

**MINUTES OF THE PARK & REC. COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, May 15th, 2024 @ 6:00 P.M.**

**OCONTO CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

- 1.) The May meeting was called to order by V. Chairman Diane Motiff @ 6:02 p.m.
- 2.) Roll Call: Sue Anderson (+6:07) Theresa LeMay, Diane Motiff, Lori Stenstrup ALSO Present: Director of Parks, Rec., and Forestry John Bostedt; & Amanda Derry
- 3.) **Nominations for Chairperson were called 3 times by Anderson and closed by Motiff and LeMay. (4 Ayes)**
- 4.) **Sue Anderson accepted Chairperson. Anderson closed the nominations with a LeMay second. (4 Ayes)**
- 5.) **Nominations for Vice Chairperson were placed 3 times on the table by Anderson with a closure of Motiff and second of Stenstrup. (4 Ayes)**
- 6.) **The Vice Chairperson of the Park and Rec. Committee was called by Stenstrup, resulting in LeMay accepting V. P. with a close of Stenstrup and Anderson. (4 Ayes)**
- 7.) **Stenstrup motioned approval of Agenda; LeMay followed with a second amending it to have Chairman and V.C. held until the end of the agenda. (M/C)**
- 8.) **Approval of Park & Rec. Meeting Minutes from April 17th, 2024 were approved by LeMay with a second motion of Stenstrup. (M/C)**
- 9.) Public Input: None.
- 10.) Correspondence: Live Harbor Cam Views: April 9th to May 8th – 11,711 views
- 11.) **Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the Following:**
  - a. **Parks & Recreation**
    - i. *Co-ed softball adult league* (Amanda) Derry introduced Co-ed Softball (age 21 and up) to the Committee: feedback was outstanding. Discussion of day (Sunday)/time (afternoon)/field followed. Bostedt stated that one weekend holds girls' softball which will have the fields. Derry noted that 5 businesses have offered support. Discussion continued indicating that the activity will be "for fun". She will establish her schedule. The activity was seen as a great idea.
    - ii. *Bird City* – New coordinator training occurs week by week: a positive!
    - iii. *Copper Culture Museum* opens May 24th– All is scheduled with the museum tour guides. (2024 or 2025 project?) We are still unsure as to when the State will follow through on the roof and windows.
    - iv. *Prioritizing park projects* from our accumulated list remains on City Park. Ground equipment will have a seasonal clean-up date of May 22 or 23 after 5 p.m. Josh Bostedt will bring the City power wash equipment. The Committee will follow that with touchup. It is felt that we need some work (sandblasting?) on the older children's playground equipment.
    - v. *2024 Parks Employees*– Those under contract will begin Monday. WAGES ARE AN ISSUE and continue to be yearly: we need to increase them to complete and keep Oconto's outstanding workers. We too still need a Working Foreman.
    - vi. *2024 Adult volleyball league (May 16th)* Bostedt reported that all is ready to go as they begin tomorrow night.
    - vii. *2024 Pavilion Rentals* - 75 are on the books.
    - viii. *2024 Movies in the Park*– Anderson stated that there will be 2 adult films this summer. All choices have been opened to the public. She can now solidify a schedule which will be publicized.
    - ix. *Opening of parks for 2024*– ALL are open... leading to (where there was a broken water pipe) Copper Culture.

- x. *A handout packet was distributed to local businesses for sign advertising @ Holtwood Campground & Holtwood Sporting Complex. Presently we have had 3 @ the campground and @ the sporting complex – 4.*
  - b. **Ageson Pool property** remains on the Agenda as it is presently used for storage and plans will expand its use in the future. In storage we have the Bouncy House: we remain without usage established. It was thought that it should be used at City sponsored events only. Stenstrup will talk with Administrator Burruel to establish some protocol.
  - c. **Holtwood Campground**
    - i. *Seasonal Sites 2024 (49)(2 – will be used as monthly, weekly, daily & back-up)*
    - ii. *2024 Monthly Campsites – (12)(1 month or longer)*
    - iii. *Manager’s Monthly Report handed out @ the meeting was viewed and discussed.*
    - iv. *2024 Campground Reservations – (289 made since January 8th)*
    - v. *Guidelines for Winter Wonderland– The Committee will establish paperwork @ their next meeting. It will include **present** tall tree decor removal, start and end dates, cleanup, paperwork as to who rents each tree with take-down tree commitment signed and a penalty clean-up fee (pre-cost/penalty return fee), boom truck pre and post commitment, avoidance of too tall trees, and meeting with Chairman Magan Holz. (Cut back decor or coverage if it is too much to control.)*
    - vi. *2024 Campground Employees– We have NO MANAGER as yet. Bostedt will cover it with other work staff, temporarily.*
    - vii. *2024 Early season camping @ Holtwood– over \$1,000: the early camping area must be cleaned from Winter Wonderland decor.*
  - d. **City Park/City Park Campground**
    - i. *2024 Reservations – (14) (We have had 6 early season campers.)*
    - ii. *Playground equipment pictures were handed out @ the April meeting: Committee members have pondered the future results. They are not buying into the present new equipment expectations including handicap accessible choice, lack of flexibility, and our present needs. Maybe we should just get something we don’t have, said Anderson. Director Bostedt will contact the company to establish flexibility. This remains a major City Park issue.*
    - iii. *Rock pick-up & equipment clean-up (6/1/24)*
    - iv. *Pallet cabin fundraising remains on our agenda as to what and useability.*
  - e. **Holtwood Sporting Complex**
    - i. *Holtwood Fields Project– In process....*
    - ii. *Potential New Dock for Launch Area – Last month we viewed the updated drawing: dimensions and cost were modified. Discussion of a Grant Writer....*
    - iii. *Baseball/softball practice is happening.*
    - iv. *Baseball/softball game schedules start May 20th.*
- 12.) **Parks Update:**
- a. City Docks – Theresa LeMay – (Spies Road project) +
  - b. City Park & Campground – Diane Motiff + Bostedt reported that staff are working @ getting out dead trees
  - c. Copper Culture – Lori Stenstrup +
  - d. Freedom Park – All + The fountain will be up for Copperfest.
  - e. Holtwood Park – Sue Anderson + Anderson is attending the G.B Water Festival and would like to see a similar event here with fundraising.
  - f. Sharp Park – The trails are being used: Wind-downed trees have been removed.
  - g. Bond Park – Diane Motiff Busy.
- 13.) Park Special Events updates have been distributed by Director John Bostedt and no changes need to be made.

- 14.) Next Meeting Date/Time: **Wednesday, June 19 @ 6 p.m.** It is expected to be held @ City Park with an invite of Magan Holz.
- 15.) Agenda Items: Shortened version of the June 19th Agenda
- 16.) **Stenstrup summoned adjournment @ 8:04 p.m. LeMay witnessed the second. (4 Ayes)**

Minutes submitted by Susan Seidl