

HARTFORD PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, January 3, 2018

6:30 PM - City Hall – Council Chambers

Present: Jeff Troeller, Todd Rusniak, Dave Ziemer, Jeff Turchi, Scott Helms, Mark Kohnhorst

Excused: Amy Hoffmann

1. President Troeller called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM; "This is an open meeting under 19.81 to 19.98 of the Wisconsin State Statutes".

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Troeller seconded by Helms to approve the November and December monthly minutes.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Informational Monthly Staff Reports – Reviewed

4. Communication and Correspondence –Ron Schnorenberg, with the VFW, sent a letter thanking the Parks & Recreation Department for all of the improvements the City has made to Sawyer Park including the asphalt pathway and the work started on a small parking lot.

5. Appearances / Public Comments – None

6. Old Business –

Cub Scout Pack 3794 Charter Membership Enrollment Option- The Scout Pack has requested that the Commission table a decision regarding the enrollment option to allow the girls to join Cub Scout Pack 3794. The Troop leaders would like time to gather additional comments from the current families in the Troop and report those findings to the Commission. Although the Troop does not need a decision from the Commission regarding allowing girls into the Troop until April, the Director would like to move forward with a motion from the Commission at the February meeting. Commissioner Rusniak stressed the importance that all families in the Troop are asked for their comments, and not just a few select families. The Director did comment that he'd like to find out what other public sponsored troops, troops sponsored by public schools, recreation departments, etc., are doing regarding allowing or not allowing co-ed troops. He will ask Troop Leader Jeff Iding for this information. President Troeller also believes a decision by the Commission should be made at next month's meeting with or without additional comments from the Troop.

7. New Business

ADMINISTRATION

Community Wellness Fair Event – The Recreation Center will be the site of a Community Wellness Fair on April 18th. This event is being organized by the managers at Anytime Fitness. The goal is to have around 45 booths from various wellness and healthcare providers in the area. This will be held in our gymnasium from 3-7 PM

Recreation Center Membership Specials – During the months of December, January and February, a free month will be added to any annual membership purchased. During the months of March and April, the \$40 joining fee for new members will be waived.

RECREATION PROGRAMS / ACTIVITIES

Upcoming Programs

Adult Fitness Classes – The first session of winter fitness classes will begin the week of January 8. New classes include Morning Boot Camp and a fun motivational program “Tri-Across America”.

Family Puzzle Contest – This annual contest will be held on Friday, February 2. The top prizes include \$50 off a Veterans Memorial Pool Pass and a Free Pool Special Rental at Signicast Pool.

Red Cross Babysitting – Saturday classes offered in January, February and March from 8:30-4:00/ Participants must be ages 11-15.

D&D Youth Night – This will be the second time offering the Dance and Dodgeball Night. It will be Friday, February 9. Grades 2-5 will be held from 4:30-6:00 for \$3 and grades 6-8 will be held 6:30-8:30, \$4. The admission for the older grades, \$4, will also include the open swim.

ADULT / YOUTH SPORT

Upcoming Programs

Just For Kicks Soccer –Ages 7-9, Saturdays, starting on January 20th.

Learn to Skate and Intro to Hockey – These programs are listed in our activity guide with registrations taken at the Recreation Office, however, they are run through the Kettle Moraine Ice Center.

AQUATICS

Signicast Aquatic Center

FRIENDLY FRIDAY – During the month of January, members can bring a friend for free during Friday Open Swims.

Veterans Memorial Aquatic Center

LAZY RIVER FISHING UPDATE – After further conversations with the State Department of Health, they have declined to give us permission to hold fishing in the lazy river. They cited concerns with the safety of the mechanical equipment should hooks or lines get caught into the pool’s filtration system as well as the safety of patrons standing along the edge of the lazy river. Staff is looking at developing another activity to hold along with the Doggy Dip Day that is still being planned. One idea ‘floating’ around is some sort of duck pluck/race with the rubber ducks the Department currently has.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS DUE FEBRUARY 15 – The Director noted that the application is found on the Department’s website or can be picked up at the office.

PARKS OPERATIONS

Tree City USA Application – This annual application has been completed and received by the Arbor Day Foundation. Staff expects to receive the “Tree City USA” award for the 18th year in a row. The application includes budget details from streets, parks and utilities, as well as information on tree plantings, removals and trimming. This year the City has removed a total of 187 trees. Streets alone accounted for 126 of the removed trees. Of these 187 removals, 160 were due to the Emerald Ash Borer.

Veterans Park Playground CIP 2018 Retro Fit Option – The 2018 CIP includes \$50,000 to update the playground equipment at Veterans Park. This is the same amount spent on the new equipment and the poured in place surface at Willowbrook Park. While at the WPRA tradeshow, the Director had a chance to talk with Landscape Structures, the manufacturer of the equipment currently at Veterans Park. The company has developed a new ‘Retrofit’ option for their equipment. With this option, all posts stay in place, in addition to many of the attachments, decks and hardware. However, anything out of compliance with ADA or Consumer Safety, or just plain weathered, would be updated with a retrofit piece.

Landscape Structures sent the Director one dimensional drawings of two different options of what could be done with the equipment at Veterans Park. The drawings showed the pieces that would remain, and what new pieces could be added including such things as climbers, bridges, bubble panels, cyclist handles and pedals. Estimated cost of retro-fitting the equipment, including adding a poured in place surface, would be \$37,000 which is \$13,000 less than budgeted.

President Troeller wondered if, with the savings, a separate exterior component could be added. The Director said that could be possible but reminded the Commission that the surface area would have to be extended and that will increase costs. Commissioner Rusniak expressed concern that once work was started, structural damage could be found on the support posts. The Director will ask the company about that possibility and thus contingency plans, but the Director believes the posts should be in good shape as they are aluminum and not prone to rusting.

The Director asked if the Commission is interested in this retro-fit option and if he should ask the company for a 3-D rendering. The Commission told the Director to move forward with getting more information, including detail drawings.

Parks Project Report

WEST SIDE PARK SCOREBOARD – The Director has been working with Scott Helms, updating the design and drawings of the scoreboard. They have also been discussing the 9 sponsor panels and the contract terms including rate and duration. The goal is to be sure the cost to purchase and install the board is covered with these fees generated by sponsor panels. The City Planner is working on updating the City Code regarding scoreboards in parks to accommodate larger scoreboards and will take the updated Code to the Planning Commission next week for approval and then to the City Council.

ICE RINK – The perimeters/boards are up on both rinks. At this time, staff has been able to flood the Veterans Rink with 3-6” of water – the ‘flat’ basketball court at Veterans Park surprisingly slopes more than staff thought. Staff is hoping to flood the other rink yet this week.

OTHER REPORTS /COMMISSION REQUEST

President Troeller asked if the February meeting could be the annual Recreation Center tour. The Director will plan to hold the business portion of the meeting first, and then tour the Recreation Center which will include highlighting the new lights in the pool and new equipment to be purchased for the fitness rooms.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY Ziemer seconded by Kohnhorst to adjourn at 6:59 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Submitted by,

Sara Cummings

"Persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations for attendance at the meeting should contact the City Clerk at least one (1) business day prior to the meeting." Members of the Common Council may attend the above meeting. Pursuant to State ex rel. Badke v. Greendale Village Board, 173 Wis. 2d 553, 494 N.W. 2d 408 (1993) such attendance may be considered a meeting of the Common Council may attend the meeting without violating the open meeting law."