

**Minutes of the Park and Rec Committee meeting held on Wednesday, October 14, 2015 pursuant to notice duly given.**

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Hearley @ 6:02 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Darrell Anderson, Sue Anderson, Beth Aubut, Todd Hearley and Oralee Martin  
Also present: Mayor Bostedt, John Bostedt, Don Exferd, Dennis Martin, Lauren Resch and Carol Newbury.
3. Motion by D. Anderson seconded by Aubut for approval of the agenda as presented. 5 Ayes
4. Chairperson Hearley called for nomination of Vice-Chairperson; Aubut nominated D. Anderson who accepted. Hearley called for nominations two more times.  
Moved by Aubut seconded by Martin to close nominations. 3 ayes 1 abstain (S. Anderson)

Motion by Aubut seconded by Martin to approve election of D. Anderson as Vice-Chairperson for the Park and Rec committee. M/C

5. Motion by Martin seconded by S. Anderson to approve minutes from the 9/16/15 & 9/30/15 Park & Rec meeting. 5 Ayes
6. Public Input:  
Lauren Resch and Carol Newbury were in attendance to present possible options for the location of a city dog park; Resch reported that she met with Jeremy Wusterbarth and his preference was the city docks in the area where the truck pulls were held...would have to remove clay; The Trail Busters are almost certain they will no longer hold truck pulls; Wusterbarth will get pricing on fencing for that area; Newbury stated her initial thought was Ner-Park...it's only used once a year and is already fenced in; Newbury was concerned about liability issues and spoke with City Administrator Sara Perrizo...if the city leases the property for \$1 a year for 10 years it will be covered under the city's liability insurance; Newbury is also looking into the possibility of using Memorial Field and will check with Laura Cormier at Bellin to see if they may be interested in leasing a portion of that area; Newbury stated that she put a post on Facebook asking for citizen input in hopes we can get a group of people to take this on and help with fencing; Consensus was that Memorial Park would be the best location; Park and Rec committee members gave their support with the understanding that the parks department does not have the funding or staff to maintain a dog park; Resch and Newbury stated that they have the support of the Tourism Committee as well;

7. Correspondence: None

**8. Discussion/recommendation/action on the following:**

- a. Parks & Recreation
  - i. Bird City

Van Den Heuvel reported the Bird City Day will be June 4, 2016... will send Mayor the papers to fill out for official Bird City date; Purple Martin Bird Bander will be on hand to band our purple martins and hopefully the Purple Martin Association and the Blue Bird guy will show up;

Cordula reported that Bird City was contacted by the Northeast Wisconsin Land Trust and will meet on October 21<sup>st</sup> to give input; They bought 80 acres next to the marsh (off of Park Avenue) and will be ready to open April 2016; Cordula stated that they will propose a nature center for there...a lot of potential for many great things...fortunate for Oconto to have been chosen for this preservation area;

Cordula reported that they would like to utilize other parks beside Copper Culture (Sharp and Bond Park) for the Story Book Walks;

Cordula reported that the purple martin house at City Park needs to be replaced and would like to erect one at City Docks also...working on a grant but shipping on the houses are very expensive...will try to fundraise for it; Anderson suggested finding a truck driver to pick-up the houses and deliver them to us; Cordula will find out where the pick-up point is;

Cordula informed the committee that the Oconto Bird City Facebook page is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest in the State with membership...only Bird City Wisconsin is larger;

ii. Skateboard Park

Mayor Bostedt reported Ken Altergott measured the proposed area at Sharp Park at 10,875 square feet and calculated the cost of concrete to be \$32,600.00; Altergott doesn't feel that big of an area is necessary; Discussion on doing the park in sections; Will look into pursuing grants and fundraising; S. Anderson proposed some fundraising ideas: Pet Holiday Photos...rake leaves...sell hot chocolate at Winter Wonderland; S. Anderson suggested getting the kids involved by a reaching out to some of the non-profit groups...i.e. Elks, Chamber of Commerce, Lions, Knights of Columbus, Kiwanis etc. and request help with fundraising; Mayor stated that Pat Trepanier said he was willing to submit a grant through the Elks for this project; S. Anderson suggested other ideas to get exposure...having them make a model of the skate park to have at City Hall...create a logo...put something in the Mayor's message; Discussion on when to have cow pie drop fundraiser; Anderson will reach out to some of the parents of the children to get them involved;

iii. Goose Buster

Received the Goose Buster and it works... it consists of a series of goose distress calls which scares the geese off; Exferd stated it's more effective if speakers are set-up among the geese;

