

City of Evansville, Wisconsin
Park & Recreation Board Regular Monthly Meeting

City Hall

Monday, January 12th, 2015 6:00pm

MINUTES

1. Call to Order & Roll Call Hamilton, Hels, Anderson, Fuchs, Courtier, Fuson 6:01
2. Motion to approve Agenda as printed by Hamilton, 2nd by Courtier
3. Motion to waive the reading of the December 8th, 2014 minutes & approve them as printed by Fuchs, 2nd by Courtier

4. Citizen appearances, relating to Park & Recreation, not listed agenda items:

Noel and Robin Oscar, 120 Grove St. Evansville: Concerns about disc golfers from the park on their property. This is not concern with the regular golfers who seem to respect the property. However there are a number of golfers whose discs end up in their yard and in an effort to retrieve them have trampled small bushes, flower beds and other plantings that they are trying to establish in the yard. Also, now that the bathrooms are closed they have witnessed people urinating in the park. In addition they have two children that they don't feel can play safely in the yard due to number of strangers. They also own a large well trained dog and are concerned with the consequences of an attack if the dog should try to protect the property. One golfer came, adamant that the disc had to be played from where it landed came face to face with the dog. Fuchs asked if this happens on a daily basis? Yes, weekends during nice weather especially. They realized that living next to the park would present certain issues but wish that the golfers would respect the properties surrounding the park. Anderson asked for suggestions on how to the problem. Fences would be cost prohibitive but they worked with Mark Sendlebach (volunteer that helps maintain the disc golf course, present at meeting) to post signs and to develop a home rule that discs that end up on the property would be played from a drop zone within the park. This seems to have helped but it was done later in the fall

Dan Laux 134 Grove. , Has a fence which forces golfers come to the door.

Fences are cost prohibitive. Signs seem to have helped.

Dan is an avid regular golfer and each course has local rules posted. Would this be appropriate to post signs at a few spots where certain home rules apply (hole 5)? Out of bounds with restrictions could be

posted. Signs currently list it as a drop zone. Dan likes the golfers but doesn't want them in his or anyone else's yards.

Anderson—could Mark address it on the website? Yes. White stakes are out of bounds and golfers would know to go to drop area.

Other issues include public urination which could be ice fisherman, disc golfers and other park users. (Pictures were presented.)

Dan Bryce 104 Grove Street has the same issues. A weekend tournament held in the fall was a problem. Also raised concerns about parking by the Baker Building (Antes St.) On weekends the intersection by the Baker Building becomes blocked up creating a traffic issue. Need to address parking in the area.

John Decker asked about addressing the bathroom issue. Current bathrooms can't be used—not suitable for cold weather. Porta-potties may be required, Anderson will look into costs and have one or two installed. Need the park to be usable in the winter. Anderson--Part of the disc golf issue could that the Evansville course is open year round. Evansville is ranked 4 nationally. Noel felt that weekend tournaments cause issues with park crowding and asked if this was acceptable. Sendelebach responded that they disc golf course was sighted through unused areas of the park and that there is plenty of room for all. One reason the tournament was held in October was because the park has less usage at that time. Hels—is it the course designed for hooks and slices, could it be changed? Mark said yes it was designed with that in mind but many of the on how to deal with the issues.

Ron Gay 31 West Church Street. Suggested the posting of rules on the offending holes. Appropriate attractive boundary markers. Some people will violate no matter what, but 90% will respect the property. Fuchs supported efforts to better mark off the property, and requested that the Oscars and other affected home owners to keep in contact with the Board in order to monitor and rectify any issues.

Mayor Sandy Decker announce that Cheryl Mani has resigned from the PRB and Dan Bryce has been nominated and voted on by the Common Council at the January 13 meeting.

5. Discussion regarding park closing drive to thru traffic during winter—Ron Gay

Mr. Gay presented the attached document and read the document. Mr. Gay feels that by closing off the park to cars the park is closed. Anderson stated that the roads are plowed even with the gates closed in case there was a need for emergency vehicles.

