

Meeting Minutes
Board of Park Commissioners
Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Index of these minutes:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of the March 5, 2008 Minutes
3. Request to Rebuild World War I Monument in Veterans Memorial Park (Co-Chair John Kedrowski, Veterans Memorial Restoration Committee)
4. Director's Report
5. Adjournment

1. Roll Call

Present: Bahling, Curtis, Freckmann, Glodosky, Hall, McDonald, Okonek, Trzebiatowski, Wiza

Excused: Sorenson

Also Present: Director Schrader, John Kedrowski, Andree Monroe, Peggy Rentz

2. Approval of the March 5, 2008 Minutes

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Hall to approve the March 5, 2008 Board of Park Commissioners minutes and place them on file.

Ayes - all; Nays - none. Motion Carried.

3. Request to Rebuild World War I Monument in Veterans Memorial Park (Co-Chair John Kedrowski, Veterans Memorial Restoration Committee)

John Kedrowski, Co-Chair of the Veterans Memorial Restoration Committee, introduced Andree Monroe as the other Co-Chair of the committee saying she was the one who noticed that the monument was looking shabby and offered her help in finding a solution. Kedrowski said they are looking for permission to tear down and replace the monument with one that is as historically correct as they can make it, he added they are working with Tim Siebert and the Historical Society to achieve that. Both Hall and Trzebiatowski said the monument was deteriorating, Trzebiatowski handed out pictures he had taken showing some of the damage.

Questions for Mr. Kedrowski included:

- Will the cost be covered by all private funds so the City will not have to add to it and Kedrowski said that is the plan, the revised cost comes to \$25,000 and he said he may ask the City to provide labor for the demolition, but he was not sure about that yet.
- Why replacement instead of renovation and Kedrowski said the design is pretty simple, making it more cost effective in the long run, saying a replacement would last longer than a renovation. He said he was hoping to find volunteers in that trade to help with the circle.
- Will the original plaques be put back and Kedrowski said they will, they have budgeted to allow for cleaning and restoration of them.
- Will they be contacting the Stevens Point Women's Club as they are shown as the group who was instrumental in erecting the original monument and Kedrowski said they will be approached for fund raising and ideas as will other community groups.

The consensus of the Board was that it would be better to see the monument rebuilt than allow it to continue to deteriorate.

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Wiza to approve the request to rebuild the World War I Monument in Veterans Park with the following provisions: That no demolition is to occur until a final site plan is approved and all the funds are secured for the full replacement of the monument; that the committee work with the Historical Society to ensure that the monument is as close to the original as possible; that if the City is called upon to provide funds to complete the monument, the project will be reconsidered by the Board.

Ayes - all; Nays - none. Motion Carried.

4. Director's Report

Director Schrader and the Board welcomed Commissioner Hall back after her convalescence.

Director Schrader reported the parks are officially open on May 1st, the bathrooms will be opened as they are de-winterized prior to that date, but only when security is present. He said this has worked well in the past, if there are incidents of vandalism then they will close them until full security is in force.

He reminded the Board that May 17th is the 150th birthday celebration for the City, there will be a parade starting at 11:00 a.m., we do need floats so if they know anyone interested, have them sign up. The floats will be in order of their establishment or event occurrence and will start with the newest, there will be a liars contest, perhaps a lie about how Stevens Point got its name and a general lie, politicians and lawyers will be barred from the contest because they are too well practiced. The 132nd Army Band will perform, hopefully there will be a helicopter flyover, the City Open House, 150 birthday cakes, Point 150 beer and water will be sold, we are encouraging a "great American picnic" and are working to get a vendor to sell brats and hamburgers.

Director Schrader reported registration for the Summer Recreation programs, which consists of swimming and tennis lessons, will start for City residents on April 7th, and for the general public on April 21st.

He said Forester Ernster sent out brochures randomly to create awareness of the benefits our City trees provide to residents and businesses. He added Arbor Day is scheduled for April 25th, a third grade class from Madison School will plant 150 White Pine seedlings to commemorate the City's 150th birthday. He thanked Zblewski Brothers for their donated time and the Golden Sands Homebuilders Association for the donation of the seedlings along with a six foot tall white pine.

He went on to report the work on Oak Wilt tree control should be finishing up, he said the area between the Boy Scout Lodge and Patch Street looks like a war zone, but we are doing what we can to try to control the disease. He added everyone should be reminded not to prune or cut Oaks after April and if a tree breaks and there is an open wound it should be sealed immediately.

Curtis said he was very pleased with a tree pruning done by the City Forester in front of his house, he did a great job. Director Schrader said that proper pruning can actually strengthen a tree against damage from wind and so forth.

5. Adjournment

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by McDonald to adjourn the April 2, 2008 Board of Park Commissioners Meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Ayes - all; Nays - none. Motion Carried.

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Bottom of Form