- b. Dog Park - Mark and Lauren Resch  
Already addressed.

c. Aageson Pool

i. 2016 Prices, Hours, Passes

Moved by Martin seconded by Aubut to keep the prices, hours and passes the same for 2016.

Motion carried upon verbal voice vote. 5 ayes

ii. Thank you to Pass Holders

Moved by S. Anderson seconded by D. Anderson to send out thank you notes to seasonal passes if addresses are available.

Motion carried upon verbal voice vote. 5 ayes

iii. Wading Pool

No action at this time.

iv. Lifeguard Update

No action at this time.

v. Swim Lessons

Mayor Bostedt stated that J. Bostedt is hoping to get B. Eriean and M. Diaz to get certification for swim lessons; Discussion as to if we want to pursue with offering swim lessons; Table until next month; C. Stewart will look into previous information regarding swim lessons to provide to J. Bostedt to bring back for next month's meeting;

vi. Pool Attendance and Revenue

Pool passes (daily and seasonal) along with concessions sales brought in over \$16,000; Compliments were given to Darrell and Sue Anderson for their great efforts with the pool;

d. Holtwood Campground Update

i. Manager's Report

Exferd reported on the revenues and expenditures to date and there is an excess of revenues of \$\$53,738.34 after expenditures;

ii. Pre-campground Unpaid Clean-up Crew

Exferd reported many of the seasonal campers prep their own camp sites before the season starts; S. Anderson questioned if we had the resources and time to get ready before all campers get here...should have the sites ready before they come; Exferd's main concern was getting the leftover trees and decorations from Winter Wonderland cleaned up and out of the park...getting a crew together to take those down would be helpful; Exferd suggested having public works come out with truck and chipper and do them all in one day; Discussion on how to deal with those who have trees/decorations and do not come back to take them down and then want their items back; Mayor stated that these people need to come back and take their own decorations down...period; Consensus was each person/group will be required to take down their own tree/decorations;

Martin questioned who was in charge...the Chamber? Then they should be responsible; Mayor stated they don't have the help to take it down...they have enough headaches...there is a lot involved; Hearley suggested charging a deposit...if trees are not taken down the deposit will not be returned; S. Anderson suggested providing a service to offer taking down decorations for a donation; Martin suggested getting other groups involved and will reach out to the different organizations to participate in Winter Wonderland and help to revive it for next year;

iii. Christmas Holtwood Winter Wonderland Cleanup: Chamber

Already discussed.

iv. Seasonal Grass Cutting Policy

Hearley stated that the more things the campers add to their sites, it should become mandatory that they cut their own site; Exferd provided a list of items the seasonal campers have on their sites which need to be cut around...solar lights, fire pits, flower/vegetable bed, tiki torches, storage boxes, tv dishes, clothes lines; Hearley stated that he spoke with some of the seasonals and they are all for cutting their own grass and would help their neighbors who are unable to do it...we would supply mower and gas; D. Anderson disagrees...shouldn't supply anything because that brings a liability; Mayor stated we can't expect them to bring their own mowers...where would they store them; Exferd stated could store their own lawn mowers under the camper...just provide them gas; Mayor said wouldn't it be easier to provide them the mower...they could sign a liability waiver; Anderson said he doesn't think they should be allowed to have flower beds, etc.;

