

Meeting Minutes

Board of Park Commissioners

Wednesday, October 1, 2008 Index of these minutes:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of the September 3, 2008 Minutes
3. Director's Report
4. Adjournment

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Curtis, Freckmann, Glodosky, Hall, McDonald, Sorenson

Excused: Bahling, Brooks, Trzebiatowski, Wiza

Absent: Okonek

Also Present: Director Schrader, Peggy Rentz, Sally Freckmann

2. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 3, 2008 MINUTES

Motion was made by Hall, seconded by Freckmann to approve the September 3, 2008 minutes and place them on file.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

3. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

• **The City Forester attended a DNR viewing and talk on the Emerald Ash Borer infestation in Washington County. They discussed the state and community responses.** Director Schrader said this is spread primarily by humans by doing things such as bringing in firewood from an infested area, he said it is believed that nature spreads this very slowly. Discussion took place on how many trees in Stevens Point are Ash and how close it now is. Director Schrader said he thought about 11-12% of our street trees are Ash, there may be more on private property. He said they are using different techniques to stop the spread and the fear is this may be worse than Dutch Elm. It may be very costly and he said some counties in the southeastern part of the state are starting to budget for it in case it does happen. He said they have found it in Washington County and they thought it was brought in by a nursery. Liz McDonald said she has heard of it in the Upper Peninsula.

Liz McDonald asked how the Elm tree loss was this year and Director Schrader said he thought it was high again probably due to the dry season putting additional stress on the trees.

Sue Hall said some Oak trees in her neighborhood are marked and she asked when they would be removed and Director Schrader said most likely in the winter when the risk of spreading the Oak Wilt is less.

• **Director Schrader said we have put promotional signs on buses advertising the Tree-mendous benefits of trees. It shows that trees help save on energy by cooling or as a windbreak, they help with runoff, and they increase the value of property.**

• **Director Schrader also reported that the Forester is working on a DNR Forestry Grant that will cover tree inventory updates, a street tree management plan, public awareness/staff training and the replanting of Plover Street.**

• **He reported Goerke Field is going well, we are still working out details on rentals and that sort of thing. He said he had a lead on Packer Youth Camp and he said he notified them that we would be interested in hosting a Packer Football camp.**

• **He said we will be hosting Sweet Lips on Saturday in the Pfiffner Building, tickets are on sale at the Park and Rec. office or at the door for \$13.00. This is their last show as a group, it is adult humor and they do a good job.**

• **He said October 12th is the last day the lodges and park restroom facilities are open, except for the All Purpose Lodge. He said they will begin winterizing on the 13th, they will leave some of the restrooms open as long as they can, we will not have security after the 12th so if vandalism occurs we will close them up. He said the restrooms at the boat landing are heavily used not only by boaters but by people biking and walking, we have had positive feed back on those restrooms. He said we will be planting trees and shrubs on the east side in an effort to camouflage the building.**

• **Doors have been replaced on the Pfiffner building as well as the Central Company. The new doors replace non-repairable doors and not only look better but are more efficient and easier to use. Windows are being replaced at the Nature Center and other buildings in Iverson Park. We have spent a good deal of the last month fixing up buildings that have been put aside for some time.**

• **Joe Graceffa is working part time on the winter recreation programs, he is taking registrations for basketball and volleyball leagues. It is an adjustment for the participants to have him in a part time position and not always available; he has been working mainly on weekends. We are hopeful this will turn out as well as the tennis program did. The tennis lessons were taken out of the budget but we had an excellent instructor from the university who took over the program. We had a lot of excellent feedback about her and her assistant, and not only were we able to keep the tennis program going, we actually made a little money.**

President Glodosky asked how work was coming on the Green Circle loop on Wilshire and Director Schrader said the construction is finished, they will be putting on new granite. He said the Moses Creek boardwalk has been torn out and should be open this fall. There will be a grand opening in May, we didn't want to have it this fall because we are working with work study students who work when they are available. He said they have done a beautiful job.

Glodosky said we should have blacktopped the hill that comes down on Patch Street on the Green Circle to stop the erosion. Director Schrader said we checked on it and the problem was they only had a 10 foot paver and would have had to cut the bank back and we didn't have the crews to do that. He said something he was going to check on was a product that is mixed with gravel and turns in a concrete like finish. Something like that would eliminate the erosion problem.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Curtis, seconded by Hall to adjourn the October 1, 2008 Board of Park Commissioners meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

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