

NEW BERLIN PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, August 30, 1999

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairman Bill Christel at 7:08 p.m. at the Parks and Recreation Office.

Present: Chairman Bill Christel, Commissioners; Chuck Bedwell, Paul Gihring, Gregg Hallberg, Rick Kocchi, Tony Mescher, and Ralph Schroeder.

Also Present: Alderman Tom Bullermann, Alderman Paul Lincoln Scheuble, Director of Parks and Recreation Paul Leuthold and Office Coordinator Cheryl Bowers.

Excused: Council Representative Dave Patzer

Absent: Peter Piotrowski

Welcome by Paul Leuthold to Rick Kocchi who is replacing retiring School Representative to the Commission, Mike Porter.

The recognition of former Parks and Recreation Commissioner Ron Pierce has been postponed until the September meeting.

MINUTES:

Motion by Paul Gihring to approve the minutes of the regular Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of June 28, 1999. Seconded by Chuck Bedwell and carried unanimously with Rick Kocchi voting present.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Cynthia Klugiewicz of 14730 West Mayflower Drive sent a communication to City Clerk Bowers requesting a new playground structure in Regal Park. She was informed that the Parks and Recreation Commission has placed the playground equipment at a very high priority on the capital improvement projects for the year 2000. This recommendation has been sent to the Mayor for review during the 2000 Budget process. Ms. Klugiewicz has requested a playground apparatus similar to the one in a Milwaukee County Park in Hales Corners. This apparatus with rubber matting would cost approximately \$45,000. However, the apparatus that would be purchased would be similar to the ones in Weatherstone Park, Biwer Park, and Hickory Grove Center at the approximate cost of \$18,000. This equipment is safe, has an abundance of play value, meets all Consumer Product Safety Commission Requirements, is ADA accessible and fits within the City's budget parameters.

Kareen Pozza of 325 Estberg Avenue, Waukesha has requested a full refund for her use of the Malone Park picnic shelter on Saturday, July 10, 1999. Ms. Pozza contended that the shelter was dirty and there was no available electricity at the site. The maintenance staff reported the site was clean and the electricity failed due to overloading of a circuit and the subsequent tripping of an electrical breaker. When this occurred, Ms. Pozza should have contact the New Berlin Police Department as stated on the picnic permit and a park worker would have been called out to correct the problem. Ms. Pozza did use the electricity at the other picnic shelter.

Motion by Paul Gihring to deny the Pozza request for a total refund for the picnic on Saturday, July 10, 1999. Seconded by Ralph Schroeder and carried unanimously.

SEWPRC would be able to update the Park and Open Space Plan in late 2000 and it would be completed in approximately six months. The cost to prepare and publish 100 copies of the report documenting the plan update would be \$5,000.

Motion by Ralph Schroeder to direct Mr. Leuthold to contract with SEWPRC to complete the Park and Open Space Plan and to inquire if the start date could be prior to late 2000. Seconded Paul Gihring and carried unanimously.

Jim Windorff of northwestern New Berlin contacted Alderman Patzer inquiring if the bike plan could be implemented prior to 2009. Consensus of Commissioners for Mr. Leuthold to contact Mr. McGavic to inquire if he is interested in selling property or an easement to the City to establish a bike path. Mr. Leuthold was also directed to contract the State of Wisconsin to inquire if a bike bath is going to be constructed along Greenfield Avenue and the Alternative Transportation Committee should be copied on all correspondence.

The Commissioners were asked to mark their calendars for the Annual Boards and Commissions Appreciation Dinner which is scheduled for Saturday, January 22, 2000.

The Commissioners were distributed the attendance reports of the Commissioners for the past several years as requested from the June meeting. The report reflected which Commissioners were absent or excused from Parks and Recreation Commission meetings.

The City Campus Open House is scheduled for Thursday, September 2nd from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. All Commissioners and their families were invited to attend.

BILLS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The Commission reviewed the June 1999 Expenditure Detail in the amount of \$59,107.71. They also reviewed the copies of the June Revenues and Expenditures. The Commission reviewed the July 1999 Expenditure Detail in the amount of \$34,699.74. They also reviewed the copies of the July Revenues and Expenditures. After a brief discussion, motion by Tony Mescher to approve these financial documents. Seconded by Gregg Hallberg and carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Council Representative - None

Recreation Program Committee - None

Parks and Facilities Committee - None

Planning Committee - None

Golf Course Committee - None

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Bill Christel reported the Alternative Transportation Committee has completed a draft 2010 Plan.

The nine recommended ideas for the Commercial City Center Plan was presented to the Plan Commission. The consultants and information on the City Center will be available to the public on Monday, September 27th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. prior to the Public Hearing and the Plan Commission Meeting scheduled for that same evening.

