

CITY OF MANITOWOC
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, October 7, 2013 at 5:00 pm
City Hall-East Hearing Room

Members: Jason Sladky – Chairman, Dave Soeldner – Vice Chairman, Al Schema, Mike Howe, Tyler Martell

Staff: Dan Koski, Chad Scheinoha, Jim Muenzenmeyer, Denise Larson, Karen Dorow

Guests: Randy Drumm – 101 S Parkview Rd., Steve Braun & Deb Nann – 5027 W Custer St., Patrice & Maurice Jones – 1650 Westbury Ct., Ben Cole – 4531 Harvest Ct., Doug Brennan – 1500 Westbury Ct., Stephen Miller – 3515 Forest Cir., Dan Hornung – 410 Waldo Blvd., Glenn Strodthoff – 4829 W Custer St., Marc & Julie Johnson – 1700 Westbury Ct., Anne Schuette – 410 Waldo Blvd., Charles Sontag – 208 Huron St., Bruce & Sharry Macke – 1515 N 24th St., Gary Kennedy – 1451 Whitewater Dr., Wade Marks, The NEW OM – 823A N 11th St., Thomas Tittl – 545 Ridge Ln., Georgia Lusk – 1851 Lilac Dr., Randy Heinzen, MYBA – 352 Foxfire Ct., Tony Fodden, MYBA – 619 Pine St., Ben Larson, Roncalli Government Class – 4640 Ridge Ct.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Chairman Sladky.

Approval of Minutes

Ald. Martell made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 1, 2013 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Ald. Schema and approved unanimously.

Discussion & possible action on rules, policies, and upgrades to Camp Vits

Anne Schuette expressed concerns about the layout of the trail, and the fact that it has expanded into the ravine when the recommendations were to wait until spring to see what plant life comes up. Dan Koski indicated that the NEW OM group met with the City's protective services and CVMIC, the City's property insurer, and made some changes to the trail, such as moving the trail further away from the edge of the ravine, based on their recommendations.

Randy Drumm is concerned about the excavation that was done for the trail. He was lead to believe that only the brush would be taken out, but the trail is down to the bare ground. He is also concerned with safety on the trail.

Ald. Sladky made a motion that the park hours at Camp Vits be from dawn to dusk. The motion was seconded by Ald. Soeldner and passed unanimously.

Discussion & possible action regarding MYBA field and park improvements

The Miracle League Field is currently under construction at Dewey St. Park, and a new Manitowoc Youth Baseball Association hardball diamond is proposed at Dewey St. Park. The current hardball diamond is in bad shape and needs to be re-done. Four diamonds are proposed

for Citizen Park. There were concerns regarding parking at the two parks. Ald. Soeldner made a motion to approve the site plans barring encroachment on the Aquatic Center. The motion was seconded by Ald. Schema and carried unanimously. The cost of the project, including bleachers, is being primarily funded by the MYBA.

Discussion & possible action regarding trimming of trees in the City right-of-way

Bruce and Sharry Macke were upset with how Comcast and Broadband trimmed and completely destroyed the look of their terrace tree. They wanted to know if these companies have the right to drastically cut the trees. The manager of the company told them that the company can trim any way they want to. Dan Koski will be looking into and establishing some guidelines for utility companies to follow.

Discussion & possible action regarding communication from Gary Kennedy regarding stump removal in the City right of way at 605 State St.

Gary Kennedy said that the tree on his property preceded the tree ordinances and the stump has grown over the driveway approach. He feels that it is unfair to homeowners to continue to pay for sidewalks that a City tree has damaged when years ago someone should have cut the tree down. Dan Koski said that if they cut out the portion of the stump to put a new sidewalk in, it would cost about \$250. If they remove both stumps, clean them up, and bring in topsoil, it may be about \$1,000. Ald. Sladky stated that there is no manpower or money in the budget at this time to address stump removal. Ald. Sladky asked if it was possible for the City to get a group rate for homeowners to have their stumps removed, similar to the sidewalk program. Chad Scheinoha will look into the cost of a stump grinder and a contractor to do the removal and restoration of the area where a stump has been removed.

