

City of Stevens Point Meeting Minutes

Board of Park Commissioners

Wednesday, December 2, 2009

Present: Bahling, Freckmann, Glodosky, Hall, McDonald, Okonek, Sorenson, Wiza

Excused: Slowinski

Absent: O'Meara

Also Present: Director Schrader, Peggy Rentz, Ald. Mary Stroik

Index of these minutes:

2. Approval of the October 7, 2009 Minutes

3. Consideration and Possible Action on Leasing Bukolt Bathhouse for Rentals and Concession Sales (Nature Treks)

4. Discussion on Iverson Park 5 year Renovation Plan

5. Director's Report

6. Adjournment

2. Approval of the October 7, 2009 Minutes

Motion was made by Okonek, seconded by McDonald to approve the October 7, 2009 minutes and place them on file.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

3. Consideration and Possible Action on Leasing Bukolt Bathhouse for Rentals and Concession Sales (Nature Treks)

Director Schrader handed out correspondence from Dennis "Dino" Tlachac, Nature Trek, requesting leasing the Bukolt Bathhouse for rentals and concession sales. He said Dino presently rents the Iverson Nature Center for his business and last summer he used the Iverson Bathhouse for concessions. Director Schrader referred to his Agenda Notes saying the building in Bukolt has been closed since lifeguards were eliminated from the budget several years ago. His recommendation is to approve Dino using the building in Bukolt but that we charge \$20 more a month than we charge him for rent on his Iverson building because the Bukolt building has sewer and water and this \$20 should cover the costs. He said we would use the same agreement language as his Iverson Park agreement. Director Schrader added that Dino was requesting we add a set of interior doors to prevent people from entering the bathhouse by climbing over the walls, saying if we do install the doors he believes we will see a return on that investment.

Director Schrader said selling concessions out of this building wouldn't compete with the Legion's concession sales because they sell only during a game and it didn't seem practical that anyone would leave the games to walk over to Nature Treks concession stand.

Wiza asked about the limited parking and perhaps it should be stipulated that Dino's vehicles or his employees park in the gravel lot, perhaps no overnight storage of equipment.

Director Schrader said he thought that would work and he added he needed to talk to Dino about where he is parking his van in Iverson.

Motion was made by Wiza, seconded by Glodosky to amend the agreement to reflect that there should be no overnight external storage of equipment/supplies and that employees park in the gravel area south of the Bukolt Lodge.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

Motion was made by McDonald, seconded by Glodosky to proceed with the agreement to allow Nature Treks to rent the Bukolt Bathhouse for \$270/month and to use the same agreement language that is used for his rental of the building in Iverson Park.

Director Schrader pointed out the Iverson Park rentals have generated over \$4,000 for us in the last two years. The consensus of the Board was that this is a good deal for the city and for park users.

President Freckmann called for a voice vote on the motion.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

4. Discussion on Iverson Park 5 year Renovation Plan PowerPoint Presentation

Director Schrader said Mayor Halverson initiated budgeting \$50,000 a year for the next five-years to renovate Iverson Park. He said this money will be used to restore some of the man made channels, stone walkways and other historic structures found in the park. He added he was grateful and the Mayor deserves credit for making sure the City continues to have quality parks.

Director Schrader said neither the park nor the buildings/structures are deteriorating by any means but the money will be used to spruce them up. He said he is proud of the way the staff has kept up the buildings, structures, and park equipment over the years.

The Director presented slides showing the entryway to the park and comparisons as to what it and some other areas of the park looked like when the park was new and how it has changed over the years, mostly by the growth of trees and plant life. He said that at one point there was contention over who actually owned the park, the county or the city, probably because of the signage that reads "Dedicated to the Children of Portage County".

Director Schrader said he would like to recommend that the Board work with citizens and staff to find out what the priorities are, what they would like to see renovated or improved in the park. He also said he would like to work with volunteer groups and he said he is working with a university instructor who might assign students to research the history of our different parks.

The Board expressed their gratitude to the Mayor for initiating this funding and they also went over some items such as how water quality and plant life might be affected by renovations. They also discussed how the renovations will increase the quality and variety of usage of the park.

Director Schrader said the money will include paying staff, he said while the number of parks have increased in the City, the amount of staff has not and this will allow us to put certain staff on only specific renovation tasks.

Another point discussed was how this community will come forward and volunteer their services such as they did for Audubon projects and cleanup projects.

It was determined that a committee will be formed that will report to the Board and ultimately to the Common Council.

5. Director's Report

Director Schrader reported:

- 2009 Room Tax included bleachers for the soccer complex and that they were able to move the present bleachers to another field. He added they were very thankful.
- The downtown mural turned out very well.
- Leopold Society is working on signage (bird watching) for the Green Circle, they have the sights identified and will be working on that over the winter.
- In 2010 there will be:
 - Mural projects
 - Engine 2713 roofing renovation
 - Children's museum
 - Sculpture Park - Director Schrader said they were looking for 6-8 sculptures for the grand opening but ended up with 25 applicants and 40 jury type sculptures and the applicants were scattered over the states, even as far away as Florida.
 - He said there is a Special Event funding meeting on 12/09/09.
 - Director Schrader said he and Todd Ernster met with Ken Hall and John Munson about a new program called Bird City USA and that Stevens Point may be among the first of these along with Madison and Milwaukee. There will be no cost to the city. He said he would have more information, hopefully by February.

6. Adjournment

Motion was made by Wiza, seconded by Hall to adjourn the December 2, 2009 Board of Park Commissioners Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

The meeting minutes reproduced on this website are derived from the computer files used to produce the official minutes for the City of Stevens Point, but are unofficial. The minutes on this web site cannot be certified under s. 889.08, Wis. Stats., and cannot be considered prima facie evidence under s. 889.04, Wis. Stats. Certain tables, maps, and other documents that are a part of the official minutes are not included in the files reproduced on this website. Please consult the printed minutes, available in the City Clerk's Office, for the official text. The decisions made by City of Stevens Point boards, committees, and commissions (other than the Police & Fire Commission) are advisory only and are not binding on the City until affirmed at a meeting of the Common Council. Some of the minutes on this web site might not be approved by the Common Council as of today.