Fuchs thanked Mr. Gay for the input. Courtier cited excessive fishing pressure as one of many reasons for the gate closure since the lake was over fished two years ago during the winter. Gay suggested that was a DNR issue. Anderson also pointed out that all emergency personnel have keys. Gay feels that it is the people's park and it should remain open. Fuson pointed out that in response to Mr. Gay's letter published in the Evansville Review he had received phone calls but all were for keeping the gate closed. People who

walk in the park are in favor of the current action. Mr. Gay maintains there are others who want to enjoy the park but can't walk it.

6. Discussion for developing a check list for Park projects : Reference to Park Plan, last few chapters
Recycling receptacles next to trash cans—current recycling company does not offer bins for the park. Fuson will check on bins. Who will be responsible for moving the recycling—Ray or other park worker? Since recycling is common, need to investigate possibilities. Decker—recycling is required for residents but not in the park and the PRB should try to come up with a solution. Anderson will talk to Advance (current recycling company) to find out if it is available. Anderson will try to make some basic receptacles.
Programs and Policy section of the plan encourages the board to reference the plan when making budget recommendations. The PRB has been doing that and is making progress in accomplishing the goals set forth in the plan
Monitor and evaluate the plan—being done
Investigate partnerships with the schools for recreation programs. On the schedule for 2015
Geese issues, how to mitigate. Anderson said it depends on the year. Only a few times during the 2014 summer was there an issue. Anderson will continue to monitor the issue.
Courtier—more planting in the park? Not recently.
Programs Section—High priority to create youth summer recreation program—Fuchs is in favor. This type of program would need staff and support and is not in the budget at this time.
Anderson asked about working with the Youth Center. Mary Decker said it was something to work with the school on. In Kenosha the schools manage activities even if the programs are in the park.
Start volunteer group 'friends of the park' would be another way to accomplish this and is in the plan.
Projects: 3.4, make available maps of walking and biking routes in the city. There are no established walking trails and no trail around the lake. Decker stated that if the Ice Age Trail decides on Evansville signage and mapping would also happen as well.
High Priority—inventory of recreation facilities – town/city/county facilities. Is this a directory? Not included in current budget. Noel Oscar suggested a website posting so there isn't additional expenses. Fuchs felt that was a good idea. How would we keep it upgraded? Decker—student working on an app to be completed in a few years. Fuchs, maybe not a written form needed. Walking tour brochures went over well and there is usually a shortage of them.
Pertaining to the West Side Park, Mayor Decker said paperwork is completed and additional land now is parkland, the Board will need to start work on a new plan for West Side Park. This is an additional 10 acres which brings the total park to 25 acres. Seven acres are already slated for use as the community garden which will begin this spring (2015). The gardens have been plotted so there will be room for 80 gardens. The Board is unsure of how they will be allocated but there may be a charge with a possibility of subsidies for low income. Will ask the community garden organizers back for an update. Hels asked about access

and parking issues during soccer. Anderson said more parking will be available from the Wyler Drive side with the additional land. Needs review by the municipal services board.

Contact Will Ganje about the pool.

7. Discussion for Wind Prairie Restoration. What has been done? Anderson met with Rock County Conservationist Sweeney, trees are marked and work will be done in the spring. Seed is budgeted.
8. Reports/Updates on projects or Maintenance Anderson—Porta pottie in the park—should Anderson pursue that? He will check with Ace Portables, price will probably be better if we agree to a 3 month rental. Should it come out of the park budget? It should be less than \$500 per season. Anderson will start with one and determine if there is a need for a second. He look into placing it on the west end of the shelter in a location where it can be chained. No progress on West Side shelter. What was budgeted for equipment at Brezinski? \$2500. Tennis court budget? \$2500. Anderson will get bids. Antes fund can be used for solar tubes in the shelter and Magee Construction will install. Need estimate for review by the fund.
9. Old Business: None.
10. New Business : None
11. Motion to adjourn Courtier/Fuson 7:33.

Next meeting Monday, February 9th, 2015 - 6:00 pm, City Hall