

Meeting Minutes

Board of Park Commissioners

February 7, 2001. Roll Call

Present - Glodosky, Molski, Phillips, Freckmann, McDonald, West, Nealis, Somers, Okonek, Sachs

Absent Excused - Aldinger

Also Present - Bernice Sevenich, Jo Seiser, Amy Heart, John Brown, Lawrence & Lisa Lee, Juanita Keller, Tim Karcheski

2. Approval of the January 3, 2001 Minutes

Motion was made by Phillips, seconded by Molski to approve the Minutes of the January 3, 2001 Meeting.

Ayes: all, Nays: none. Motion carried.

3. Request From Lawrence and Lisa Lee to Sell, to the City, Property at 2424 Bush Street

Schrader stated that the Lees approached him in regards to the City buying, their property, at 2424 Bush Street. This property is adjacent to the property we purchased last month, and is identified in our adopted Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan as a parcel, we should purchase, for the expansion of Morton Park. Schrader said that this request, has been forwarded on, to the Finance Committee.

Motion was made by Freckmann, seconded by Phillips to purchase the property at 2424 Bush Street.

Ayes: Sachs, Molski, Freckmann, Somers, Glodosky, West, Okonek, Phillips, McDonald

Abstained: Nealis

Motion carried.

4. Recommendation on 2001-2002 Soda Vending Contract

Schrader stated that our current two year soda contract with Coca-Cola expired December 31, 2000, and quotes were sent out asking for a two year contract 2001-2002. We received two quotes; Coca-Cola and Pepsi Cola. Schrader further stated that, this past year, we vended 8,688 cans/bottles of Coca-Cola products which generated \$3,298.48 in revenue, for the Department. Schrader explained that to date he has received three complaints about the placement of soda machines in the parks.

John Brown felt that we are in a marketing partnership with Coca-Cola and that the numbers, purchasing the product, can't count as votes in favor of having the machines.

Amy Heart questioned when the decision was made to place the machines in the parks and who made that inquiry in the first place. She felt we should table this motion.

Schrader commented that the Board was approached in 1994, by Coca-Cola and a one year contract was agreed upon at that time. Since then, the contract has been reviewed and no complaints have been received, until this year, when he received three about the lights glaring from the machines. He further stated, that out of 400 acres of park land, 175 acres is urban with the rest left in its natural state. There are only 10 soda machines, in the parks, located in the active community parks such as Bukolt and Pfiffner Pioneer Park.

Freckmann said he had some philosophical concerns on the advertising, the money taken in does help, but is very minor and perhaps we should look at this at a different time. He also asked where the money goes and Schrader said in the general park fund.

Jo Seiser spoke to the Commission and wanted to deny the contract for three reasons; (1) there should be no advertising in parks, except maybe around the softball diamonds, (2) she walks by the machines at the Bukolt bathhouse and finds them unsightly and (3) receipts of any products influences your decision like a bribe, especially the staff party, it clouds your decision.

Juanita Keller wanted to thank the Commission for turning off the lights when machines are not in use and does not favor commercial advertising or corporate sponsorship in our parks. She feels that people can bring their beverage of choice into the park etc. leaving the parks in their natural state. She feels that allowing the machines, we are violating our mission statement of protecting the natural beauty of our parks.

Bernice Sevenich asked if we open bids up to anyone and Schrader said that Coca-Cola, Pepsi and RC were notified. She felt that no favoritism was shown; it was open to all.

Glodosky felt that the parks do not have to be all the same and the machines are only in the active parks. That we do have a lot of natural undeveloped areas one can go to if that is what they want.

Okonek asked if there is a better place to put the machines and Schrader said that they need to be near electrical thus their location is next to existing buildings.

Molski said she appreciates the machines as she goes biking a lot and gets thirsty on the trails, attends the band concerts and enjoys a soda there, plus there are only 10 machines. She said that there are always going to be people that think differently. She even would like to see a machine at River Pines.

Nealis agreed with Molski and felt that you are always going to have two different types of people; those that favor the machines and those that do not; the numbers seem to speak for themselves that there is a need for this and he approves.

Somers felt that 8,700 pieces of product were bought by people just happening to go by, felt thirsty and bought the product; they didn't intentionally go in the park to purchase soda. She felt we can look at this contract in the future and directed Schrader to take night pictures and day shots of where the soda machines are located etc. to get a better idea of what we are looking at and discuss as an agenda item at a future date.

Tim Karcheski, representing Coca-Cola said they are just trying to provide a service and could negotiate a 30 day, yearly, or whatever terms we would like to set up.

McDonald agreed that perhaps we could form a committee to study this issue at a future time.

Motion was made by Glodosky, seconded by West to approve the contract for the years 2001-2002 for Coca-Cola to have vending machines in the parks.

Ayes; all, Nays; none. Motion carried.

5. Discussion and Recommendation on Commission Meeting Starting Time

Molski requested that we possibly look at starting our meetings earlier and consensus was that 6:30 p.m. seemed to be the best time for everyone.

Motion was made by Phillips, seconded by Sachs to change the Park Board Meeting time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Ayes; all, nays; none. Motion carried.

6. Discussion and Recommendation on Lexington Subdivision Plat (Mocadlo Property Old HWY 18 & Brilowski Road)

Schrader explained that the city has received a request from Mocadlo about bringing into the city, a 30 acre parcel he owns. The parcel is located along Brilowski Road, Old HWY 18 and behind Wal-Mart. He reviewed this request with Community Development Gardner and both agreed that when looking at this request, we should be looking at the entire area from Brilowski Road, Old HWY 18, HWY 10 and County HWY J. When looking at the potential residential development that this entire area can handle, approximately 2,400 single family homes, we should review this request as it relates to the entire area. Schrader recommended that we look at developing the following for this area; two small parks (2 to 4 acres), one large park (20 to 40 acres) and a trail system that goes through the subdivisions connecting all the parks. This trail system would also connect up to the proposed trail system in the County Industrial Park, that will connect to the Green Circle spur along Hoover Road. He specified that the subdivision we are reviewing is north of where he would propose a trail system and west of the first proposed small park; therefore, is recommending that we take cash-in-lieu of land as per the city ordinance and Old HWY 18 right-a-way be widen to 43 feet from centerline to accommodate a bike lane as per the adopted Bike/Pedestrian Plan.

Nealis complimented Schrader on his detailed map and long range planning.

Motion was made by Nealis, seconded by Phillips to take cash-in-lieu of land on the Lexington Subdivision Plat.

Ayes; all, Nays; none. Motion carried.

7. 2001 Special Events Funding

The Special Events Committee funded the following programs/events for 2001.

Portage County Historical Society "1941-1945" \$1,500.00

Friends of 2713 "2001 A Train Odyssey/Open House \$1,125.00

St.Pt. Municipal Airport "Fly-in Drive-in" Up to \$3,500.00

8. Director's Report

- Winter Sports Area open since December 14th.; having a great season
- Web-site doing great with over 200,000 hits
- Surplus budget funds (able to use half) used as follows:
 - New gate at Goerke Stadium
 - Glass backboards at Rec Center
 - Re-crown infields
 - Plover River sign
 - Upgrade electrical services at Pfiffner
 - Lights at Willett
 - Flooring at Willett
 - Trailer (2)
 - Life Pack
 - Carbon Monoxide detector
 - Locator
 - Nets at Willett
 - PA system at outdoor rink at Goerke

9. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Commissioners, Motion was made by Molski, seconded by Glodosky to adjourn meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Ayes; all, Nays; none. Motion carried.

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