

Meeting Minutes

Board of Park Commissioners

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1. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Curtis, Freckmann, Glodosky, Hall, McDonald, Okonek, Sorenson, Trzebiatowski, Wiza

EXCUSED: Bahling, Brooks

ALSO PRESENT: Director Schrader, Ald. Hanson, Peggy Rentz, Marcy Kirsch, Jami Gebert, Shane Harwood, Andrew Slemple, Dan Coble, Cathy Dugan, Patrick Thornten, Ryan Soroko, Jason Wendt

2. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 30, 2008 MINUTES

McDonald said she would like to amend Item 3 - "Proposal to Renovate Goerke Stadium" of the April 30, 2008 minutes to include that funding of \$100,000 would be received from the City with \$50,000 each year for ten years from Room Tax.

Motion was made by Hall, seconded by McDonald to approve the amended April 30, 2008 minutes and place them on file.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF LAND FOR GREEN CIRCLE TRAIL

Director Schrader said an easement for the Green Circle Trail had been terminated through a parcel off Wilshire Drive but the Green Circle Committee was able to purchase a strip of land just north of where the old trail was and they would like to donate the newly purchased land to the City for park purposes. He said there is some work to do on the new part of the trail, but they anticipate having it completed by fall and he recommended approval.

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Trzebiatowski to accept the donation of land for park purposes for the Green Circle Trail as presented.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

4. CHANGE IN CONCEPT DESIGN OF SKATEBOARD PARK

Director Schrader said this was brought back to the Board because he felt the change was significant enough to require Board approval. He said in December of 2006 the Skateboard Park Committee presented a proposal, which was approved along with the site in Goerke Park, of a concrete slab with steel/wooden components on the slab; he said this new concrete design is more permanent and would be one to ten feet below grade.

Trzebiatowski said the proposed design is from Dreamland Skateparks and he distributed pictures of the park they put up in Weston, he said it is nearly finished and they used the natural grade to create the shape and were able to use the existing storm water drainage. He said they also opened a park in Lake Delton. He added Weston went through a similar process that we are going through to create the park. He said Dreamland has a reputation for doing quality work at a reasonable price and it seems worth investigating. He added he is still opposed to the Goerke Park location for safety concerns, he feels there are better locations.

Discussion on this item included questions/concerns as follows:

- **Why is below grade better** - members of the Skateboard Committee said some of the reasons include that it is less expensive to excavate than to have fill brought in; it is more usable allowing a more consistent flow and the users can be more creative and are more likely to use the park. Also this type of park may draw people from outside the community.
- **Which type of structure generates less noise** - members of the Skateboard Committee said the concrete structure is quieter because it is smoother, it is like comparing driving over a concrete bridge as opposed to one made of wood and metal. He also said concrete is safer for the users.
- **Is there a change in the size** - a member of the Skateboard Committee said he had erroneously implied that but he said the new proposal is the same size as the old proposal.
- **What is under that site**, such as utilities and type of soil - Director Schrader said Jeff Bahling had the same concerns and he could not be at tonight's meeting, he said Jeff recommended getting a scaled plan. Schrader also said we should be able to find out fairly easily what utilities are under there and the type of soil.
- **The original design would be easier to move to another location** - President Glodosky said if for some reason it would be necessary or practical to move the skateboard park, the wood and metal would be easier to move. He added Plover moved theirs so apparently there are situations that come up to warrant that this be a consideration.
- **Goerke Park Renovation/Parking concerns** - The concern was how this and the upcoming renovation of Goerke Park would affect other park activities and parking. Wiza said the proposed skateboard park was taken into consideration when the renovation was designed.
- **Site Location** - Several suggestions and recommendations were made along with discussion to re-visit the approved site in Goerke Park. President Glodosky said that was not an agenda item, the agenda item at this meeting was to seek approval to change the design concept to concrete rather than the previously approved wood and metal. The Goerke Park site was approved by the Park Board and Common Council in December of 2006.

Motion was made by McDonald, seconded by Curtis to have the Skateboard Committee ask Dreamland Skatepark to provide more specific design plans for the proposed design changes and that the City evaluate what utilities are under the site and the type of soil.

The Skateboard Committee said Dreamland is willing to provide \$2,500 of free services but we would not want to request that unless we had a firmer commitment. Director Schrader said they have one chance to get this free advice so is this the site you want to spend it on, or is there a better site? We will try to get the site information as it relates to utilities to them as soon as we can.

