

**MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 1, 2010
BUKOLT PARK LODGE – 6:00 P.M.**

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Approval of the June 2, 2010 Minutes**
- 3. Consideration and Possible Action on Skateboard Park Rules**
- 4. Update on Skateboard Park**
- 5. Director's Report**
- 6. Adjournment**

1. Roll Call

Present: Brooks, Freckmann, Glodosky, Hall, McDonald, Okonek, Slowinski, Sorenson, West

Excused: Bahling

Absent: O'Meara

Also Present: Director Schrader, Peggy Rentz, Jami Gebert, Chris Wiza, Trevor Roark, John Pearson, Ryan Soroko, Alderperson Wiza, Alderperson Trzebiatowski

2. Approval of the June 2, 2010 Minutes

Motion was made by Sorenson, seconded by McDonald to approve the June 2, 2010 minutes and place them on file.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

3. Consideration and Possible Action on Skateboard Park Rules

Jami Gebert, Skateboard Park Committee, said the rules were based on information from about 15-20 other parks, and they seem lengthy but they are pretty consistent with other parks.

Director Schrader said we can consolidate and move them around and some might seem silly, for example "no dogs", but dogs are allowed on leashes in the parks. When KASH opened, we had complaints that dogs had been on the playground area and that people were smoking and damaging the rubberized base, so it has been our experience that rules need to be clearly specified.

It was brought up how these rules can be enforced and Jami Gebert said they are complaint based. Director Schrader said these types of rules are self-enforced, meaning those who are using the skateboard park sensibly do not want to see damage done, and since nearly everyone has cell phones, they will most likely report any infractions fairly quickly.

The following includes suggestions regarding shortening and incorporating the list of rules:

- Listing just "Dawn to Dusk" should be sufficient
- Clarify the meaning of "Spectator"
- Move Privileges will be revoked by breaking the rules to the top.
- Eliminate bullet six – include in other rules
- Eliminate bullet seven, they can only bring their own, no place in the vicinity to obtain them.
- Take out "loitering"
- Consolidate "All Skill Levels" with another rule

McDonald suggested the Board consider not allowing bicycles in the skateboard park or as they do in some parks designate certain times that bikes are allowed in an effort to avoid safety issues with the skaters, she suggested that the park first be opened without allowing bikes.

Director Schrader said from the time the skateboard park idea was initiated, it included bicycles and his concern was how those who made donations might feel about this change.

Gebert said as far as she knew, there were no donations based on allowing bicycles, she felt it was more for the skaters.

Discussion followed that included the following points:

- The issue of safety when bikes and skaters use the same area at the same time.
- Concern of enforcing only plastic pegs, that damage from metal pegs could occur before the infraction is reported and dealt with.
- Bikes were always in, it might not be in our best interest to exclude them.
- If we open without allowing bikes, it would be easy to change that after more consideration.
- Will those on the skateboard committee have objections to opening without allowing bikes and the Board was assured by the skateboard committee members present that they have no problem with whatever decision the Board makes.

Aldersperson Trzebiatowski said he thought bikes were eliminated when we went from the wooden components to concrete and Director Schrader said bikes were always included in the plan, even after that change.

Also discussed was do skateboards damage the concrete and John Pearson said there is no actual damage from skateboards, it is designed for them, but he said there would be normal wear.

Director Schrader said we have to decide the bicycle usage this evening as the skateboard park is set to open mid-October, and even though there would be a Park Board meeting early in October, there wouldn't be time to take it to council prior to the expected opening.

The consensus of the Board was to open without allowing bicycles and Director Schrader said since the skateboard park opens in mid-October it will be used only a short time before winter, giving us time to address this in the following months.

Motion by Glodosky, seconded by Hall to have City staff and the Skateboard Committee take into consideration the suggested rule modifications from this evening and develop a list of rules to be posted and to open without allowing bicycles at this time.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

Director Schrader said if anyone thought of something else, just let him know.

4. Update on Skateboard Park

Included with Agenda Item Number 3

5. Director's Report

Director Schrader reported:

- Willett opens on September 7th, with more grand opening events through the week.
- Football season is up and running
- We started a major reconstruction of the Bukolt Ball Diamond, taking out the infield, it's not been redone for 40-50 years and has the original sod. He added we will be trying a new ball diamond mixture.
- Jazz Fest is Labor Day weekend at Pfiffner Park.
- Update on the pool, this was the second wettest summer in the history of Wisconsin but our pool attendance was up from the last 4-5 years.
- We are working on Heart Island at Iverson. The stone walkways are now open but they still need some smoothing out.
- Both sets of bleachers have been replaced each at Goerke and Iverson, and three sets at Zenoff, they have a fence at the third level and kick boards that are closed.
- The new bucket truck is used almost every day.
- The Forestry Department is again marking oak wilt.
- A new challenge for the Forester is a new law that requires permission from the property owner to go onto their property and observe a tree for disease or infestation, whereas in the past we could go onto their yard for that purpose. Some legislators are trying to change it back.

West asked if we have had any more noise complaints at the pool and Director Schrader said no, we left the volume the same but we put a board over the speakers to deflect the sound and haven't had any more complaints.

Brooks asked about the Goerke field and Director Schrader said we are performing maintenance every Wednesday and have gotten some useful advice about the frequency of raking and it seems to be working well. There also have been fewer injuries.

Trzebiatowski said the Iverson pathways are overgrown and below grade, are we planning on a remedy and Director Schrader said no, we will do our best to keep them open.

Glodosky remarked that the path under Interstate 39 is very nice.

6. Adjournment

Motion by Hall seconded by Brooks to adjourn the September 1, 2010 Board of Park Commissioners meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.