

CITY OF MENASHA
Park Board
Council Chambers, City Hall – 140 Main Street
April 13, 2009
MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Vice-Chairman T. Konetzke at 6:06 PM.

B. ROLL CALL/EXCUSED ABSENCES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ald. Michael Taylor, Ron Suttner, Mary Francis, George Korth, Tom Konetzke and Nancy Barker

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Chr. Dick Sturm

OTHERS PRESENT: PRD Tungate, Acting Park Superintendent Adam Alix, Mary Ann Mulvey, Mary Nebel, Sue Pawlowski, Kristin Marsarik, Leonard Zwiers, Kerry Perry, Jeff Jorgenson, Menasha Police Department and Pete Saanlon

C. MINTUES TO APPROVE-MINUTES

1. Minutes to Approve

Moved by N. Barker, seconded by Ald. M. Taylor to approve the revised minutes of the March 9, 2009 Park Board meeting with the following changes: one misspelling was noted. Also G. Korth, not Ald. M. Taylor, commented on the ice shove at Municipal Beach. Motion carried 6-0.

D. REPORT OF DEPARTMENT HEADS/STAFF/CONSULTANTS

1. Park Project Update – Asst. Park Superintendent Alix

A. Alix gave a park project update which included: Arbor Day plans, tree removals, opening park facilities, pool repairs and planning for the repair of a section of shorewall at Jefferson Park.

2. Park Superintendent Hiring Update – PRD Tungate

PRD Tungate stated that several interviews have taken place. The field of candidates has been reduced. He anticipates a new person beginning sometime in May. 65 people applied for the position.

E. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Friendship Trail – Oneida Street to Lake Park Road – Ald. M. Taylor

The City will continue its efforts to contact the DNR Trail Coordinator about getting involved with the Friendship Trail from Oneida Street to Lake Park Road. DNR involvement is important in terms of land acquisition and funding.

2. New Electric Upgrade at East Diamond Shelter – Ald. M. Taylor

A. Alix presented a plan to upgrade the electrical outlets at the East Diamond to accommodate tournament users. The work will be done soon.

3. Regional Park – PRD Tungate

City staff will soon be meeting with Appleton and Harrison officials to discuss the next step in pursuing a regional park. A plan for land acquisition will be a major topic of the discussions.

4. Open Meetings Law

PRD Tungate presented an article about the Open Meetings Law. The League of Municipality article stated that members of the Board, even as a member of the public, can not bring up items not designated on the agenda. Some members asked if they could still temporarily step down from the Board to make a comment as a member of the public. PRD Tungate will follow-up on this question with CA Brandt.

5. Future Student Involvement on Park Board – G. Korth

PRD Tungate will check with Menasha High School on the possibility of having a high school student become an ad-hoc member of the Board during the school year. This was suggested by

G. Korth.

6. **Army Reserve Building – N. Barker**

City staff is not actively pursuing trying to find out any more information about the Army Reserve building.

7. **Activities at Hart Park – PRD Tungate, PD Rep.**

Jeff Jorgenson from the Police Department and several police volunteers were on hand to discuss recent park user behavior at Hart Park. A summary of some of comments are as follows: Neighborhood watch program not very successful, Family Dollar has not been willing to call the Police Department, Police Department volunteers were watching the park in early April, group of 13-15 year old girls were seen harassing younger park users, volunteers felt that problems were related to people who come to observe users of the park and that problems seemed to be tied to a little bit more towards the basketball court as opposed to the skatepark. Foul language has been a problem at the skatepark. J. Jorgenson stated that removing the basketball hoops for a period of time would split the users and disrupt the recent pattern of misbehavior. Skatepark Attendants have begun duty and will begin communications with the Police Department. The Board agreed that temporarily removing the hoops at Hart Park was worth trying.

F. ACTION ITEMS

1. **Request by St. Mary's to Place a Sign at 441/Calder Stadium Location**

Sue Pawlowski, representing St. Mary's High School, presented three concepts of a sign to be placed at the Calder/441 location. Board Members gave their opinions on the three designs. Motion by N. Barker, seconded by R. Suttner to approve the final sign design of St. Mary's discretion. Motion carried 6-0.

2. **Approval of Jazz Corner Society – September 5-6, 2009 – Jefferson Park**

Kristin Masarik, representing Jazz Corner Society, was present to describe this year's event and to seek Board approval. Much of the discussion focused on cars parking on the grass. Placement of No Parking signs and an overall event parking plan will be coordinated between Ms. Masarik and Parks staff. Artists will be parking on Third Street, behind the stage. The ending time was moved to 10:00 PM each day. Motion by Ald. M. Taylor, seconded by T. Konetzke to approve Jazz Corner Society in Jefferson Park on September 4-6, 2009. Motion carried 6-0.

3. **Recommend Temporary Removal of Basketball Hoops at Hart Park**

Motion by N. Barker, seconded by G. Korth to recommend the removal of both hoops at Hart Park from April 15 to May 15, 2009. The Board also asked to receive an update on this matter at the next meeting. The motion carried 6-0.

G. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY MATTER OF CONCERN TO THE CITY

Five (5) minute time limit for each person

1. Mary Nebel commented on the Public Comment section on the Board agenda, Jazzfest creating ruts and possible liability for the City, the condition of the walls at Winz Park and that Board Members may step down to make comments at a meeting.
2. Ald. M. Taylor would like an update on the Oneida to LP Friendship Trail and a proposed revision allowing disabled veterans to apply for reduced season boat launch passes next month.
3. N. Barker would like an update on future parking lot repairs near the Jefferson Park boat landing.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by N. Barker, seconded by R. Suttner to adjourn at 8:06 PM. Motion carried 6-0.