

PARKS & RECREATION
COMMITTEE MINUTES

6:00 PM

September 4, 2007

PRESENT: Way, Herter, Tate, Morack, O'Connell, Herminath

OTHERS: Miller, Hager, King

EXCUSED: Romberg

Way called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Morack moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Tate. Motion carried.
2. Jeff Bodah presented his recommendation from the Wisconsin DNR to contract LJ Reas in a consulting agreement for the Wolf Riverbank Stabilization Project. Lisa Reas would be providing the Landscaping Plan that is necessary by the permitting of the project by the DNR. Tom King also was there to provide a recommendation. King has worked on a couple projects with Reas and stated that she is very knowledgeable on the ecological aspects of designing the proper landscape for the riverbank using all native species and will do an excellent job maintaining that area and following up on the project to ensure its sustainability. Motion by Herter and Second by Morack to contract LJ Reas, in the City of New London Shoreline Restoration Project as the agreement states. Motion carried.
3. Miller updated the committee on the hiring of the new Senior Center Director. After four excellent interviews, Kim Ebert was hired based on her past experiences at Medicap Pharmacy, Rose Acres and Saint Joseph's Residence. Kim is very excited to bring some new ideas to the center and also continue on with the quality service we provide to the community through the Washington Community Center.
4. Miller explained that Chief Wilkenson and herself met with the two security companies that the city contracts with to provide insight on the best system to work for our needs. Both representatives took tours of the sites that are desired to be monitor and will present the city with their suggestions to what system would work best for us. We would like to have multiple cameras at both Memorial Park and the Dautermann Property. Our ideal system would provide us with live coverage via the Internet 24 hours a day 7 days a week. In order to do this we would need a DVR Receiver to harbor the Internet connection. The depot building would house the receiver at Memorial Park, however the exact location of a receiver for the Dautermann Property is still undecided. The committee allowed for Miller to move forward with the bid process once the recommendations for the systems are received.
5. The Chair presented the committee with several complaints received from the community concerning the unavailability of the bathrooms at Memorial Park. Miller explained that the parks permanent bathrooms are locked on a regular day

- and each of the coaches and supervisors of the leagues have keys to unlock the facilities when there are events in the park. The Department also provides a porta-potty for special events. Miller provided the committee with the vandalism reports from 2004-2007 from Memorial Parks log; many of the large ticket items were due to vandalism in the bathrooms. With the continuing concern of vandalism continuing the bathrooms will be closed for the remainder of the summer until a security system is installed.
6. Miller provided the committee with 2 clarified bids for the Kunkle Shelter roofing. The School District was contacted but unable to do the project due to curriculum changes. The committee awarded the low bid by Ostrander Construction to complete the project at \$5190. Motion by Herter Second by Morack. Motion Carried.
 7. The Chairman submitted his final report on the exit interview with Polley; the Department seems to be in good standing with no extreme problems facing it.
 8. After reviewing the pool reports Morack questioned the decrease in attendance from last year. Miller explained that the programs available have been cut due to the availability of staff to instruct these programs. The committee suggested several different opportunities to try and increase the revenue. Some suggestions including raising the locker rental fee, implementing different special swims during times now when the pool is closed and possibly opening up on Sundays for public swim time. Miller will present these suggestions to the pool management and report back.
 9. In the order of new business the Non-Profit relationship between the Department and the contacts for those service providers was a concern of Polley's when she left the Department. Tate suggested we look into ways to better that relationship. Way has some concerns also with the Department and the City being partially liable for any activity these groups provide. It was suggested that we talk with these groups around the first of the year to discuss timely schedule distribution and a plan for liability.
The committee also would like to take some time at the September meeting to discuss a long-term plan for some of our parks.
Herminath expressed his concern regarding the boat launches condition. The West boat launch has a large drop off that makes it very dangerous to launch from. It was suggested to close that ramp and ask Jeff Bodah to look at a plan to address the concern.
 10. The September agenda will include updates on all new business and a parks tour of some of our select property.

Tate moved to adjourn, seconded by Morack. All Ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.