

DRAFT
CITY OF WAUSAU – PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date/Time: December 2nd, 2013 at 5:00pm Location: City Hall (407 Grant Street) – Board Room
Members Present: Jim Brezinski, Gary Gisselman, Robert Mielke, David Nutting, David Oberbeck (c)
Others Present: Bill Duncanson–Director, Megan Lawrence – City and Community Development,
Pat Peckham – City Pages,

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 Gisselman, second by Mielke to approve the Park and Recreation Committee November 4th, 2013 draft minutes. Motion **carried** by voice vote. Vote reflected as 5-0.

Park Shelter Security Deposit – Discussion and Possible Action on Adding Removal Timelines for Tents and other Temporary Structures and Equipment to Park Shelter Security Deposit Policy – Duncanson explained that the department is having increased incidences of rental events with tents, bouncy houses, concession wagons, etc. which are not being moved out by the end of the event. This makes it impossible to have or detracts from the rental occurring the next day. Staff recommends having the security deposit dependent upon timely removal. If a renter is concerned about losing their deposit due to not removing property then they need to rent the shelter for the next day. Otherwise the department is losing rentals or is not able to provide the service it promised because the renter from the day before has not lived up to their agreement. This item will also be presented at the next Park Commission meeting. Discussion followed. Members would like to include Oak Island shelter in the \$200 security deposit requirement for shelters where both alcohol and amplified music are present. **Motion** by Brezinski, second by Gisselman to add the removal timeline for tents, and other temporary structures and equipment to the Park Shelter Security Deposit Policy and Oak Island to the Park Shelter Security Deposit Policy where both alcohol and amplified music are present. Vote **carried** by voice vote. Vote reflected as 5-0.

Summer Program Reports – Report and Possible Action on the 2013 Summer Pool, Playground and Tennis Programs – Duncanson discussed the pool report. He said 2013 was more of a normal summer compared to the hot summer of 2012. He said numbers held pretty steady and another important thing was that it was a safe summer. Brezinski requested that thank you letters be sent to staff for keeping the children safe. Discussion followed on concessions. Nutting asked if staff was doing any surveys about what people would like to see at the pools. Duncanson said that could be done. Duncanson discussed the playground program report. He said it is dependent on partnering with the Wausau School District and that is why the numbers change fairly drastically from year to year. At Jefferson and Riverview schools park staff is providing afternoon activities for morning summer schools. Numbers are dropping at Grant and Marshall where there are only morning programs and that reflects the need for full day daycare. Nutting questioned what kind of public relation is used to let families know about the programs available. Duncanson said information is on-line, in recreation guides, information is given to the schools, and staff participates in activity fairs. Oberbeck wondered if the playground program could be expanded. Brezinski felt if the attractor is being available all day and serving lunch he would like to know what would entail going in that direction. Duncanson said they would have to have access to the school building to serve lunch. Nutting thought maybe pizza or other items could be ordered so access to the school kitchen would not be needed. Duncanson said there is a licensing component to it and it would significantly change the scope of the program. Brezinski asked Duncanson to explore more partnering options with school staff. Nutting questioned what the program does if it's raining. Duncanson said they move inside on bad weather days. He said the school does not like to give access full time if there is not a regular school activity there. They have to have full time people on site and their costs go up. Oberbeck believes expanding the role of the Park and Recreation Department with the School District and working together would be a good,

healthy initiative for the community. Nutting felt children and parents were comfortable with the school environment. Duncanson said cost is a factor and part of the reason the department has not been growing programs. The school programs now are grant driven and the park department is working with them to enhance these grant funded programs. Everyone is watching the levy. Gisselman questioned if there were other locales outside of the school district like for example East Gate Hall or parochial school locations. Brezinski and Oberbeck felt staff should at least begin the discussion about using school facilities. Brezinski directed staff to investigate how they can enhance the summer program in coordination with the school district. Duncanson discussed the tennis program report. He noted that after summer school let out, there was an influx of children that came into the tennis camp program for the last two weeks. Duncanson said they had a hard time recruiting three tennis instructors this year. He is hoping that the increase in seasonal employee wages will help. They are also going to start recruitments earlier and leave the positions open all through the program period. Nutting wondered if any high school tennis players could help out the last two weeks of the program.

Winter Program Update – Report and Possible Action on 2013-2014 Winter Program Preparations – Duncanson said snow is being made at Sylvan Tubing Hill and it should be ready to open up on schedule. Duncanson discussed ice rink preparation. Oberbeck asked about the possibility of working with Wausau Events to do something with a band or music there. Discussion followed on music possibilities at the 400 Block. Oberbeck questioned if the sound system was operational. Duncanson said it's not left on the Block over winter but it could be brought back. Gisselman said it would be good to gather the community at the 400 Block and make it a park that is used twelve months of the year. Brezinski asked Duncanson to contact the Wausau Events coordinator about having a band or movie there. Duncanson reported on sledding hills. He commented on trails that there may be a possibility of bringing back trails onto the American Legion property. The clubhouse would like to be a winter trailhead for snowshoe and cross country skiing.

Project Update

Athletic Park Grandstand – The majority of the structural concrete work is complete. Steel work and precast slabs will be underway shortly. The project continues to be on schedule but with very little room for delays.

Stinchfield Creek Boardwalk – The permit for construction from the United States Corps of Engineering was received November 21st. Due to the late date of permitting the project will be constructed in 2014.

Future Agenda Items – update on Radtke Point Park, Brockmeyer Park utilization, 4th pool, Wausau Events and School District co-sponsors, dog park, bike paths links,

Next Regular Meeting – Monday, January 6th, 2014 at 5:00pm

Adjourn - Motion by Brezinski, second by Mielke to adjourn the meeting at 6:10pm. Motion **carried** by voice vote. Vote reflected as 5-0.