

DRAFT
CITY OF WAUSAU - PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date/Time: March 4th, 2013 at 5:00pm Location: City Hall (407 Grant Street) – Board Room
Members Present: Jim Brezinski, Gary Gisselman, David Nutting, David Oberbeck (c)
Excused: Robert Mielke
Others Present: Peter Knotek – Asst. Director

In accordance with Chapter 19, Wisc. Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and sent to the Daily Herald in the proper manner. It was noted that there was a quorum present and the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Oberbeck at 5:00pm.

Approval of Minutes – **Motion** by Brezinski, second by Nutting to approve the February 4th, 2013 draft minutes. Motion **carried** by voice vote. Vote reflected as 4-0.

Winter Tourism Marketing – Report on Recent Winter Tourism Media Activity Featuring the Wausau Area – Knotek reported that Milwaukee Public Television filmed a segment in Wausau that will be aired in February of 2014. They filmed winter sports and will be back to film summer sports. These will be combined together for a show called “Around the Corner with John McGivern”. Several facilities will be featured including the curling center, 400 Block ice skating, Nine Mile skiing and snowshoeing, and the Sylvan Tubing Hill. There will be a preview screening in Wausau and Knotek will notify members and put out a press release when this occurs.

River Edge Commission – Transfer of Duties to Park and Recreation Committee - Knotek explained that this transfer had happened back in October of 2012. All duties that were The River Edge Commission were transferred to the Park and Recreation Committee. He noted the Park Department for the most part has already been doing operational aspects of the trail. This committee will be in the forefront for approving easements and acquisitions, recommending projects and improvements, making policy decisions regarding operations of the trail and taking more of a role in helping to continue the development. Reports will be placed on the agenda as a reoccurring item. Gisselman questioned if the rules of this committee needed to be changed to reflect this as far as responsibilities. Knotek agreed that responsibilities and roles should be spelled out and he will find out if they had a charter. Nutting felt if there were any actionable items that former members could be invited to the meetings because of their knowledge.

Bird City – Report on the City’s 2013 Bird City Wisconsin Renewal Application – Knotek said that last summer Wausau became a Bird City. He noted two signs designate this; one is on 17th Avenue and the other is on North 6th Street. Knotek said that Wausau had met some basic requirements to become a Bird City. This year they have achieved the “High Flyer” status which is a step up in recognition. They met additional criteria and some of the ways they accomplished these were from the park department doing native plantings on the Rivers Edge Trail by Marathon Electric and also by working with the local bird club to install Purple Martin houses at D.C. Everest Park. The City will receive an updated plaque and decals for the signs.

Closed Session – Athletic Park Use Agreement – Discussion and Possible Action on the First Draft of a 2014 – 2033 Facility Use Agreement – Withdrawn

Possible Announcements Resulting from Closed Session – Withdrawn

Future Agenda Items – River Edge Trail report, activity on the riverfront and Stenchfield Creek, Eau Claire River Conservancy, pool developments, discussion on urban bikeways along the river and the newest segments, linking the River Edge Trail to other trails, coordinating with other committees about pedestrian ways.

Next Meeting – Monday, April 1st, 2013 at **5:00pm**.

Adjourn – **Motion** by Brezinski, second by Nutting to adjourn at 5:40pm. Motion **carried** by voice vote. Vote reflected as 4-0.