

**MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2015**

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Approval of the April 1, 2015 Minutes**
- 3. Development of newly acquired land adjacent to Mead Park**
- 4. Election of Officers**
- 5. Director's report**
- 6. Adjournment**

Roll Call

Present: Bahling, Freckmann, Glodosky, Hall, Ald. McComb, McDonald, Okonek, Sorenson, Ald. Slowinski

Excused:

Also Present: Director Tom Schrader, Betty Bruski Mallek, Scott West, Ald. Mary Kneebone, Brandi Makuski

President McDonald welcomed Ald. McComb as the newly appointed member to the Board of Park Commissioners.

2. Approval of the April 1, 2015 Minutes

Motion by Okonek, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the April 1, 2015 minutes and place them on file.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

3. Development of newly acquired land adjacent to Mead Park

Director Schrader showed an enlarged overview photo map of the area where the home was demolished and proposed parking lot could be constructed. There are 2 possible options for this site: one would be to fill in the lot where the house was and have green space or we can create a parking area with space for 17 vehicles. The total estimated cost to develop the lot would be \$32,751 (\$17,250 for paving and \$15,501 for the prep work and base gravel). If the Commission chooses to go the route of developing a parking lot, staff could prep the site and install the base gravel this summer saving \$15,501. It is recommended because the area has high ground water that it would be beneficial to have the base gravel sit through the winter cycle of freezing and thawing to settle better. The cost of paving the lot could then be budgeted out of the 2016 Capital improvements and installed in the spring of 2016. If there was any unused money from street projects this year maybe it could be allocated to blacktop this parking lot next spring. The conceptual map done by Jeff Bahling shows moving the lot more north into the park area and away from the corner of Clark and W Whitney.

Concerns were raised about parking, traffic and pedestrians (children especially) darting between cars to get into and out of the park. There are no sidewalks in this area and in the proposal to redo the bathrooms there is a request for any unused money be used to install a walking trail in and around the park for walkers and bikers. Safety is the number one issue and concern and adding more parking won't solve the parking problems but certainly will add to better use of the area.

Better signage for the park was discussed and it could be incorporated into this new area as long as it is out of the vision triangle of the corner for traffic.

Motion by Glodosky, seconded by Hall, to approve the concept of developing a parking lot and upgrading the park sign and placing it in the newly acquired area of Clark and W Whitney Avenue.

Ayes: Bahling, Freckmann, Glodosky, Hall, McDonald, Okonek, Sorenson, Ald. Slowinski. Nays: Ald. McComb. Motion carried.

4. Election of Officers

Motion by Hall, seconded by Sorenson, to elect Jeff Bahling as President and John Okonek as Vice-President.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

5. Director's report

Schrader reported:

- The Mead shelter update: soil testing is complete; shop drawings started this week and should be returned in 3-4 weeks. SPASH Capstone may assist with the building
- A UW-SP wildlife class will assist Parks in the goose patrol
- Parks officially opened May 1st and Gruber Security is on hand full time
- The downtown Square and parking lots' landscaping with woodchips has been completed by Shulfers Landscaping
- Planning for a cross fit competition in Goerke on August 15th
- Staff is working on drainage swale in Iverson
- Celebration Church Youth group will be working this weekend wood-chipping City parking lots
- Inspected swing/play sets (26) throughout the City parks
- Arbor Day was celebrated today at SPASH
- Stevens Point will be receiving its' 34th Tree City Award and its' 14th Growth Award
- More than 75 trees will be planted this Spring

Sue Hall invited everyone to celebrate International Migratory Bird Day this Saturday, May 9th starting at 8:00 a.m. in Iverson Park sponsored by the Audubon Society.

Scott West, a long time Park Board Commissioner expressed his appreciation for being able to serve on the Park Board since the 1980's. It's been a pleasure to work with the Commissioners. He thanked Director Schrader for his remarkable leadership and wished the Parks Department the best in the future.

6. Adjournment

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Okonek, to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried, 6:58 p.m.