**PARK AND REC COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015 @ 6:00 P.M.**

**OCONTO CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

1. The April meeting was called to order by Mayor V. Bostedt @ 6:12 p.m.
2. Roll Call:  Todd Hearley, Bob LeBreck, Bruce Retzlaff

Excused:  Oralee Martin

Absent:  Beth Aubut

Others Present:  Mayor V. Bostedt, John Bostedt (Director of Park, Rec., and Forestry), Sue Anderson (Chair of Friend’s of Aageson Pool Committee/Grand Opening/Funding), and Sheri Groll (Committee support)

(a) – **Nominations for the Election of a Chairperson was called 3 times by Mayor V. Bostedt.  They were closed by Retzlaff and LeBreck. Retzlaff moved that Todd Hearley be elected Park and Rec. Chairperson.  It was seconded by LeBreck. (3 Ayes)**

(b) – **Nominations for the Election of Vice-Chairperson was called 3 times by Mayor Bostedt.  A motion to close nominations issued from LeBreck and seconded via Hearley.  Hearley moved that Bruce Retzlaff be elected Park and Rec. Vice-Chairperson.  It was called a second by LeBreck. (3 Ayes)**

1. **Approval of agenda was called by LeBreck with a second by Retzlaff.**

 **(3 Ayes)**

1. **Retzlaff motioned approval of Park & Rec. meeting minutes from 3/25/2015 which was seconded by Hearley.                                                        (3 Ayes)**
2. Public Input:  None.
3. Correspondence:  None.
4. **Discussion/recommendation/action on the following:**
	1. Parks & Recreation
5. Bird City Summit/Bird City— Director Bostedt distributed documentation of Oconto “High Flyer” status from the Milwaukee Audubon Society, thanks to Oconto Coordinator Cordula Van Den Heuvel.  He also distributed the spring 2015 WI Bluebird article by Oconto County Coordinator Gene Birr entitled “Working Together to the Benefit of Bluebirds” which commends Van Den Heuvel for her natural enhancement accomplishments, with Mayor and Park Director support.  John also distributed the new Bird City WI brochure created by Cordula who has impressed the State with her efforts.  Director John reported that when “Bird City” gets ahead monetarily we intend to purchase signs at each City entry.  Presently the Purple Martin house is installed at City Park.  Two Wood Duck houses will be raised on the Copper Culture Trail, as well as, Flicker houses.  “Ride Oconto History” signs are being placed and the Story Book Walk will be installed.  Bike racks are to be positioned as well.  Cordula requested funds for Oconto posters and brochures and $100.00 for the Rapture educators.  **Hearley made a motion that Park and Rec./Bird City cover the $100.00 Rapture educator’s fee and requests we split the costs of posters (50) and brochures (1,000) with Tourism.  Retzlaff affirmed a second. (3 Ayes)**

The Zoo Mobile will be at Nature Fest for younger children this year.

1. Copper Culture Trail Boardwalk-- $4,000.00 has been donated by the Bond Foundation.  Construction/storage is still suggested with a request to the O.H.S. auto shop which is presently open.  The City crew will assist with placement in the park.
2. Skateboard Park— We continue to look for donors to expand this youth wish.  Note:  8. vii.
	1. Dog Park – Lauren and Mark Resch— No update.
	2. Eagle Scout Outdoor Movie Facility - Michael Schmidt— Director Bostedt awaits paperwork.
	3. Aageson Pool
		1. Plans for June 6, 2015 Reopening (June 7th Rain Date) Sue Anderson related the organization:  Mayor Bostedt will have dignitaries; the following are pre-planned-- building maintenance with pressure washing; paint spraying; cleaning of Dr. Aageson’s memorial; and a request for volunteers.  Also she hopes to create “rubber” palm trees out of old environment that will eventually need removal.  Thereafter, the Pool Opening will have a Hawaiian theme; any additives decorations would be appreciated.   Pool Passes will be available.  There should be various public announcements.  Police/Fire Chiefs will provide entertainment.  There also will be music, face painting, paper flowers for fund raising that will eventually create a fence decoration.  A watermelon weight contest is in the planning.  Hopefully the Humane Society will be present.  Traditional hot dogs/hamburgers, fruit-kabobs, slushies and popcorn are to be available.  The pool committee will fund the food.  They have a $100.00 donation and an added $100.00 donation by Cory Lightner.  There are also thoughts of future fund raisers:  memorial bricks, purses with a surprise inside, bake sales. The afternoon could run from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.  Our Park and Rec. Committee is impressed with Anderson’s dedication.  Groll is in strong support of committee activities.
		2. Lifeguard Update— Ten lifeguards are needed with Aubut as backup.  We have 5 applications to date.
	4. Holtwood Campground Update— Holtwood office has been renewed and fine-tuned by Park and Rec. crew.  Water and electricity are set to go.  Computer program updates have been completed and the new credit card machine with security is readied.  Returning worker staff is Barb and Rex, Donny, Tad, Jessica, and Claire.  We hope to hire a couple high school students who will learn the system and stay with us until they move on with their careers.  Two campers will start this weekend; others become permanent May 1.
	5. City Park/City Park Campground:  Spring clean up is complete.  Bathrooms will be opened next.
		1. Lighting for Horseshoe/Volleyball areas is still in a wait pattern.
		2. American Legion Cannon Plaque— Mayor Bostedt will call the Commander and attend the May meeting to set the event.
	6. Holtwood Sporting Complex— Picnic tables have been spread here and City wide giving much advantage to outdoor activity.
3. Parks Update
	* 1. City Docks – Director Bostedt says that the public is pleased with the handicap dock which is in place.  Port-a-potties are available.  Harbor Masters maintain the Harbor area now as well as carry over to the docks when available.
		2. City Park & Campground – He reports that Volleyball starts May 7th and that there is a game every Thursday.  Horseshoe is in process.  (It was noted that we need to look at replacement of playground equipment at City Park though it is maintained and safe.)
		3. Copper Culture –Hearley noted that is has been prepared and is greening.
		4. Bond Park – Hearley, concerned with future accidents, suggests we implant a crosswalk with the support of Public Works and the County.  With so much activity now available on both sides of the road, accident prevention is the best move.  The second set of outdoor activity toys will be installed this summer.  We are still working on a handicap swing and planning to leave room for it.
		5. Freedom Park – John reported that the new flag is up and a second will be reinforced to replace it when needed.  Reinforcing will continue until use is outweighed.
		6. Holtwood Park – Diamond’s 3 and 6 are in use by our High School J V and Varsity teams.
		7. Sharp Park – Bostedt will be opening the bathroom doors this week.  It was noted that the skating plastic bowl yet needs to be removed.  The Committee suggested that we concrete in our future rink; expansion is already intended.  In summer this could be used for our skate park area setup:  implanting ramp structures for activity, hopefully growing.   Hearley suggested that a web cam be set up and linked to the police department for security.
4. Special Events Update
	* 1. Lake Sturgeon Seminar, Weds. April 29th, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.

Oconto City Hall (Bird City – Oconto)

* + 1. 4th Annual Girl Scout 5K Run/Walk – Sat. May 2nd

Sharp Park – Registration 8:00 to 8:45 Run @ 9:00 a.m.

**ALSO** Youth Center Fun Fest will begin at noon that day.

1. Park Inspection Report:  Covered throughout #8.
2. Next meeting date/time:  Wednesday, May 20th @ 6 p.m.

12. **LeBreck motioned adjournment @ 7:40 and Retzlaff called second.   M/C**

Minutes submitted by

Susan K. Seidl