

CITY OF MENASHA
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
Council Chambers, City Hall – 140 Main Street
February 8, 2010
DRAFT MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chr. D. Sturm at 6:01 PM. Amended agenda and revised draft resolution was distributed to the Board.

B. ROLL CALL/EXCUSED ABSENCES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chr. D. Sturm, Ald. Joanne Roush, Tom Konetzke, Ron Suttner, Lisa Hopwood, Nancy Barker, and George Korth

MEMBERS EXCUSED: None

OTHERS PRESENT: PRD Tungate, PS Maas and CA Captain

C. MINTUES TO APPROVE

1. **Minutes of the January 11, 2010 Park Board Meeting**

Moved by G. Korth, seconded by T. Konetzke to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2010 Park Board meeting per revision offered by T. Konetzke – Add under Park Project and Vandalism Report that he was in favor of a historic or patriotic interior theme being pursued for the Memorial Building, possibly as an accent to the Isle of Valor. Other members seemed to concur. PS Maas offered a second revision under the same category. Add – the City did receive an Urban Forestry Grant. Motion carried 7-0.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY MATTER LISTED ON THE AGENDA

Five (5) minute limit for each person.

1. None

E. REPORT OF DEPARTMENT HEADS/STAFF/CONSULTANTS

1. **Youth Liaison to Park Board – Introduction of Kirstyn Kennedy**

PRD Tungate reported that Kirstyn Kennedy, the new youth liaison to the Park Board, could not attend tonight's meeting.

2. **Park Project and Vandalism Update – PS Maas**

PS Maas reported that no park vandalism occurred last month. Other recent projects or work done by Park Staff include: new sign installation at Resthaven Cemetery, new sign to be installed at the Conservancy, ice rink flooding, picnic table construction, some donated soil for the bike trail landscape berm has been placed, upstairs of the Memorial Building has been painted, new tree trimming contractor for will be sought. New and revised cemetery rules and policies are being developed and will be brought to the Board in the future. Board had questions about treated lumber versus recycled plastic boards for picnic tables. Also, it was mentioned that the Park Crew will not attempt to trim trees near power lines or generally above 35 feet.

3. **Copy of Army Reserve Building Lease**

The Army Reserve building lease was briefly discussed. A 2004 copy was attached to the agenda. Board members requested to receive a copy of the original lease if a copy could be found. N. Barker will attempt to find out more about Federal Government plans for the Reserve building.

4. **Regional Park Update – PRD Tungate**

PRD Tungate and CDD Keil have met with the landowner of property identified as a potential regional park site. An offer to purchase (contingent on approval by three communities) will be drafted and presented to the owner.

5. **Update on WE Energies Abby Street Site – PRD Tungate**

PRD Tungate updated the Board on the WE Energies Abby Street property. City of Neenah

appears tentatively interested in being involved in investigating uses for the site. CDD Keil has made contact with WE Energies officials and they may have some interest in possibly donating the land or making the site available for public use. An official from the Neenah-Menasha Water Treatment Plant has also been contacted about land adjacent to the WE Energies site. Commission approval for any use of the land would be required. PRD Tungate suggested that a study committee with people from Menasha and Neenah be formed to further investigate possible uses for the site. Board members commented that the site may be too small for a viable dog park, although they did discount the possibility of some other use. PRD Tungate will contact Neenah and Winnebago County park officials to seek their input.

F. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Memorial Building – Ron Suttner

R. Suttner expressed frustration about park staff seemingly thwarting his efforts to receive donations of paint, curtains, etc. to approve the interior appearance of the Memorial Building. PRD Tungate and other staff will set up a meeting with Mr. Suttner to resolve any issues and try to establish some short and long term maintenance goals for the building.

G. ACTION ITEMS

1. Request to Cut Identified Diseased or Damaged Trees – PS Maas

PS Maas described several photos of trees primarily in Resthaven Cemetery that are in poor condition. He would like to remove these trees along with three other park trees previously reviewed by the Board. PS Maas stated it was his intent to replant trees in the cemetery. Moved by G. Korth, seconded by T. Konetzke to approve removal of seven trees as identified by PS Maas in the cemetery and parks. Motion carried 7-0.

2. Agreement with Neenah-Menasha YMCA for 2010 Grunski Runski

PRD Tungate explained the benefits of entering into an agreement with the Neenah-Menasha YMCA for this year's Grunski Runski. Increased attendance, cost savings and securing larger sponsorships were the primary benefits. Moved by T. Konetzke, seconded by G. Korth to recommend the agreement for Common Council approval. Motion carried 7-0.

3. Revision to Ordinance 12-1-12 Selling Merchandise in Parks and Public Grounds

Considerable discussion was held on revising the ordinance that would allow the sale of merchandise in the parks and public grounds by people other than those affiliated with a bona fide non-profit organization. Both the sale of merchandise and allowing signage through a sponsorship program would be allowed. In regards to setting sponsorship rules, it was the Board intent to begin with Koslo Park. It was noted that sponsorship signage has already been used to fund the purchase of a scoreboard several years ago. Future rules will likely be drafted for locations such as Jefferson Park and the pool. CA Captain was present to answer questions and stated First Amendment rights must be considered when rules are drafted. She is also willing to review the rules the Park Board drafts. She reiterated that the change to the ordinance merely allows certain things to occur, but that the Board would set the specific rules and regulations. The general sense from the Board seemed to be a desire to move slowly with any vending agreements or sponsorship signs and they expressed a desire to protect the look and integrity of the park system. PRD Tungate stated that the motivation for the ordinance revision comes from the need to begin seeking new funding sources to fund park improvements in the future. Moved by T. Konetzke, seconded by G. Korth to recommend revised Ordinance 12-1-12 Selling Merchandise in Parks and Public Grounds to the Common Council with the desire for PRD Tungate to initiate discussion with the Council as to how the Park Board intends to proceed upon its passage. Motion carried 7-0.

4. Draft Resolution Dealing with Ordinance 12-1-12

Discussion was held on a draft resolution that will create a segregated fund(s) with proceeds generated from sponsorships and sale of merchandise in the parks. Several comments and revisions were offered. The Board seemed to be in favor of the concept, but several questions still needed to be answered. PRD Tungate will meet with Comptroller Stoffel and CA Captain to discuss the resolution language. This topic will be placed on the March meeting agenda.

H. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY MATTER LISTED ON THE AGENDA

Five (5) minute time limit for each person.

1. None

I. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by T. Konetzke, seconded by G. Korth to adjourn at 9:01 PM. It was noted that the March meeting will be held at the Memorial Building. Motion carried 7-0.