

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE & TIME: July 17, 2017 @ 1:30 p.m.

PLACE: JP Coughlin Center
Conference Rm. B.
625 E. Cty. Rd. Y
Oshkosh WI 54901

PRESENT: Parks Committee – Jerry Finch, Tom Konetzke, Mike Norton, Larry Lautenschlager, Steve Binder

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Harris – County Executive, Rob Way, Vicky Redlin, Tom McInnis – Winnebago County Parks Dept., Mike Brooks County Board Supervisor District #24, John Dougherty – Life Promotions Inc.

1. Call to order – Chairman Finch called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m..
2. Approval of Agenda – Chairman Finch called for a motion to approve the agenda. Mike Norton moved to approve the agenda and Tom Konetzke seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
3. Approval of the Minutes of June 19, 2017 – Chairman Finch called for a motion to approve the June meeting minutes. Tom Konetzke moved to approve, Larry Lautenschlager seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
4. Public Comment Relevant to Items on the Agenda – Mike Brooks spoke both as a citizen and County Board Supervisor. He stated that his vote not to approve the land lease agreement with Life Promotions Inc. for an area to erect the stage stemmed from his desire to have both entities co-exist on the property. After meeting with Mark Harris and Rob Way last week he had considered asking for a re-vote on the lease approval by the County Board but decided against it. He then had asked for the cost estimates for acquiring adjacent properties if necessary to accommodate Lifest's tremendous growth. Overall Mr. Brooks stated that he believes it is in the best interest of the County to purchase property for future needs and to ensure that the property does not become landlocked as the previous fairgrounds did. Mark Harris gave his views on the impact on future budgets with this turn of events.

Chairman Finch asked for a motion to move item #9 forward at this time. Steve Binder moved to consider item #9 at this time. Tom Konetzke seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

9. Status of Life Promotions and Alternative Stage Placement – Rob went over the areas that could possibly provide for additional camping space for Lifest in the future as well as the area in which the stage will now have to be situated. Options considered; (not including use of the Community Park which would be problematic), the Gabert & Rusch property to the west of the expo grounds at \$80,000.00 per acre as per Tom Rusch & Dick Gabert, which totals \$1.3million + an estimated \$500,000.00 - \$800,000.00 in development costs. Paving the pit area for use as camping or parking which will cost upwards of \$500,000.00 – \$700,000.00. Acquiring land to the east of the grounds from either Netzer or the YMCA is being looked into but those properties will also have development costs associated with drainage and access. There is also a 9 acre property to the north that is very wet and is offered at a good price however it too would have development costs for drainage and whether the WDNR would allow encroachment from the grounds into the wetland area to the north without providing an alternate location for the wetland is uncertain. The farmer to the northwest is not interested in selling. There is \$180,000.00 included in the 2017 budget which was intended to be used to turn the racetrack itself into a multi-purpose entertainment area. That amount would be used up and more to provide for installation of the stage at the location of the current rental stage for the event. The drainage would have

to be drastically improved, the roadway and entrances altered and a larger portion of the area put into hard surface. Such an amount may not cover those items so it will become necessary to allow for more to be included in the 2018 budget and the 2017 amount possibly carried-over. John Dougherty stated that Life Promotions Inc. is interested in putting the stage in place at the current location of the rented stage as soon as possible as they have the momentum and the sponsorship funding in place at the present time. The bids that Life Promotions received for stage construction are only good until the end of July and steel prices are rising so a timely decision on placement is asked for. Staff will continue to inquire on adjacent properties and the associated development costs as well as working with Life Promotions on placement of the stage.

