

THE PARK & REC COMMITTEE THURSDAY, November 30th, 2023
6:00 P.M. OCONTO CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

- 1.) The Nov. meeting was called to order by Chairman Sue Anderson @ 6:04 p.m.
- 2.) Roll Call: Sue Anderson, Bob LeBreck, Diane Motiff, and Lori Stenstrup EXCUSED: Theresa LeMay; ALSO Present: Director of Park, Rec., and Forestry John Bostedt
- 3.) **Motiff issued approval of Agenda; Stenstrup moved for second. (4 Ayes)**
- 4.) **Approval of Park & Rec. Meeting Minutes from October 11th, 2023 were placed in motion by Motiff; LeBreck stated the following motion. (4 Ayes)**
- 5.) Public Input: Anderson requested the City re-establish microphones in the Chambers.
- 6.) Correspondence: Live Harbor Cam Views 10/30-11/28 are 3,851 views.

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

a.) Parks & Recreation

i. *Bird City* –(still needs a director) (Motus Wildlife Tracking System / motus.org) (Bird City 2023 recognition letter) (Possible (2) new monitors, or a director) Bostedt's search may have brought forward a director or 2 new Bird City monitors. A City of Oconto "High Flyer" status letter, viewed here & on the web, has been sent from the Director of WI Bird City. Our newly installed Motus Wildlife Tracking System for banded flight time and distance of birds, in recognition of Bird City, has a future potential additional benefit of native trees. Credit applies to VandenHeuvel who is the retired director of Oconto's Bird City.

ii. *Copper Culture Museum*- Three of four tour guides are expected to return for the 2024 season. WI representative, Duke, will come for a Museum meeting requiring information as to how 2023 progressed.

iii. *2023 Pavilion Rentals* – (102)

iv. *Boy Scout Eagle Project* – 2 – park lending libraries @ Holtwood and City Parks has been completed. They are not a finished product so Anderson will watch if they need painting. Paperwork is complete.

v. *Prioritizing park projects* regarding the list created by the Committee keeps us on City Park for the present. Motiff suggested we create fundraisers in order to maintain our maintenance work. Those suggested include (with an entry fee): youth talent show or karaoke; raffle baskets; silent auction; Father/daughter or Mother/son dance; prom bowling; ice fishing tournament @ the park in Feb. or March. In summer, why not rock pile building? (Temp. beer license?) Our major concern remains new playground equipment.

vi. ***Parks & Recreation 2024 Budget*** has been passed as presented: Park and Rec. thanks Administrator Burrue for her work on our behalf: Director Bostedt and LeBreck too.

vii. *2023 Parks Employees* has no update to present.

b.) Aageson Pool property is serving as storage for Park and Rec. equipment.

c.) Holtwood Campground

i. *Seasonal Sites 2024* number 50 out of 51 with all deposits in: 1 smaller site remains available.

ii. *2023 Monthly Campsites* – (28- 1 month or longer) For 2024, we have 2- 1 month or longer with 3 multi-months.

iii. *Manager's Monthly Report* was handed out @ the meeting: LeBreck commended the achievement as a "great report." (Note handout.) Director Bostedt reported that there will be 4 new pedal carts next year: it was suggested to have races by age groups, as a fundraiser. Also potential would be Sat. night music. It was also reported that we now have one 2-person pedal bike.

iv. *2024 Campground Reservations*- As of Jan. 8 a list will be established, however a secondary list has been maintained of those interested.

v. *Guidelines for Winter Wonderland* The event has been running well with guidelines established to keep this going. The Committee was impressed. Director Bostedt related an unexpected 3 incidents: binder twine; a hot container doing damage to a golf cart; and 2 portions of fire wood stolen. Motiff mentioned there needs to be more P.R. than social media for the "Lights of Love" tree.

vi. ***Campground 2024 Budget*** has been accepted as presented.

vii. *2023 Campground Employees* Director Bostedt reports that all office staff will return. The Campground Manager will let us know if he will return in January: he and his wife were most positive about the position description and responded to it accordingly. The student yard worker will let Bostedt know of potential return in February. Donny will let us know if he will be back also by the latter date.

d.) City Park/City Park Campground

i. *2023 Reservations*- 3 on the books-

ii. *Playground equipment* is still awaiting a quote.

e.) Holtwood Sporting Complex

i. *Holtwood Fields Project* has no update.

ii. *Girls Softball* is trying to expand their Tournament to 2 days. Ballgame directors establish the schedules via personal contact with each other. Several methods of field diamond use have been tried, including reservations. The established and workable method is-- first come, first serve.

8.) Parks Update: ALL ARE UP-TO-DATE AND IN WINTER ORDER.

a.) City Docks – Theresa LeMay

b.) City Park & Campground – Diane Motiff

c.) Copper Culture – Lori Stenstrup

d.) Freedom Park – All

e.) Holtwood Park – Sue Anderson

f.) Sharp Park – Bob LeBreck

g.) Bond Park - Diane Motiff

9.) Park Special Events: Update on events given @ the meeting had the following results: WGAS Tournament will be Saturday, Feb. 10 @ Breakwater Park.

10.) Next Meeting Date/Time: Wednesday, Dec. 20 @ 6 p.m.

Agenda Item: Parks fundraising

11.) **Motiff summoned adjournment @ 7:30 p.m. LeBreck witnessed second. (M/C)**

Minutes submitted by
Susan K. Seidl