

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
August 4th, 2009

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Way, Romberg, Schulz, Herter, Dean and Tate. Marcks was excused from the meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: O'Connell

OFFICERS PRESENT: Parks & Rec Director Hoerth, City Administrator Hager

OTHERS PRESENT: None

Chairman Way brought the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Dean moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Herter. Motion carried 6-0.

The committee reviewed the fees for Adult Volleyball and Basketball and considered a similar reduction of the team fee like the committee approved for Adult softball this past spring. A reduction of the team fee for Adult softball was approved because the city imposed a new non-resident player fee.

Romberg moved and recommended that council approve the new team fees as follows:

Women's Volleyball \$120.00
Officiated Basketball \$275.00
Un-officiated Basketball \$80.00
Non-resident player fee for each activity remains at \$5.00

Motion seconded by Herter, carried 6-0.

Replacement of the shingles on the pool roof was discussed. The current shingles are 19 years old and are in need of replacement. The committee also discussed the skylights. The frames holding in the skylights are rusting and in need of replacement. Building and Grounds crew have retrofitted 5 of them with a treated lumber, however the job is very labor intensive and staff is recommending contracting the remaining work out to a company who has the proper equipment to reach over the pool. Staff received one quote of \$52,000 to replace the shingles and another quote of \$6,300 to retrofit the skylights.

Dean made a motion to have staff request bids for replacing the pool roof with an alternate of retrofitting the skylights. Staff is also directed to get more information and costs on replacing the skylights. Seconded by Tate, carried 6-0.

The department is working on the 2010 budget and asked the committee if they had any capital project ideas they would like to see researched for the 2010 budget. Tate was concerned that the stone wall and facilities in and around Hatten Park were deteriorating and would like to see some work done to preserve them. Hoerth will contact the state Historical Society and get a list of individuals who specialize in masonry restoration.

The New London Youth Softball Association asked the city to accept a donation of new covers for the dugouts at Memorial Park. The softball association completed research of other baseball diamonds in the Fox Valley to come up with a plan that would work with the existing dugouts. The committee expressed concern about vandals jumping on top of the dugouts to damage them and wanted the softball association to know if that's the case that they may need to assist with the replacement of covers.

Dean motioned and requested that council accept the donation of new dugouts for Memorial Park, seconded by Tate. Carried 6-0.

Director's Report

Mryl Olson completed 17 years of service on July 17th.

Hoerth reported that he met with East Central Regional Planning Commission about the city's open space and rec plan. The Commission will assist the city with some consulting and provide information on population statistics. Hoerth will start working on the open space and rec plan again once the department's budget is submitted to the finance director.

The committee discussed the Emerald Ash Borer that has been found in Green Bay. Hoerth will be doing research and come up with a recommendation on how to proceed once the Borer comes to New London. The city's urban forestry inventor records 332 ash trees in the parks and street terraces. It needs to be noted that not all park trees are on the inventory, specifically the trees in the west half of Hatten Park.

Hoerth handed out a publication from the Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association titled "Citizen Board Resource Guide".

Chairman's Report

Way reported on a Waterways Commission meeting he attended on Friday July 31st. He noted that there were some concerns that the Waterways Commission may take precedent to only fund 30% of projects, however at the meeting he attended for the most part they funded 50% of the projects approved. Way also commented that the commission is enforcing policies that any organizations that request funding for boat launch project, have in place boat launch fees as an additional source of revenue.

Committee Report- None

Tate moved to adjourn, seconded by Romberg. The meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.

Chad R. Hoerth
Director of Park & Recreation