Mayor stated she thinks it looks great, it's beautiful; Hearley said we can't pay a man an extra 20 hours each week cutting around these sites; Mayor said that's we should take the chance of letting them use the mower and provide the gas; S. Anderson suggested asking Atty. Evans what his thoughts are on this;

v. Site Changing Altering Policy

Mayor stated this was in regards making a bigger deck; Exferd said it's at 72 square feet; Hearley said he realizes campers are bigger now but wouldn't allow going bigger than 100 square feet; Mayor said she didn't think we should increase it...if you give an inch they will take a mile; Martin said it's no different than what they are doing by adding all the extras to their sites; Anderson said that people think they own that property because they are there for 4 months; Mayor suggested each member go out and check everything out and see what you think and bring your thoughts and ideas back for next month;

vi. Possibility of Finishing Sewer in "E" Section

Mayor stated it was asked by a camper if we had any intention of doing this; Hearley stated he would like to look at the sites, the maps...not sure where site E is; Exferd said it's the first section on the right by the office...5 sections in there, but it's where all the electric comes through for the office; Table until more information is provided

e. City Park/City Park Campground

i. Lighting for Horseshoe/Volleyball Areas

Martin said it's not lit...there is no light; Mayor stated the light has to be turned on manually;

f. Holtwood Sporting Complex

Nothing to report

g. 2016 Budget

i. Budget Transfers from 9/30/15 Meeting

The Mayor stated we need to go over and make the motions again for the following transfers from the budget meeting;

- a) D. Anderson motioned to use the revenue from the City Park Camping fees and Park Pavilion Rentals for park maintenance by moving them to Capital Improvement. Martin called second. 5 Ayes
- b) Martin motioned to move the Pool Revenue of \$16,388.85 into the Pool Capital Improvements. Aubut seconded. 5 Ayes
- c) A motion that the 2015 remaining budget be placed into the 2016 Capital Improvements issued from Aubut with a D. Anderson second. 5 Ayes
- d) D. Anderson motioned to budget \$80,170.00 for the pool for 2016. A second was called by Martin 5 Ayes
- e) A motion was made to insert a total of \$20,000.00 into Park Capital Equipment with \$4,000.00 from camping fees and pavilion rental. Second by D. Anderson. 5 Ayes
- f) D. Anderson motioned that an additional \$15,000.00 be added to the pool in Capital Improvements with intent on beginning a return on the money taken for the library roofing. S. Anderson seconded. 5 Ayes
- g) Wage discussion led to the following motion by D. Anderson: Director Bostedt will raise \$6,000.00 to a wage of \$45,000.00; the Working Foreman will raise to \$13.50 per. hr.; place a freeze on the Pool Manager's salary to be

- placed in the Working Foreman wage; raise the Head of Maintenance to \$11.50 per. hr.; those leaving positions (possibly 2) will place 2 new employees back to \$8.01 recouping raises. Martin issued a second. 5 Ayes
- h) D. Anderson motioned to accept the 2016 Budget changes with a Martin call of second. 5 Ayes
  - i) Aubut called to accept the 2016 Budget for Holtwood Campground, Park and Recreation, and the Pool with the recommended changes. D. Anderson issued second. 5 Ayes

9. Parks Update

- i. City Docks - Beth Aubut
- ii. City Park & Campground - Oralee Martin
- iii. Copper Culture - Todd Hearley
- iv. Freedom Park - All
- v. Holtwood Park
- vi. Sharp Park - Oralee Martin

Discussion on continued damage done at park; Suggestions included lock doors earlier, put bars on doors and have better cameras; Anderson requested special attention from the Police Dept. to keep an eye out...was informed it is on their route;

10. Special Events Update

Trick or Treat Hours: Saturday, October 31, 2015 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

11. Next meeting Wednesday, 11/04/15 @ 6 p.m.

Agenda Items: Swim Lessons, Seasonal Grass Cutting Policy, Site Changing Altering Policy, Section E Sewer, Campground Rates

12. Adjournment was called by Aubut @ 8:20 p.m. with a second by D. Anderson.  
(M/C)

Minutes submitted by:  
Carol Stewart