

Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date & Time of Meeting: Monday, June 21, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

JP Coughlin Center – Meeting Room B

Present: Tom Konetzke, Steve Binder, Larry Lautenschlager, Mike Norton, Don Nussbaum

Also Present: Adam Breest, Vicky Redlin, Tom McInnis, Rick Helms, Justin DeJager

1. Call to order:

Chairman Konetzke called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Mike Norton moved to approve the agenda and Larry Lautenschlager seconded.

Motion carried 5-0.

3. Approval of May 17th, 2021 Minutes:

Steve Binder moved to approve and Mike Norton seconded.

Motion carried 5-0.

4. Public Comment:

No comments.

5. Discussion: Boat Launch Update – Butte des Morts and Grundman

Adam Breest spoke to DNR about grant program and also how items fit into the CIP. We are starting conversations about 2022 CIP. Talked to DNR rep. and the best time to submit is June or September. Not something we will apply for this year. We need to have permits completed before applying and we do not have enough information gathered yet. We hope to get as much funding as possible when we apply, 80% would be great but 50% is more realistic. The number of grants submitted that year will determine what is available. The park rangers are now counting vehicles and vehicles with trailers whenever they collect money at boat launches. This data will be useful for applying for grants and other projects.

The DNR would like to have 1,200 parking stalls surrounding Lake Winnebago. This is good for applying for Grundman grant because we will be adding more parking stalls, which will get us more points when applying.

We need to discuss the CIP in July. When doing future projects, we'd like to do design, permit and grant in one year, and then construction the following year.

Steve Binder mentioned that boat landings are funding buoys and wondered why are we responsible for funding the buoys? It's about \$85,000/year. Boat launch fees should be for boat launches only. He would like to find different sources of funding.

6. Discussion: Event Fees/Special Event Permits

Adam Breest said the parks department is looking into different avenues to recoup more funds from events like Oshkosh on the Water and Soccer Saturday. We are exploring a special event permit. When someone signs up for a permit, we could charge staff costs, equipment costs, facility rental fee, etc. We don't have a field rental fee, but we do consider how large an event is and charge for shelter/pavilion fees.

Other options are to charge field rental rates. Could be per hour or per day or tournament rentals. We do have contracts with these large tournaments and could work in something like a fee per team.

We don't want too high of cost where we start losing these tournaments and events. And we also need to consider the dynamics of the community.

Steve Binder said the Parks Dept. doesn't charge much for using the park and should look at charging more for tournaments/events. Wants parks maintained at higher standard, but we need money to do that. These tournaments are hard on the grass, especially where people are parking. Things like that should be maintained with these additional fees.

Mike Norton said he would prefer a straight field fee. Asked if we get part of concession revenues? Wary of per team charge or all day/weekend fee.

Tom McInnis said these soccer tournaments/softball leagues are doing a lot on their own. Some groups are using the money they make to do improvements to the park. If there are some issues with grass parking such as damage, we will charge them for the repairs.

Larry Lautenschlager wondered where do we stop with these fees? It might cause conflicts with different events.

7. Parks Director's Updates:

a. Expo Phase 1 Engineering – Rettler has been selected as the engineer for this project. Wetland delineation has begun.

Adam and Rick have met with Chase and done a walk-thru of the site. Next committee meeting we will have better design/plan for phase 1.

b. Asylum Point Bridge Replacement Project – Bridge delivery and install set for early September. Approved railing plan. Everything is still on schedule.

c. Bahling Arbor – Currently Under Construction - Estimated June 22/23 completion
Project on schedule. Staff will be do plantings once completed.

d. North County Dog Park – Site is staked out. Mid to late June start on parking lot. Final layout of fence complete.

Waiting on public bidding for fencing.

e. WIOUWASH/City of Oshkosh trail swap – At city attorney. No update at this time.

Adam is meeting with Ray Mauer to get update on this next week.

f. Other Notes – The Parks Dept is doing interviews this week for staff positions at expo.

Next month's meeting should include a discussion about our CIP process and how upcoming boat landing projects fit in.

8. Committee Chairman's Update:

When was the last time we dredged the channels at boat landings? What determines that?

Tom McInnis said about 10 years ago. We go out and measure to determine if needed.

Chairman Konetzke also asked if the master plan for Rettler for Butte des Mort, is it complete?

Vicky Redlin said it's ready and we can post the survey whenever we want.

9. Committee Member's Updates:

Mike Norton – no comment.

Steve Binder –

a. Why do we have waste receptacles in park?

Tom McInnis said the dumpsters in parks are for shelter rentals. The Oshkosh Rec department has a few by softball fields and the Rec Dept. takes care of that.

- b. We have a contract with Pepsi wherein Lifesto gets free waters. Wondering why doesn't the fair get free water like Lifest? Committee should be aware of where these waters are going. Lifest shouldn't have anything to do with our Pepsi contract.
- c. How do we compensate Rick? He's been putting in a lot of hours. Should be re-evaluated, needs to be paid fairly.

Larry Lautenschlager – no comment.

Don Nussbaum – no comment.

10. Staff Updates:

Vicky Redlin – We need more employees. Have interviews this week, but need more. Still short 3 seasonals and a part-timer. Expo contracts done through Sept. The National Guard has requested to be here through September. They may be doing testing and vaccinations at the fair.

Tom McInnis – Oshkosh on Water tournament went very well. Had a lot of tree damage on the Wiouwash and other areas last week.

Recent youth baseball tourney left things in bad condition over by the fields. We warned them to do a better job next time.

Rick Helms – not present.

11. Next Meeting Date and Future Agenda Items:

Monday, July 19, 2021 at 10 a.m.

12. Adjournment

Motioned by Mike Norton and seconded by Larry Lautenschlager. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Justin DeJager
Admin. Asst.