

Town of Grand Chute
Park Commission
Monday, March 14, 2016
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Joan Haag, Joy Hagen, John Jones, Kathryn Pennings, Karen Petersen, Mike Schmidt, Supervisor Thyssen, Donna Van Buecken

Members Absent:

Others Present: Mike Arft, Tom Marquardt, Mike Patza, Lisa Mroczkowski, Trish Nau, Michelle Timmers

President Petersen called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Motion by Commissioner Haag, seconded by Commissioner Hagen to approve minutes from the February 8, 2016 meeting.

Vote on Motion (7/0)

APPEARANCES

NONE

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approve recreation classes

Lisa stated she is trying to get some recreation classes formed for town residents. She stated Michelle Timmers is here tonight to talk about a Zumba class she would like to instruct.

Michelle stated she would like to teach two nights a week or maybe an early morning class.

Lisa state she is looking for support from the Park Commission for these classes and also to use town facilities for these classes and develop a full recreation program like other communities have.

Director Marquardt stated we do budget every year for undesignated programs trying to expand our recreation program. The idea is that as we grow our program we might be able to partner with the other communities and not have to pay the non-resident fee.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidt to direct staff to pursue recreation programs with the budgeted money and allow the use of town facilities for these classes and to keep the Park Commission updated as to the success of the classes, seconded by Commissioner Haag.

Vote on Motion. (7/0)

2. Weight of the Fox Valley resolution

Commissioner Hagen stated she has been involved with this organization for the past year. She stated she is looking for the town to support the initiatives of this organization which is to promote a healthier life style in the tri-county area. She stated Town of Clayton, City of Oshkosh,

City of Appleton, Town of Greenville, City of Kaukauna and the Town of Menasha have approved their support for the Weight of the Fox Valley resolution.

Commissioner Pennings asked how this resolution is going to get people to be more active?

Commissioner Hagen stated this helps provide the opportunity to be more active.

Commissioner Pennings stated people already have the opportunity.

Commissioner Hagen stated they are not looking at changing any town policies, they are just looking at supporting what the town already has in place.

Commissioner Schmidt stated it is up to the Park Commission to support this.

Supervisor Thyssen suggested that we have the Town Attorney look at this resolution.

Commissioner Van Buecken asked why we are asking to support the Appleton Transportation plan and Oshkosh Metropolitan Plan? Why are we not supporting the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission plan?

Commissioner Hagen stated we are part of the Appleton Transportation Management Area. It is just the name given to the area.

Commissioner Van Buecken is concerned that if we support this resolution we are opening up for other organizations to request the same support for their initiatives.

Motion by Commissioner Haag to consult with the Town Attorney for the Weight of Fox Valley Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Van Buecken.

Vote on Motion. (7/0)

3. Approve participation in National Trails Day

Lisa stated she thought this would be a great idea to promote our parks and trails.

Park Commissioner thought it was a great idea.

Motion by Commissioner Haag to present to the Town Board the Park Commissioner support for the town to participate and through a proclamation make June 4, 2016 as National Trail Day, seconded by Commissioner Pennings.

Vote on Motion. (6/0/1-Van Buecken)

OLD BUSINESS

a. Town Center Park (Trish Nau-ECWRPC)

Trish Nau reviewed the survey results. She stated the results show the top three things that residents want are a heated shelter, a water feature and a playground. She stated the new trend is to build a natural playground. These types of playgrounds utilize natural amenities such as tree stumps, logs and more natural materials.

The next step will be setting up a public workshop to showcase the ideas for the park. Mike Patza will set this up along with Director Marquardt, Trish, and Mike.

Supervisor Thyssen suggested forming a sub-committee for the Town Center Park that would report back to the Park Commission on the progress of the park. This way the sub-committee can make decisions on a timelier manner and then report back to the Commission.

Motion by Commissioner by Schmidt to have staff report the exact area for the Town Center Park so the Park Commissioner can designate as park land, seconded by Commissioner Haag.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

i. Park Maintenance Report

- Maple Edge picnic tables are ordered
- 1500' of curbing was put down on the Arrowhead Park Boardwalk
- Dumpster enclosures lowered
- Volleyball posts straightened
- Winter clean up
- Appleton West Baseball Club donating \$1500 towards improvements to the North diamond at Carter Woods Park.
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ii. Director's Memo

See Director Memo (Attached)

iii. Park & Recreation Revenue Report ending February 29, 2016

iv. Greenways Report

- Going to use funds from the Outagamie County Grant program to stripe trails in the area.
- Public Hearing on March 22 at 10:30 AM to discuss the Outagamie County Park Space needs at the county board room.

v. Town Board Liaison Report

Supervisor Thyssen stated he is glad to see the support by the Town Board for more park development.

vi. President's Report

President Peterson stated this may be her last meeting.

vii. Correspondence Report

- Emails about Fat Tire race
- WPRRA survey
- Park Commission Email change

viii. Bike and Pedestrian Trail Update

Nothing

ix. Lecker Park Trails

Nothing

Commissioner Haag motioned to adjourn meeting, seconded by Commissioner Pennings. Meeting was adjourned at 6:32 PM.

Vote on Motion. (7/0)

These are approved minutes that were taken at a regular meeting held on March 14, 2016 by:

Lisa Mroczkowski, Office Coordinator, Department of Public Works, Town of Grand Chute.