Wiza said he couldn't speak for the rest of the Council but he would be hesitant to offer a preliminary decision without knowing what's under there.

Okonek asked how the fund raising was going and the Committee was pleased to report that there was an anonymous doner who will match any donations from \$15,000 to \$80,000. They added they are doing well with other donations.

A suggestion was made that the Committee have Dreamland look over other sites for input and a Committee member said Dreamland had looked at the Goerke Park site and seemed pleased with it.

President Glodosky called for a voice vote on the motion.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

5. RESOLUTION AS IT RELATES TO SALT STORAGE SHED IN BUKOLT PARK

Director Schrader said the presented resolution was short and to the point and he has since learned that the City may borrow money to move the salt shed.

Motion was made by Wiza, seconded by Sorenson to approve the resolution as it relates to the salt storage shed in Bukolt Park.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

6. UPDATE/POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION ON LEASHLESS DOG EXERCISE AREA (LEASHLESS DOG EXERCISE AREA COMMITTEE)

Ald. Wiza distributed written information and a photo of the proposed site for a leashless dog exercise area. He read through the comments including the survey highlights, the background information and the numbers. He also referred to the photo saying the proposed site is the larger boxed area.

He said there was no drastic opposition to user fees, he added he would like to furnish a dispenser for bags for owners to pick up behind their dogs and a receptacle to dispose of them.

McDonald said this is a good way to keep unleashed dogs out of the other parks, she asked if the fecal material can be dispensed to the treatment plant.

Director Schrader said the feces go into biodegradable bags and into the landfill and Wiza said a treatment plant really isn't set up for this kind of solid waste; it's not a problem for this material to go into a landfill.

McDonald also asked about user fees and tags for annual fees. Wiza said he is tentatively planning \$3/day or \$20/year, he is going by the costs set by the County for their dog park. As for tags, they don't really work that well, they are considering a description of the dog including the breed, etc. and also a license plate number of the purchaser of the annual fee.

A discussion took place on dogs being able to dig down far enough to cause a problem with the fence posts and Glodosky said dogs generally run in a place like this, they don't typically have time to dig holes.

Glodosky added that Ald. Wiza and the Leashless Dog Exercise Area Committee has done a good job on this project and Wiza said they have had a lot of help, especially from the County Parks.

Wiza went on to say that ideally this would be privately funded and they are striving for that but they may have to ask the City for money.

Motion was made by Trzebiatowski, seconded by Hall to make a recommendation to the Common Council to approve the old City Landfill site as presented, square footage, and design.

Curtis asked if this included funding and Wiza said no.

Okonek asked if we need any sort of DNR approval and Wiza said he was told they did not.

President Glodosky called for a voice vote on the motion.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Schrader reported:

- The Goerke Park synthetic turf bid opening will be at 2:00 p.m. tomorrow, there will be a special Council meeting on the 9th and if the bid is approved they are hoping to start work on the 10th to be completed by the start of the football season. The worst case scenario would be next year.
- Tennis and swimming lessons start on Monday, registration was mixed, a lot in some classes and few in others, probably a result of the weather.
- The Point 150 party was well attended, people were already lined up for cake at 11:00 a.m. and waited for two hours, all leftovers including plastic spoons, etc. were donated to the Hope Center.
- The next 150 celebration is the BoDeans on July 3rd and that will kick off Riverfront Rendezvous. He said thanks to Sentry we will have the largest fireworks yet and that will be on Saturday the 5th. He added his thanks to the many sponsors of Riverfront.
- The pool opens on Saturday with the usual opening give-aways and the Willett opens on Monday and will feature Learn to Skate and Crystal Ice Figure Skating Club.
- June 17th will be USA Olympic Softball, gates open at 3:30 p.m., warm up at 5:30 p.m. and the game starts at 7:30 p.m.
- Walk Wisconsin is this weekend.
- Wisconsin Stewardship Program sample resolution to oppose the DNR in denying any Stewardship grant funding to local governments that prohibit the discharge of firearms, hunting or trapping to protect the public. He said he thought the reason the DNR considered the change is due to a group of hunters near Waukesha who were unable to continue hunting on a piece of land Waukesha County purchased. If the DNR put those restrictions into place it would affect numerous local governments that would be penalized for protecting the public.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Hall, seconded by Okonek to adjourn the June 4, 2008 Board of Park Commissioners meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

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