

City of Stevens Point Meeting Minutes

Board of Park Commissioners

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

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1. ROLL CALL

Present: Bahling, Freckmann, Hall, McDonald, O'Meara, Slowinski, Sorenson

Excused: Glodosky, Okonek, Wiza

Also Present: Director Schrader, Peggy Rentz, Jose Murillo, Sharon Jakusz, Taunya Schilt

Two new members, Alderpersons O'Meara and Slowinski, were introduced to the Park Board.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 4, 2009 MINUTES

Motion was made by Hall, seconded by McDonald to approve the March 4, 2009 Minutes and place them on file.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

3. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON EXTENSION TO LOCKER-ROOM AGREEMENTS AT K.B. WILLETT ARENA (UWSP & SPASH) Director's Notes | Amended Contract

Director Schrader said the UWSP wanted to do some renovation on their locker rooms at the Willett and although the University's contract wasn't up until January 1, 2010, he suggested they renew it before they do the work. He also said the Agreements were identical to those in the past except they added ice rental as part of the Agreement, this is so they don't rent ice from another facility and have use of the Willett locker rooms. He added the University is up for a five-year extension and SPASH a ten-year extension. He continued, saying if approved by the Board it will go back to the UWSP and SPASH and then to City Attorney Molepske.

Slowinski asked why they are only extending the Agreement for five-years and what sort of renovations are taking place. Director Schrader said he didn't know why just five-years, that's their choice and the renovations include new lockers, flooring, etc. This is done at their expense through fund raising.

Motion was made by O'Meara, seconded by Hall to approve the extension to locker-room agreements at K.B. Willett Arena (UWSP & SPASH).

O'Meara suggested adding another "Whereas" for clarification that this is donated money so the public will know this is not tax dollars.

Director Schrader said Number 3 under Recitals covered that and O'Meara said he thought it should be specifically defined.

Motion was made by O'Meara, seconded by Hall to amend the motion to add another "Whereas" that UWSP intends that the "Blue Line Club" remodel the locker rooms during the summer of 2009.

Sorenson asked if this needed to go to the City Attorney and Director Schrader said it will first go to the University and may come back to the Park Board if the University is uncomfortable with the new language, then the City Attorney.

O'Meara said this is to clarify why they have a non-monetary lease and he is specifically putting it under a Whereas which is actually non-binding to the Agreement, but should bind them ethically.

Director Schrader asked if we are limiting them and what if they don't do it; O'Meara noted we would address that when they come up for renewal in five years. Director Schrader asked if that wouldn't also apply to SPASH and O'Meara said that is a different deal, their money comes out of Property taxes.

Acting Chairperson Freckmann called for a voice vote on the amendment to the original motion.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

Acting Chairperson Freckmann called for a voice vote on the original motion to approve the Agreements.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

4. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON REQUEST TO HOLD SPECIAL EVENT IN PFIFFNER PIONEER PARK ON JUNE 13, 2009 (BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF PORTAGE COUNTY) Director's Notes | Event Application

Director Schrader said this is before the Board because it is a first time event for this group. He said once the Board approves an annual event, unless there are significant changes or problems, it can be approved by staff.

Taunya Schilt said they were having this event in a park this year because it was growing too large for the former location. She went over items in the application, saying they are having live music, alcoholic and non-alcoholic refreshments, food, and various competitions. They are using local food products, beverages, and bands whenever possible.

Motion was made by O'Meara, seconded by Slowinski to approve the request to hold a special event in Pfiiffner Pioneer Park on June 13, 2009 (Big Brothers Big Sisters of Portage County)

The Board had questions that included the size of the tents, fencing and keeping the Green Circle Trail open.

Taunya Schilt said the tents are similar to tents used for other events, Stevens Point Tents is providing the tents. Fencing for the area fencing and for the beer tent will comply with all the codes. She added they would keep the fence inside the Green Circle Trail so people who are not part of the event can use the trail.

Hall said she commended them for using local products and talents.

Acting Chairperson Freckmann called for a voice vote on the motion.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

5. SCULPTURE PARK UPDATE

Director Schrader referred to a handout saying we are in the process of clearing the trail and have been laying granite after the frost was out of the ground. Sculpture Park Committee Objectives

He said the Portage County Arts Alliance has formed and structured a committee and sub-committees, they have set up short and long term goals. They will be soliciting for public volunteers to help on the sub-committees and if anyone is interested, let him know. The committees will meet once or twice a month and eventually once or twice a year. The next meeting is set up for the end of May.

The handout gives a better idea of the finances and goals so if anyone is interested they will know what is involved.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Motion was made by Hall, seconded by O'Meara to nominate Robert Freckmann for President and Jeff Bahling for Vice-President.

Motion was made by McDonald, seconded by Sorenson to close the nominations.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

Acting Chairperson Freckmann called for a voice vote on the nomination motion.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Schrader reported:

- **The Parks officially opened on May 1st, that actually some of the main restrooms were opened earlier as the crews completed their work on them.** He added everything went smoothly.
- **The bleachers we received from Sentry Insurance have been installed at Morton Park. Two sets of bleachers at Iverson are almost up and we are installing three sets at Goerke and will have them up as soon as possible, probably two-three weeks. We will be moving the bleachers that were in Morton Park to Mead Park.**
- **Park building projects are re-roofing the Nature Center, pump house, and tractor shed in Iverson, doors at Bukolt, and the roof at Piffner.**
- **The Long Range surveys are coming in and we have a lot of positive feedback, many favorable comments on the Green Circle Trail. Most of the improvement suggestions are to keep the pool open until Labor Day, our records show we lose most of our lifeguards the middle of August and pool usage falls off sharply about that time. He was sure people would understand that we can't keep the pool open and lose money.**
- **The Clean-up days were very successful. He said the City Forester worked with the University putting wood chips down at Crosby and we will expand on that next year. This is the type of work that takes time and sets us back on other projects.**
- **Slowinski said the majority of the volunteers came from Woodland Church but added we brought this together quickly, next year we will advertise earlier. He also said the volunteers actually ran out of things to do and he sent them to the underpasses, the project was a huge success.**
- **The Director reported the City Forester is holding a "Big Tree Contest" for elementary school children.**
- **May 17-23 is Emerald Ash Borer Awareness week, while we hope it doesn't strike we have to be prepared, 11% of our street trees are Ash.**
- **This is the 30th Anniversary of Special Olympics being held in Stevens Point and efforts are underway to promote sponsoring an athlete for \$30. This is an important event to Stevens Point and if anyone/groups, etc. can help out by sponsoring an athlete and/or by putting up money containers in their businesses they should contact the Convention and Visitors Bureau and they will deliver them.**

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by McDonald, seconded by Sorenson to adjourn the May 6, 2009 Board of Park Commissioners at 7:05 p.m.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

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