

PARK & REC. COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, December 7th, 2022 @ 6:00 P.M.

OCONTO CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Anderson.
2. Roll Call: Sue Anderson, Todd Hearley, Bob LeBreck, Diane Motiff, Lori Stenstrup
Also Present: Director of Park, Rec., and Forestry John Bostedt; City Administrator Brittney Bickel; 18 members of the community & V.A.

3.) **Motiff motioned approval of Agenda; Stenstrup issued second. (5 Ayes)**

4.) **Approval of Park & Rec. Meeting Minutes from November 9th, 2022 was called into motion by LeBreck with a Hearley follow-up second. (M/C)**

5.) **Public Input:** Vandenlangdenberg presented a brochure and site plan of the Veterans Memorial behind the Annex on the Historical Society grounds and spoke of its purpose: education: I.D. wars, participants, and military hardware. He stated how it was designed to achieve this, expressing even more intention and potential in the future. Carl expressed that upkeep is an issue which needed support of county, town, and the City of Oconto. Honor and respect, insurance, and maintenance will be via military support. Official letters were read in support of the memorial. Past Mayor V. Bostedt read the history of the City Park cannon of which she and 2 additional citizens spoke of respect for its history and heritage hoping it remain right where it is. She also highlighted the maintenance afforded under her Mayoral term.

6.) **Correspondence:** Director J. Bostedt reported 5,101 views on our harbor web cam throughout the last month.

7.) **Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the Following:**

a.) Parks & Recreation

i. *Bird City*— Vanden Heuvel will present again when updates are necessary.

ii. *Moving of canon from City Park*— Members of the Park and Rec. gave their conclusions to the issue, which had been discussed @ other meetings throughout the years: LeBreck asked about the progression of the project and felt the cannon should be moved; Motiff would like to more about the intended restoration; Anderson inquired about the signage; Director Bostedt stated that City Park property would be handled by Parks thereafter as inquired by Anderson. Stenstrup, new to the Committee, needed more information. Secretary, Seidl, suggested citizens support replacement of the City Park cannon with Oconto bronze statues of citizens who reflect our heritage. **LeBreck called motion to move the City Park cannon to the V.A. memorial wherein veterans will be responsible for its care. The Park and Rec. Committee recommended to Council our motion to approve. Motiff voiced the second. (4 Ayes with a Stenstrup abstain)**

iii. *2023 Parks & Recreation Budget*— Director Bostedt reported that all was accepted as recommended except our Park Operational supplies were diminished to \$ 4,000 from \$5,550.

iv. *Winterizing of Parks*— Bostedt stated that all has been completed, including holiday décor. Equipment conditioning and repair is in process.

v. *Equipment Maintenance* for parks, campground & harbor— See above.

vi. *Copper Culture Museum roof project* is happening as of today: it should be completed Friday.

b.) Aageson Pool property remains on hold until spring.

i. *Seasonal Sites for 2023*— We are ½ way through the call list and hope yet to fill the one available site.

ii. *2023 Monthly Campsites*— Reservations begin January 9. However we do have 2 in November, two sites are full for June and July, and one site is set for the month of August.

iii. *Director Bostedt, as the Manager, distributed the monthly report* which was seen in a positive light. It showed a year comparison. John made effort to thank the crew who included Don Exferd, Barb Loendorf, Paula Trepanier, Lynn Sleeper, Ed VanHulle, Josh Kristof, Miranda Milquette as each showed worthy work, and excess of expectation.

iv. *2023 Holtwood Campground Budget*— Approved as presented-

v. *Guidelines...* now that *Winter Wonderland* is up and operating, the rules will be established in writing. TABLED. Since it is looking like the leadership is dissolving again, the Committee thought this a Chamber project and perhaps City Tourism could offer help.

c.) City Park/City Park Campground

i. *2023 Reservations*— Three

ii. *City Park Beach* (clean-up & maintenance) A clean-up process was followed as far as it could be: frozen. Discussion centered on the Bay boulders which are an obstacle to the swimmer (one person in particular has been contacting Anderson... to which Anderson responded at request). It was determined that the boulders need DNR approval for removal... **and** there is a limitation to equipment availability and cost: we remain out of City Budget availability. No one will touch the project without DNR approval.

d.) Holtwood Sporting Complex: Field Improvements are on hold until seasons change.

8.) Parks Update:

a.) City Docks – Todd Hearley .

- b.) City Park & Campground – Diane Motiff + (water is out)
- c.) Copper Culture – Lori Stenstrup +
- d.) Freedom Park – All + Citizen comments have been positive.
- e.) Holtwood Park – Sue Anderson + Note discussion of Winter Wonderland.
- f.) Sharp Park – Bob LeBreck + There has been some wood cleanup with an adult who had a City permit.
- g.) Bond Park – Diane Motiff +

9.) Park Special Events: Update

- a. Free installed smoke detectors- Oconto Fire & Rescue Department – with any questions or to set up an appointment to install call (920) 834-7775
- b. 2022 Winter Wonderland – everyday 4:30pm to 11pm until January 1st, 2023

10.) Next Meeting Date/Time: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 @ 6 p.m.

Agenda Items: Guidelines for Winter Wonderland

11.) Hearley summoned adjournment @ 7:51 p.m. Motiff witnessed second. (M/C)

Minutes submitted by Susan K. Seidl