

City of Stevens Point Meeting Minutes
Board of Park Commissioners
Wednesday, March 4, 2009
Present: Freckmann, Glodosky, Hall, McDonald, Okonek, Trzebiatowski, Wiza
Excused: Bahling, Brooks, Sorenson
Absent: Curtis

Also Present: Director Schrader, Peggy Rentz, Reid Rocheleau, John Smith, Stuart Morris, Lindsay Gafford, Otis McLennon, Bill Schierl, Mary Zinda, Elizabeth Wellso

Index of these minutes:

2. Approval of the January 7, 2009 Minutes
3. Consideration and Possible Action on Proposed Sculpture Park
4. Update and Possible Action on Leashless Dog Exercise Area Committee Report
5. Revise Seasonal/Part-time Pay Schedule
6. Director's Report
7. Adjournment

2. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 7, 2009 MINUTES

Motion was made by Hall, seconded by Trzebiatowski to approve the January 7, 2009 Minutes and place them on file.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

3. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON PROPOSED SCULPTURE PARK Sculpture Park Plan

Bill Schierl from the Arts Alliance of Portage County told the Board the idea started in 2006 with a request to hold the land (known as the Jellich property) to be used for a Sculpture Park and they made a request to the Room Tax Committee to fund a feasibility study, which they received.

Mr. Schierl introduced Otis McLennon, the Executive Director of the Portage County Arts Alliance, and Mr. McLennon said this would be the first city owned park of this type in the Midwest.

Director Schrader said this group has done a great job and he referred to the proposal that shows a breakdown of Mission, Goals & Objectives, Governance & Management, Programming & Activities, Partnerships Funding sources and the 4-year development plan. He said if this is approved, we could actually start cutting the trail in the next few weeks.

Questions relating to this item included will our staff be used for some of the work and will the present building be used for housing the artists so we don't have to spend a lot in lodging.

Director Schrader said our staff will do some work on this and Bill Schierl said use of the existing building for lodging is in the long-term plan, along with other uses.

Director Schrader said the Arts Council set aside funds last year for granite so we are ahead; he said the long term goal is to make this type of public art available throughout the County.

Director Schrader asked the members to introduce themselves to the Board, saying they were all a big part in moving this project forward: John Smith, Stuart Morris, Lindsay Gafford, Otis McLennon, Bill Schierl, Mary Zinda, and Elizabeth Wellso.

Wiza said this was an exciting project and he hopes they get the support they need from the community.

Motion was made by Wiza, seconded by Hall to approve the plan as presented by the Arts Alliance of Portage County and to dedicate the land to be used for a sculpture park in the City of Stevens Point.

Director Schrader added there were letters of support for the sculpture park from Jeff Bahling and Tom Barrett. He also added that the Room Tax Committee approved funding for the feasibility study but the group can request additional funding for the park.

Glodosky called for a voice vote on the motion. Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

4. UPDATE AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON LEASHLESS DOG EXERCISE AREA COMMITTEE REPORT

Mike Wiza said Sentry is taking down their ball diamond and tennis courts fence and will donate the fence if we want it, he didn't have an exact footage, maybe 200-300 feet, but it will help.

He said at their last meeting they talked about fencing the entire cap, Reid Rocheleau had contacted the DNR and Wiza said we need to get the information he acquired in writing. Wiza went on to say a volunteer from the University designed some logos and one was chosen, volunteers are also designing informational folders. He said they are in the process of sending thank you notes to the donors. They also discussed hosting a fund raiser, there have been some good suggestions. He added he hopes to have a more detailed report next month.

Reid Rocheleau said he spoke to Mike Miller from the DNR who told him if they stay far enough away from the cap, they may not require a permit. As far as possible development by the city, the DNR indicated it could be expensive for the city as they go through the permit process. Rocheleau said he would like to see this project get going so they can get additional donations, he said the fence is the biggest expense.

5. REVISE SEASONAL/PART-TIME PAY SCHEDULE Proposed Pay Schedule

Director Schrader said the revision is to bring the wages of the Community TV part time Production Assistant more in line, it's an increase of a little over a dollar, they normally work about two or three hours a week.

Wiza asked if Director Schrader was comfortable with this budget-wise and Schrader said yes, Community TV has their own budget and it would be only a small increase each year.

Motion was made by Wiza and seconded by Okonek to approve the amended pay schedule with the addition of the Community TV part time Production Assistant being added to the schedule.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **Director Schrader showed the Board a print of the new Green Circle entrance signs that will be purchased as money is available, he said they will be placed at major trail heads and he thought they were placing three this year, one each at Iverson, Pfiffner, and the new trail at Wilshire, they will also have birding information as to where certain birds might be and when.**
- **He referred to a letter from the Skate Park Committee with an update, a \$10,000 grant was received from the Tony Hawk Foundation and three other donations of \$5,000 for three years. A partnership with the UWSP will provide another \$5,000 a year for three years and these donations will be matched by the anonymous donator. He said they are looking into the design, they are moving along with the project. Liz McDonald said they are still looking for donations.**
- **The Director referred to a handout compiled by the City Forester, which included information he had applied for and was awarded a grant from the DNR to cover -- a) Street Tree Management Plan, b) Replanting trees on Plover Street, c) Tree Awareness Project and Staff Education but unfortunately the funds for this grant are currently frozen at state level. In addition, Stevens Point will be awarded the Tree City USA designation for the 27th year and also will receive a Tree City USA Growth Award for its work in 2008. He continued by saying Pruning continues, the flowers have been ordered, the Tree trimming contract has been awarded to A+ Tree Service. The Forester has been working with a volunteer group from UWSP that will help lay wood chips in the downtown and Crosby Parking lot areas. This is a task that is time consuming and sets us back.**
- **The winter sports area is officially closed for the season, if we get a substantial snowfall yet this spring, the gates will be opened, but the building will not.**
- **The Riverfront Rendezvous website is updated**
- **The Ice Show is scheduled for March 28th and 29th, One Hit Wonders is the theme this year.**
- **We are accepting applications for summer programs.**
- **The Summer Recreation program is at the printers.**
- **Sentry Insurance has donated bleachers from their ball diamond, they are still state of the art, even for being older equipment. He added we are in the process of replacing bleachers and we will find out how much it will cost to take the donated bleachers apart and move them to Morton Park. Trzebiatowski asked how large they are and Director Schrader said they should hold about 75 to 80 people. Liz McDonald said the Farmshed food fair featuring locally grown food was held last evening and was a huge success, there were about 500 to 600 people. She added the Room Tax grant helped them get started.**

Mike Wiza gave a report on the Prime Rivers Anglers who had helped the City during the Wisconsin river drawdown. He said they are now helping with the landings during the McDill drawdown, and he said this Saturday they will be pulling Eurasian Milfoil, if anyone is interested in volunteering, and he said it is hoped to have McDill back to normal in May.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Hall, seconded by McDonald to adjourn the March 4, 2009 Board of Park Commissioners Meeting - 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.