeder

Absent: Peter Piotrowski

MINUTES:

Motion by Jim Blake to approve the minutes of the regular Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of January 25, 1999. Seconded by Paul Gihring and carried unanimously with Alderman Patzer and Gregg Hallberg voting present.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Commissioners received the final 1998 Public Sites and Open Space Account report which reflected the balance \$1,061,814.67. This report also detailed the revenues and expenses for the past year.

Mr. Leuthold reported that Mary Berg, the department Program Specialist, has created both an Aquatics and Gymnastics Staff Handbook for seasonal employees. The Commissioners commented on a job well done.

At the last Commission meeting, it was requested that Mr. Leuthold report on the proposed Green Acres Golf and Condominium project located on Howard Avenue. There will be a trail from National Avenue south to Eisenhower High School along the 115 acre Kasian development. The preliminary plan has been approved by both the Plan Commission and the DNR.

The Commissioners were distributed a copy of the 1998 New Berlin Historical Society Year in Review. The Society reported on their activities from last year including be awarded the Rueben Gold Thwaites trophy by the State of Wisconsin Historical Society for outstanding historical services in developing the Historical Park and preserving New Berlin history for the past 33 years.

BILLS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The Commission reviewed the January 1999 Expenditure Detail in the amount of \$3,725.20. They also reviewed the copies of the January Revenues and Expenditures. After a brief discussion, motion by Alderman Dave Patzer to approve these financial documents. Seconded by Tony Mescher and carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Council Representative - Alderman Patzer reported his goal for 1999 was for a new golf course to be developed on the westside of New Berlin. This would provide an alternative revenue source. A sub-committee could be created to look into the proposed golf course. There is land available near Coffee Road, Swartz Road, and Racine Avenue totaling approximately 155 acres with additional adjacent property available. This area would provide land needed for a golf course and green space.

The idea of a second City owned golf course has been discussed with Pat Clark, the manager of the New Berlin Hills Golf Course, and he confirmed there is a market for additional golf courses in Waukesha County. Motion by Jim Blake for the Golf Course Committee to meet and decide the feasibility on the acquisition of Coffee Road, Swartz Road, Racine Avenue property for an additional City owned golf course. Seconded by Gregg Hallberg and carried unanimously.

Recreation Program Committee – None

Parks and Facilities Committee - None

Planning Committee - None

Golf Course Committee - The scheduled meeting was canceled due to Crown Golf deciding not to renegotiate the lease at this time. Consensus of the Commission for Mr. Leuthold to negotiate with Crown Golf to operate the new Clubhouse during the winter months.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

The New Berlin School District invoice which was unpaid has been analyzed by Recreation Supervisor Jon Stolz and the disputed amounts discussed with the School District. These negotiations should end the dispute. Mr. Christel thanked Jon Stolz for his efforts.

A review committee has been formed to study the City Growth and Development Management Plans. A current issue that has concern in Aldermen Ted Wysocki's district is the vacant property on Moorland Road. His constituents would like the industrial park to remain on the west side of Moorland Road. This is a hot issue and one the Growth and Development Committee would discuss.

A possible buyer may have been found for the empty Jumbo Sports building. It would be a customer support office. Alderman Patzer expressed the possibility of the City purchasing the building for a new library.

A petition from a group of students requesting the City create a public skate park was presented to the Commission. The park should contain areas for rollerblading and bikes. Mr. Leuthold was asked to research the request and report at a future meeting.

UPDATES AND CONCERNS:

A Golf Course Clubhouse - Good weather has made up approximately 3-4 days. Exterior painting is being completed and there is significant progress on the interior. The carpeting and furniture has been ordered.

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

C. Johnson Quarry - Bob Johnson amended their reclamation Plan and accepted the plan submitted by Graef, Anhalt, Schloemer Engineering. The City Attorney is preparing an offer-to -purchase which will be submitted to Bob Johnson. A grant for one-half the acquisition cost of the Central Ready Mixed Concrete property will again be submitted in May. The land use plan was reviewed with the Commissioners.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

A. Proposal by Pflum, Klausmeier & Gehrum Consultants, Inc. to complete a new Park and Open Space Plan in coordination with the completion of the City Master Plan - The Consultants sent a copy of the Parks and Open Space Plan they conducted for the City of Brunswick, Indiana. They would tailor the Plan to New Berlin's needs and will contact Mr. Leuthold regarding the costs involved to complete the update to the Parks and Open Space Plan.

B. Request to sell a portion of Prospect Parkway to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the purpose of expanding Greenfield Avenue - The sale of this portion of the parkway will have little or no impact on the parkway. The revenue obtained from the sale would be \$6,300. Consensus of the Commission for Mr. Leuthold to contact the DOT and request additional funds and the revenue to be placed into the Park Reserve account to improve the parkway and bridge. Motion by Paul Gihring for Paul Leuthold to obtain the best negotiated price for the sale of the .04 acres and general construction easement of .07 acres of the parkway and to request the Council to allow the funds to be placed in the Park Reserve account (instead of the General Fund) to offset the cost to replace the bridge in the parkway. Seconded by Alderman Dave Patzer and carried unanimously.

C. Update on meeting with School Officials regarding cost for school usage - Jon Stolz has been working with Tony Goedheer and Mike Porter to reconcile the 1997 invoice from the School District for use of the school facilities. The Custodial fees are now in agreement however, the hours charged remain in dispute. The Commission will be updated on the progress next month.

D. Goose problems in park areas - Jim Blake reported the first step to combat the geese problem would be to post "DO NOT FEED THE GEESE" signs at the ponds. People may not be aware of the problem feeding geese cause at the ponds. In conjunction with posting the signs, an article should be placed in the *New Berlin Citizen* and the Media contacted to inform people of the goose dropping problems. Consensus for Mr. Leuthold to bring samples of the signs and an article to the next meeting and to research if a grant may be obtained to purchase the signs,.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

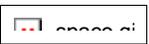
Motion by Tony Mescher to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. Seconded by Gregg Hallberg and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Blake, Secretary
Parks and Recreation Commission

JEB/cb

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City of New Berlin

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