UPDATES AND CONCERNS:

Maple Ridge neighborhood Park development - Progress on this project has been very good. The turf has been established and the basketball court constructed. The shelter, playground apparatus and baseball backstop will be installed in Spring 2000.

Contract for heating system conversion at Hickory Grove Center - Progress on this project has been very good and is nearing completion.

Bridge Replacement at Prospect Parkway - Students from the School of Engineering at MSOE analyzed various bridge options and we have now ordered a replacement bridge. The bridge should arrive in 6-8 weeks and the students will assist the Parks Staff with this erection.

Park Development in High Grove subdivision - Bids for the first phase of this project (grading, seeding, mulching, asphalt work) were scheduled to be opened on June 24 but there were no bidders. The project timing has been modified and re-bid. The bid opening is now scheduled for September 7, 1999.

Pond Acquisition at Westridge - A representative from WISPARK has been contacted and indicated that they would be willing to donate the pond to the City for park use.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

A. Park and Open Space Plan Update - UW Extension was going to complete a survey to mail to residents and compile the survey results. Mr. Leuthold will contact UW to inquire on the status of the survey.

B. Request to obtain Weston's Antique Apple Orchard - The Foundation has been legally formed and would operate and maintain the orchard while the City would be responsible for maintaining the buildings and grounds.

Motion by Tony Mescher for the Parks and Facilities Committee to meet with Ken Weston and the Antique Apple Orchard Foundation to discuss the possible donation of the property to the City as Historic parkland. Seconded by Paul Gihring and carried unanimously.

C. 2000 Operations and Capital Improvement Budgets - The department budgets have been reviewed with the Mayor and the Commissioners were advised of the executive budget cuts. The Commissioners participated in an emotional lengthy discussion of the executive budget presenting the department maintaining the school grounds after the Commission recommended against this practice.

Motion by Ralph Schroeder for Commission Chairman Bill Christel to send correspondence on behalf of the Commission, to inform the Common Council and Mayor, of their opposition of the Parks & Recreation Department to perform the grounds maintenance of the New Berlin Schools until further review. Seconded by Tony Mescher and carried unanimously.

The Commission was informed that the Department of Public Works (DPW) has been eliminated. The Utility and Engineering Departments will fall under the direction of the Director of Planning and the Streets Department will fall under the direction of the Director of Parks and Recreation.

D. Progress on Johnson Quarry Acquisition - An Offer to Purchase the Johnson Quarry 110 acre site was presented to the Commission. The \$830,000 payment would be over five years with five equal installments of \$166,000 plus 8% in interest from the Parks and Open Space Account 200.232.000.

Johnson Quarry will continue to aggregate, occupy, and use the office buildings and warehouse over these five years. Johnson Quarry will be responsible, at their expense, for progressive restoration of property in accordance with restoration plan agreed upon by both parties. This plan will restore this property to be used as a Community Parks by the City of New Berlin.

Motion by Ralph Schroeder to recommend to the Common Council to accept the Offer to Purchase Johnson Gravel Quarry for a community park. The purchase price is a total of \$830,000 which will be paid in five (5) equal installments of \$166,000 each over a five year period plus 8% interest per year on the unpaid balance. Seconded by Tony Mescher and carried unanimously.

E. Possible development of a municipal golf course - Elaine Kraut of the Genesse Aggregate, may be interested in donating land located near Barrett Landfill on Coffee Road, to the City as a potential new municipal golf course. Crown Golf Properties has toured the property and is interested in developing the property if a long term lease could be negotiated. Crown Golf Properties would need to invest 4 - 6 million dollars to build a course and a club house.

F. Agreement to use access drive to storage garage at Maple Ridge Park - Pat and Mary Lemirande are the new owners of the Hlavinka property. The Lemirande's have agreed to allow the City to use the driveway if maintenance is completed on the driveway and the Lemirande's are allowed to store some equipment in the building. This agreement is for the term of 12 months.

Motion by Rick Kocchi to move forward with the agreement pertaining to the City use of the private driveway with Pat and Mary Lemirande for 12 months. Seconded by Chuck Bedwell and carried unanimously.

G. Request to accept donation for the construction of a volleyball court at Biber Park - Rich Enge has offered to donate \$3,000 for a sand volleyball court at Biber Park.

Motion by Gregg Hallberg to accept the donation of \$3,000 and build a sand volleyball court at Biber Park. Seconded by Ralph Schroeder and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Ralph Schroeder to adjourn at 9:55 p.m. Seconded by Paul Gihring and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Mescher, Secretary
Parks and Recreation Commission

TM/cb

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