

MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
Wednesday, April 4, 2018

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Approval of the March 7, 2018 Minutes**
3. **Land transfer adjacent to PJ Jacobs to Stevens Point School District**
4. **Director's Report**
5. **Adjournment**

1. **Roll Call**

Present: Freckmann, Glodosky, Kirsch, Ald. McComb, McDonald, Okonek, Ald. Slowinski, Smith, Sorenson

Excused: Hall, Ald. Oberstadt

Also Present: Director Tom Schrader, Corbin Czynscon, Michael Padrutt

2. **Approval of the March 7, 2018 Minutes**

Motion by Freckmann, seconded by McDonald, to approve the March 7, 2018 minutes and place them on file.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

3. **Land transfer adjacent to PJ Jacobs to Stevens Point School District**

President Okonek asked Director Schrader to give the Commissioners the background on this request from the Stevens Point School District.

Director Schrader referred to the agenda notes stating that the Common Council agreed to transfer a portion of land adjacent to PJ Jacobs to the Stevens Point School District in the swap for the Emerson School property site. The portion of land adjacent to PJ Jacobs School would square off the current north property line of the school property (see attachment). The squaring off of the property would enable the district an opportunity for future expansion. In addition to the land transfer the city will pay the school district \$40,000 and then the school district will transfer the former Emerson School property to the City. The \$40,000 was the cost of having the school razed and the school district wants to be compensated for this cost. Tonight we are just talking about getting approval for the land transfer to adjacent to PJ Jacobs to the Stevens Point School District.

Director Schrader stated when the transfer is completed with the Emerson School site it will come back to the Board of Park Commissioners to develop the park. Currently the Friends of Emerson Park are working on developing a park plan for the parcel. They will be working with staff and bringing a plan back to the Commission in the near future. Upon approval of the plan the group will start a fund raising campaign to develop the park.

Commission McDonald commented that it's disappointing and kind of disgraceful that the school district would expect the City to pay money for a site that was donated to the school district initially. This is ridiculous and of course she would be happy for a park to go onto this site so she'll support the recommendation. She asked who negotiated with the school district on this transfer and has it been approved by the Council. Director Schrader stated the Mayor and staff worked on the negotiations and the Council approved it last month. Plan Commission approved it on Monday.

Ald. Slowinski asked if the Council already has approved the purchase so this is approving giving the land per the agreement. Shouldn't this have been done prior to this meeting? What happens if we deny it tonight. Director

Schrader said it would have to be re-negotiated. Director Schrader stated the reason it's coming to the Park Board tonight is because when park land is changed or disposed of it needs approval from the Park Commission.

Motion by Smith, seconded by Freckmann to approve the land transfer adjacent to P J Jacobs to Stevens Point School District with the understanding that if in the future the school district wants to dispose of the land it be transferred back to the city at no cost.

Ayes all, nays none; motion carried.

4. Director's report

Director Schrader reported

- Annual Ice Show is this Saturday, April 7th, and Sunday with a 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. performance on Saturday and a 2 p.m. one on Sunday, April 8th. You all are invited. There are 127 skaters.
- We'll let you know when we can meet with the Friends of Emerson Park to work on the park plan
- Regarding the abandoned CN spur where the tracks were removed from the Village of Whiting into the City we're close finalizing the deal with the railroad. Director Schrader will be going to Finance this month to ask for approval to apply for a DNR grant to fund one half of the cost of acquisition if we get the grant. It's 1.6 miles and will be a pedestrian/bike path that would connect to the Green Circle on the southern part of the Circle
- Met with Stevens Ice Rink for the renovation of the Willett. Did a walk through with them and reviewed their time line. Focus on Energy went over the energy rebates. We'll get most of our energy savings with the LED lights. We are not going to use the ammonia system for the generators only because it's so dangerous to work with and will stay with glycol system which is less efficient but safer to use
- Met with the Deer Management committee and we're working on a goose management program through the University with some help. Order cap bang guns and will need volunteers to shoot blank guns to scare the geese for a week straight
- The Riverfront Rendezvous schedule is on the web so think warm and summer

5. Adjournment

Motion by Ald. Slowinski, seconded by Smith, to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