Discussion & possible action on request by Georgia Lusk for sidewalks inside of Red Arrow Park

Georgia Lusk is concerned about the fact that there are no sidewalks to get into Red Arrow Park or the beach area if you are walking with a stroller or a child on a bike. She wants to make sure that the committee keeps in mind the pedestrians that are coming in to the park or other areas when the streets are redone and not just worry about parking. Ald. Howe mentioned that you can enter the park from the Lakeside Boulevard walkway. No action was taken at this time.

Discussion & possible action regarding special event fee and waiver requests

No discussion.

Discussion & possible action regarding trimming of trees on private & public property by utility contractors

No discussion.

Discussion & possible action on requests to pay for repairs to the Community Built Playground from funds received from Friends of the Park, Inc.

Jim Muenzenmeyer spent approximately \$500 and hired a part-time person to paint some storm damaged items at the Community Built Playground. The Parks Department also spent some money on screws and bolts for pickets, etc. The security camera system there has been

successful in deterring some acts of vandalism. Documents will be forwarded onto Council for their approval.

Discussion & possible action regarding the impact of the proposed executive budget on the Parks and Recreation Departments

Karen Dorow stated that documents requesting funds be put back into the budget are in Alfresco for the committee to look at.

Discussion & possible action on Adopt A Park signs

Chad Scheinoha showed the committee a sample of the proposed sign. There are 36 locations that may require signs. Nine of the signs will be placed in 2013 and at least nine in 2014. The cost for the signs is approximately \$2000. The ones that are not adopted would have a sign indicating the park was available for adoption.

Discussion & possible action regarding a request from the Friends of the Mariners Trail to place donation envelopes along the trail

Previously, the committee decided against allowing a private party to collect donations on City property. No action was taken at this time.

Discussion & possible action regarding committee & council vision for the Lincoln Park Zoo

The Zoo Board and the Zoological Society will be working together with the City to develop a plan for the zoo.

Discussion & possible action regarding requests for free Manitowoc Family Aquatic Center passes to be used as raffles or gifts

Ald. Martell was approached by a raffle committee member for the Senior Center to have the City donate a MFAQ season pass at their Holiday Fair. Ald. Martell said that it doesn't cost the City any additional money and the profit from the raffle is going toward another City entity. Ald. Soeldner questioned what criteria would be used for donation requests, i.e. would there be a certain number given away. Ald. Martell indicated that the committee often waives fees for special events, and this event is benefitting the City. Ald. Martell made a motion to donate one individual season pass for 2014 to the Manitowoc Senior Center for a raffle item for their annual Holiday Fair. Ald. Soeldner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & possible action on a request from the Lincoln Park Zoological Society for bonfires during the Haunted Barn and Lights in Lincoln Park events

In the past, the Zoological Society has had a fire at the Haunted Barn event. They would now like to have one at the Lights in Lincoln Park event. There is a permit the Zoological Society can get from the Fire Department. An ordinance change will be considered to allow fire pits in 2014 at the campsites. Ald. Soeldner made a motion to allow a fire at designated areas at the Haunted Barn event and the Lights in the Lincoln Park event. The motion was seconded by Ald. Schema, and the motion carried.

Discussion & possible action on a special events request from Washington Jr. High School PTO & Be the Change organization to hold a Color Run on May 3, 2014 utilizing Dewey Street Park, as detailed therein, with a waiver of fee request attached

Ald. Schema made a motion to approve the request and waiver of fees. It was seconded by Ald. Soeldner. Denise Larson said that she did not think there would be a conflict with the Miracle League games. The motion passed three to one with Ald. Sladky voting no.

Discussion & possible action on special event request from Manitowoc County Miracles Special Olympics group to hold softball practices and a tournament on various dates and in various parks during the summer of 2014, with a waiver of fee request attached

Denise Larson indicated that she has never had any problems when she has had to reschedule their practices. Ald. Sladky made a motion to approve the request and waiver of fees. It was seconded by Ald. Soeldner. The motion carried.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ald. Soeldner and seconded by Ald. Schema at 6:30 p.m. The motion carried.

DL/smsr