

CITY OF MANITOWOC
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, April 1, 2013 at 5:00 pm
City Hall-East Hearing Room

Members: Ald. Jason Sladky – Chair, Ald. Dave Soeldner – Vice Chair, Ald. Al Schema, Ald. Collin Braunel, Ald. Tyler Martell

Staff: Greg Minikel, Kevin Glaeser, Jim Muenzenmeyer

Guests: Ald. Hennessey, Ald. Sitkiewicz, Ald. McMeans (arrived at 5:22 pm), Charlie Matthews - HTR, Jim Van Lanen Jr – Discover Eastern Wisconsin Disc Golf

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 pm by Chairman Sladky.

Ald. Soeldner made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2013 meeting as presented. Ald. Schema seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Discussion & possible action on a Wisconsin tourism grant proposal through Discover Eastern Wisconsin Disc Golf for Manitowalk in the Park and the use of the facilities at Silver Creek Park

J. Van Lanen Jr., from the Discover Eastern Wisconsin Disc Golf Group, passed out some information about the Silver Cup tournament. The group made the following park improvements: 7 new fairways, 10 baskets, 18 concrete tee pads, 24 sign posts, and the replacement of 24 directional signs and 27 tee signs. On one of the fairways (by the old pumping house), they added a six foot lighthouse with a photo sensor on it. The group spent approximately \$14,000 on improvements and used volunteer labor.

There are some springs from Silver Creek popping up in at least three different fairways, so some drainage tile may be needed to re-route the water. Also, the creek bank is falling in at a few spots and J. Van Lanen offered to find some volunteers to help with that if the City would like. They would also like to see a welcome sign for disc golfers at the entrances for both Silver Creek and Indian Creek Parks. Kiosks and benches are another fundraising project that they will be working on. He said that Silver Creek is becoming one of the most photographed disc golf courses.

The Silver Cup has been at Silver Creek Park for twelve years. Last year they had a \$20,000 purse and a record 262 participants. The group would like to attract the next level (the pro A-tier players) and so they would need better parks, more payouts, and more sponsorship. The group applied for two grants – one from a Wisconsin sports development corporation to put on clinics and one from the Department of Tourism to get the parks ready for a big event that draws from outside the state. The group is requesting paperwork showing what the City is giving in-kind to

get ready for the tournament. It can be fixing the water problem, mowing areas that would not have otherwise been mowed because of adding new fairways, adding rocks where necessary, etc. In the past, the group had a budget of about \$30,000 for the tournament, and they expect to have an \$80,000 budget this year. They expect 450 players over the two separate weekends (5 days of competition) at three parks.

K. Glaeser said that they would only do for the tournament what they would probably end up doing anyway. He said that the in-kind matching should not be a problem. He said that there are a couple of dams in the creek that they need to get out, because they are re-routing the creek. They also need to do some shoring projects.

In the past, the Parks Department has been listed as a co-sponsor of the Silver Cup for their waiver of fees for the use of the facilities at Silver Creek Park. Until 2012, all registration was handled through the Parks Department. Since the Parks Department no longer does that, the City is no longer paying any credit card fees. The group would still like to use the Fieldhouse and Concession Stand at no charge. Ald. Sladky requested that they complete a Waiver of Fees form for the Council so that there is a record.

Discussion & possible action on a HVAC replacement project at the Armory Building

J. Muenzenmeyer said that the original boiler at the Citizen Park armory building is long overdue for replacement, and he would like to bid the work out. The last estimate was \$180,000 and the City has borrowed \$150,000 for that. The Friends Group also has about \$58,000 towards improvements. They have stated that they will pay for the ADA accessible bathrooms which should come in around \$30,000. The true cost won't be known until it is bid. J. Muenzenmeyer made a motion to prepare and sent out the bid. Ald. Braunel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion & possible action on special event request (13-119) from the Kiwanis Club of Manitowoc, requesting the use of Washington Park for the Kiwanis Car Show, with setup on August 10th & the show on August 11, 2013, the use of the Metro Stage and various equipment, a waiver of rules prohibiting alcohol beverages to be consumed in the park for the weekend, closing S 11th & S 12th Street for a portion of the weekend, and a waiver of fees, as detailed therein

It cost the Department of Infrastructure approximately \$1,015 for the event. Last year, they were going to be charged \$400, but ended up paying \$100 (the same fee as in 2011) on appeal. D. Soeldner stated that the Committee needs to be consistent with a policy. The policy would not have been changed if there was not a budget issue. Many of the groups feel that they are providing events that improve the quality of life and are being punished by having to pay 50%. D. Soeldner would like to be more pro-active in getting the groups to understand what the true costs are to the City and trying to get them to do some of the work themselves, such as getting them to pick up some of the items themselves. Ald. Schema stated that the City should give them the option of knocking the cost down by picking up their own items. Another option that could be looked at would be sponsorships. Ald. Hennessey stated that there is to a cost to the City to provide the items, since the workers would be able to do other value-added services if they were not spending labor hours on the special events. Ald. Sladky stated that the Kiwanis can have their event, but the Committee would like to re-visit the charges in May.

Discussion & possible action on special event request (13-122) from the Manitowoc Citizens Safety Patrol Picnic Association, requesting the use of Silver Creek Park for the Manitowoc Safety Patrol Picnic, on May 15, 2013 with a raindate of May 16th, the use of the Concession Stand and various equipment, and a waiver of fees, as detailed therein

Ald. Sladky made a motion to approve the event and waive the fees. D. Soeldner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion & possible action on special event request (13-128) from Holy Family Memorial, requesting the use of Silver Creek Park for a Staff and Volunteer Picnic for 1,000 people, on August 17, 2013, and the use of the Fieldhouse and Concession Stand, as detailed therein

No waiver of fees was requested. Ald. Braunel made a motion to approve the event. Ald. Martell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion & possible action on special event request (13-129) from the Lincoln Park Zoological Society, requesting the use of Lincoln Park and cabin 2 from November 29th to December 28th, with setup on various dates in November, the use of cabin 1 on December 6th and various equipment, and a waiver of fees, as detailed therein

K. Glaeser said the original dates were December 1 – 31st. The Waiver of Fees now states Nov. 29 – Dec. 28th. Since the original dates were given, a cabin has been rented by another party for Nov. 29th. The main reason for the event coming through again is that no Waiver of Fees paperwork was filed originally. The cabin averages about \$800 of income in the month of December. The Committee will wait to get some more information on the dates.

Discussion & possible action on special event request from Tom Drill, requesting the use of the City Hall parking lot, for Showtime, on August 14th & 15th, 2013, the use of various equipment, and a waiver of fees, as detailed therein

No action by the Committee. It will be taken up by the Council.

Discussion & possible action regarding dogs in parks

Ald. Hennessey would like to see some compromise so that people with dogs could use additional park areas, even if it is select parks or if there are certain rules around it. J. Van Lanen stated that the Disc Golf group would welcome having dogs in the parks. He said that in six years at Indian Creek Park, they haven't had an issue with a dog off leash interfering with a disc golfer. Dogs can run off-leash in the dog park area but not in the park. Ald. Hennessey is willing to co-sponsor a resolution. One alderman has received complaints of dogs running off-leash (or using electronic leashes) at the park. It is important to educate the public regarding the park rules. K. Glaeser pointed out to the committee that last week, they responded to a complaint at Rheume Park regarding dog feces, which is an issue will need to be addressed as not all people are responsible about following the rules.

Adjournment

Ald. Schema made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:46 p.m. It was seconded by Ald. Braunel. The motion carried.

GM/smsr