

**MEETING MINUTES  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2010**

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of the December 2, 2009 Minutes
3. Consideration and Possible Action on Establishing 40 and Over Public Gym Time Tues. & Thurs. 11:00am-noon (Tom Koch)
4. Discussion on Comprehensive Outdoor Recreational Plan 2010-2015 Timetable
5. Director's Report
6. Adjournment

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Bahling, Freckmann, Glodosky, McDonald, O'Meara, Okonek, Slowinski, Sorenson, West, Wiza  
Excused: Hall  
Also Present: Director Schrader, Peggy Rentz, Alderperson Trzebiatowski, Alderperson M. Stroik

**2. Approval of the December 2, 2009 Minutes**

**Motion was made by Wiza, seconded by Sorenson to approve the December 2, 2009 minutes and place them on file.**

**Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.**

**3. Consideration and Possible Action on Establishing 40 and Over Public Gym Time Tues. & Thurs. 11:00 a.m.-noon (Tom Koch)**

Director Schrader said Tom Koch, who initiated the request had apologized that he couldn't make it tonight. Schrader said the regular noon basketball crowd has recently been comprised of a much younger group of players and the 40 and over group has requested designating 11 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays for only 40 years old and over. The group has volunteered to self enforce the age rules. He said this isn't an unusual situation and he recommended giving it a try and report back after a year. He added this is a time slot where we typically do not have anyone renting the gym. Signs would be placed regarding the new designation.

**Motion was made by Wiza, seconded by Slowinski to establish a 40 and over open gym period on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to noon and that staff report back to the Board after one year on how the new open gym period is working.**

**Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.**

**4. Discussion on Comprehensive Outdoor Recreational Plan 2010-2015 Timetable**

Director Schrader said it is time to update the current Comprehensive Outdoor Recreational Plan. He said this is necessary for guidance over the next five years and it is required before we can apply for WIDNR grants. He went over the attachment and the proposed timetable for the next few months and what we would be reviewing. He said we would complete the process with the Park Commission approving the plan in April of 2010 and Plan Commission and Council approval in May of 2010.

He said sections 1 – 5 are mapping philosophies and he didn't see any major changes; Sections 6 – 7 are improvements, goals and objectives and these are the sections we will be going over. He said he had already updated where he could.

McDonald asked if they could email him suggested updates or changes and Director Schrader said that would be fine and he will include them with the information provided for the next meeting.

A discussion followed on the necessity of prioritizing and budgeting while allowing for flexibility in making changes as needed, protecting the park activities we value the most and keeping maintenance as part of the budget.

Additional discussion took place on a Milwaukee newspaper article that implied some communities might look into selling parkland to offset the budgets and that it isn't a wise or an easy thing to do. Once a park or parkland is gone it can't be gotten back. Much parkland is dedicated and cannot be sold or could require lengthy court time to do so.

Director Schrader said we are below the median standards for park space per the population numbers and we need to correct the perception that we have too much park area.

Director Schrader asked the Board to review and make suggestions as shown in the proposed timetable for the Comprehensive Outdoor Plan.

## **5. Director's Report**

Director Schrader Reported:

- The Winter Sports areas have been open for several weeks, the two toboggan runs are running, rinks are open, the sled hills are open and somewhat icy because of no new snow but people are enjoying the outdoor activities.
- The Community Parks Improvement Committee has their hockey tournament on Friday and Saturday at the Willett.
- We are working with the business owners in the Business Park to establish a trail system in the business park for those who wish to bike or walk. The business owners seem to be very supportive of the idea and such things as snow removal and maintenance will have to be worked out. He said the area wasn't set up with this sort of thing in mind.
- He referred to a handout from the Forestry Department that shows their accomplishments for 2009.
- The gym floor was recently sanded and resurfaced, the players are very happy with it.
- The gym lighting was updated with better and more efficient lights with a rebate from Focus on Energy.
- The bike path is being re-lamped with LED lights that will save money and energy. We are continuing to do what we can to save energy.
- The process for Iverson Park Planning has begun. The university is willing to get involved, Jeff Bahling will provide help from Rettler's. Once we have a plan we can proceed on getting the volunteers we need.

Glodosky asked about the Plover River Ski Trail and Director Schrader said that is County maintained and he knows they are trying to re-track it, they have been concentrating more on Standing Rocks.

McDonald asked if the area where City residents are allowed to take the sand/salt mixture is being monitored for drainage into the white pines in Bukolt Park and Director Schrader said they had put grades there so the runoff flows into the storm sewers.

## **6. Adjournment**

**Motion was made by Bahling, seconded by Okonek to adjourn the January 6, 2010 Board of Park Commissioners meeting at 6:55 p.m.**

**Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.**