

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

City Hall

Monday February 9th, 2015 6:00pm

MINUTES

1. Call to Order at 6:02. Roll Call: Fuchs, Hamilton, Courtier, Fuson, Hels, Brice, Anderson
2. Motion to approve Agenda as printed by Courtier, 2nd Hels
3. Motion to waive the reading of the January 12th, 2014 minutes & approve them as printed by Fuchs, 2nd by Fuson
4. Citizen appearances, relating to Park & Recreation, not listed agenda items: Ron Gay, 31 W. Church St. concerning the closing of Leonard Leota Park. (attached document). Felt the Board did not want DNR's help/ contacted DNR Kirk Welke (sp) Rock Co. Fishery Manager. Feels the fish issue can be handled more wisely and help the fishing situation with a scientific approach from DNR. Felt the issues facing walkers could be dealt with by plowing the snow farther back from the edge of the road so walkers would not be forced into snow drifts by passing traffic. Asking that the Board add the topic of reopening the Park at the next meeting so it can be voted on. Maintains that the Park is closed but told it is open. Fuchs said that she we would like to make sure of the protocol to make a change to a previously voted on motion. Fuchs said there hasn't been anyone else that has complained. Hamilton pointed out that there wasn't evidence to back some of the claims of the number of people who weren't happy with the closure. Discussion about the work done by DNR in the past including shocking that has taken place and the attempt to get DNR to come to work on limits. Gay believes that the DNR could have limits in place by next year if that is the reason for the closing. SOLE knows the number of fish stocked. Gay believes that it should be open to "most of the users". Fuchs pointed out that there hasn't been anyone else to complain about the decision. Hamilton is willing to act as a contact with DNR. Gay suggested each member of the Board do an informal survey. Anderson, who works in the Park, said that he hasn't heard that feedback. Fuchs said she will make phone calls and put it on the agenda for March. Anderson suggested that the Park remain closed for the rest of this season and that we reconsider it for November, December 2015. Gay felt that was a fair solution. Hels said if there is a way to have the DNR do a complete lake survey and suggested if possible

the City should considering pursuing it. Costs involved? Without a boat ramp it is uncertain if there is a cost. Main reasons for closure are safety for walkers, damage to the park.

5. Discussion / Handout packets on Smart Growth Plan : Jason Sergeant

Last adopted in 2005, current plan is on the website, Chapter 6, page 80, covers facilities including the Parks. The new plan will last until 2035 and should be reviewed in conjunction with the Park Plan. Either e-mail Jason with comment or add a longer agenda item to the March meeting. Chapter 7 is more extensive about Leonard Leota Park. Visual Preference Survey on the website. Jason would like to attend a meeting should we put it on the agenda for comments.

6. Discussion to develop a check list for Park projects for 2015

Went through park plan and reviewed all parts that were rated very high and high in the plans. Fuchs will review the plan and bring ideas from it to the March meeting. Will review the budgetary considerations as well. Board should review the park plan and bring those ideas too.

7. Reports/Updates on projects or Maintenance

Anderson has received quotes on the tennis and basketball courts, tear out, redo, seal, post, nets, was quoted at \$38,500, which is over budget. Cost for just two tennis courts, city to remove the old blacktop, \$25,000, postpone b-ball courts until 2016. Tennis courts need acrylic coating. Waiting for a few more quotes. Will have to decide the extent of the work that can be completed in 2015. Total budget for the projects was \$25,000. Courtier asked if concrete would be less expensive than blacktop.

West side shelter is still held up by weather.

Porta-potty has been installed behind the lower (Hannaberry) shelter. Can be seen by disc golfers and fisherman. Will be removed once bathrooms are open.

8. Old Business: none

9. New Business; Parking, Brice suggested to not allow parking on the east side of Antes street at east entrance to the park as it blocks the sight line for drivers on Grove Street. Need to look at parking issue at the park entrance. Is it a Park Board item or a Public Safety Commission item?

10. Motion to adjourn made by Courtier, 2nd by Hamilton at 6:57 pm

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