5. Approval of Oshkosh Cycling Club's Donation towards the Community Park Pump Track – Larry Lautenschlager moved to approve the donation towards a pump track within the Community Park. Mike Norton seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
6. Approval of Resolution Raising Winnebago County Boat Landing Parking Permit Program Fees for 2018 – Rob went over the potential rate increases for annual and three year permits. This will keep up with others in the area. Rates haven't been raised since 2005. There will also be a cost for repair and upkeep of the buoys that will have to be covered by these funds as the cycle for such has come due. Larry Lautenschlager moved to approve the rate increase. Mike Norton seconded. Motion carried 4-1. Steve Binder voted no.
7. Approval of Resolution Raising Community Park Shelter Rental Fees for 2018 – Rob explained that shelter rental fees have not been increased in almost 9 years. The fee increase would help cover more of the operational costs required in maintaining the shelters. In addition, this increase will keep up with the prices being charged for other shelters in the area. Tom Konetzke moved to approve. Mike Norton seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
8. Execution of Request for Proposal (RFP) Process as it Pertains to the forthcoming Racetrack Promoter's Rental Agreement - Rob reviewed the contents of the RFP document used back in '05. There will be some changes to it but the basis will remain much the same. On this occasion the timeline for proposals is; (rough dates) request sent out – early Aug. with one month to return proposals, beginning of September – one week to go over proposals received, interviews scheduled within the next 2 weeks after that, then references checked for those that meet the minimum criteria for proposal. A decision should be reached by the end of the first week in October. Mike Norton stated that since the racetrack was depicted to be a 'world class establishment' during the June County Board meeting that the promoter should pay significantly more than is currently being paid. Larry Lautenschlager requested that the RFP include items other than stock car racing, ie. concerts, specialty motorsports events, etc.. Mr. Lautenschlager also requested that the name of the racetrack return to either Sunnyview Speed Zone Raceway or Winnebago County Raceway or some combination of the two. If the new promoter wants to name the racetrack something else the promoter can purchase the naming rights to do so. Larry Lautenschlager excused 3:35 p.m..
10. Waukau Dam Bow Fishing Issues – Rob went over the problem of large quantities of carp carcasses being dumped all around the Waukau Dam property by primarily bow fishermen. In discussing the issue with the WDNR warden, it was found that there have been some citations given during WDNR sting operations. The WDNR also suggested signage to reflect the ordinance that bow fishing is not allowed within 200 feet of a dam. This would allow only a 300 foot portion in the mid-river and pond areas for bow fishing at Waukau Dam. There is also a citation that the Sheriff's Dept. could issue for littering. Both of these ordinances will be cited on signage within the property.

11. Parks Director's Updates: 2018 Budget Update – Rob handed out the 2018 budget goals and 2017 accomplishments sheet. Rob indicated that it is particularly difficult to construct the Parks 2018 Budget not knowing if a capital improvements amount should be included addressing the modifications to the grounds that will be needed if the stage is placed out along Cnty. Road Y.
12. Committee Chairman's Updates: Chairman Finch reported his attendance at Lifest. Some comments from event attendees were a wider gate on the 11 acre road, more water and electrical hook ups. He also has received gift certificates for prizes at the 50th Birthday Party for the park next month.
13. Committee Member's Updates: Steve Binder thanked the County Executive for attending this meeting. He also asked if it was possible to transfer some funding for a workshop upgrade at parks with any unused funding from the airport. Mike Norton attended Lifest and commented on its growth. Larry Lautenschlager also attended Lifest and stated that there is a need for more space for the event. Tom Konetzke had no report.
14. Staff Updates: Tom McInnis reported that the June storms took down a total of 100 trees on the WIOUWASH and the Mascoutin Trails which took 8 days to clear. The Soccer Saturday and Rugby Pigfest events took place this past weekend and they were very good at cleaning up. The outdoor fitness equipment is being installed this week. Vicky Redlin asked committee members to mark their calendars for August 19 from 2pm to 6pm for the Community Park 50th Birthday Party. She is in need of judges for the 1960's costume contest and also help with games and concessions. She thanked Chairman Finch for the gift certificates and stated that several sponsors had come forward to provide some very nice prizes for the 5k and the costume contest. A schedule for the day will be provided prior to the event.
15. Next Meeting Date and Future Agenda Items: August 7th 8:30 a.m. boat tour and August 21st 1:30 p.m. regular meeting.
16. Adjournment – Chairman Finch called for a motion to adjourn. Tom Konetzke moved to adjourn. Steve Binder seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned 4:12 p.m..

Respectfully Submitted,
Vicky Redlin
Program Manager