Board of Park Commissioners

335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
http://www.de-pere.org

Regular Meeting

Final Minutes

Thursday, November 15, 2018 | 6:30 PM | De Pere City Hall Council Chambers

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Board Member George Brown

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Ryan Jennings	Alderperson	Present	
Larry Lueck	Alderperson	Present	
Dean Raasch	Alderperson	Present	
George Brown	Board Member	Present	
Sue Schinkten	Board Member	Present	
Randy Soquet	Board Member	Excused	
Bill Volpano	Board Member	Excused	
Lydia McMorrow	Teen Advisor	Excused	
William Soquet	Teen Advisor	Present	

II. Action Items

1. Approve Board of Park Commissioners Minutes from the October 18, 2018 Meeting.

Sue Schinkten moved to approve the minutes from the October 18, 2018 Board of Park Commissioners meeting, seconded by Alderperson Raasch. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Sue Schinkten, Board Member
SECONDER:	Dean Raasch, Alderperson
AYES:	Jennings, Lueck, Raasch, Brown, Schinkten
EXCUSED:	Randy Soquet, Bill Volpano

2. Consider and approve draft plan for Fairgrounds property.

Marty Kosobucki reviewed the draft plan for the Brown County Fairgrounds property. The draft plan accommodates all of the city recommendations and provides a little enhancement. The drive through the oak trees has been removed and will be replaced with a pedestrian trail to minimize vehicle traffic. Also, instead of paved parking areas, a permeable surface would be installed, which looks like grass, but holds up to vehicle traffic. The plan has not been approved by Brown County yet, they are asking for De Pere and Ashwaubenon for their approval first.

Alderperson Raasch moved to open the meeting to public comment at 6:35 pm., seconded by Sue Schinkten. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Matt Kriese, Assistant Park Director for Brown County Parks, and John Kneer, President Rettler Corporation were present to discuss the draft plan for the fairgrounds property, stating a lot of market analysis and research was done, and recommendations are to keep the property similarly to what is there, but enhance the buildings. The proposed new multi-use building increases usable space in one area, allowing the opportunity to accommodate larger events. Enhancements to the parking areas improve parking efficiency and the installation of permeable surface allow for parking during in climate weather without destroying the grass.

Discussion followed.

Alderperson Raasch moved to return to regular order at 6:40 pm, seconded by Sue Schinkten. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.
Alderperson Raasch moved to approve the draft plan for the Brown County Fairgrounds property, seconded by Alderperson Lueck. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Dean Raasch, Alderperson
SECONDER:	Larry Lueck, Alderperson
AYES:	Jennings, Lueck, Raasch, Brown, Schinkten
EXCUSED:	Randy Soquet, Bill Volpano

3. Consider request from Alderperson Hansen to replace trees taken down during construction projects.

Alderperson Hansen explained currently if trees are removed during construction projects, the cost of replacing the tree would be the property owner's responsibility. This is different than other items damaged during construction projects, with curb and gutter and lawn being replaced by the city. Alderperson Hansen is recommending that the city fund the replacement of trees that are removed for construction projects.
Discussion followed.
Alderperson Lueck questioned if these costs should be rolled into the project costs rather than the parks budget.
Marty Kosobucki commented that the development team recommends that if the Park Board is interested in moving forward with the city funding tree replacements, the cost of replacing the trees be included in the project, but the planting of the trees be handled by the city forester. If this is the preferred direction, then this would need to be referred to the Board of Public Works.
Sue Schinkten questioned if a portion of the tree planting grant could be used to replace trees in the future.
Alderperson Raasch questioned if the property owner would have the option if a new tree is put in.
Alderperson Jennings questioned the number of trees that are typically removed per year.
Alderperson Raasch moved to defer the request to replace trees taken down during construction projects to the Board of Public Works, seconded by Sue Schinkten. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Dean Raasch, Alderperson
SECONDER:	Sue Schinkten, Board Member
AYES:	Jennings, Lueck, Raasch, Brown, Schinkten
EXCUSED:	Randy Soquet, Bill Volpano

4. Approve Brown County Ice Management Quarterly Report.

George Brown moved to approve the Brown County Ice Management quarterly report, seconded by Alderperson Jennings. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	George Brown, Board Member
SECONDER:	Ryan Jennings, Alderperson
AYES:	Jennings, Lueck, Raasch, Brown, Schinkten
EXCUSED:	Randy Soquet, Bill Volpano

5. Consider policy change for renting fields to private user groups.

Alderperson Lueck discussed policy changes for renting fields to private user groups. He has questions on how the program will be managed, the criteria for groups renting the fields, insurance requirements, and what would be included with the rental. The user groups put a lot of money into the fields and he is concerned with the integrity of the fields being maintained.
Discussion followed
Marty Kosobucki commented that currently there is a practice permit policy in place for residents. Practice permits can be obtained no more than 2 times in a 7 day period, and times are not released until all user groups have submitted their schedules. He would propose that fields would be rented out to organizations, only after all user groups schedules are in, and insurance requirements would need to be met to cover any damage to the fields.
Alderperson Raasch moved to refer the item back to staff to draft a rental policy, seconded by George Brown. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	**REFERRED BACK TO STAFF [UNANIMOUS]** **Next: 12/20/2018 6:30 PM**
MOVER:	Dean Raasch, Alderperson
SECONDER:	George Brown, Board Member
AYES:	Jennings, Lueck, Raasch, Brown, Schinkten
EXCUSED:	Randy Soquet, Bill Volpano

III. Discussion Item

1. Discussion on implications and strategies related to VFW Pool being closed for 2018.

Marty Kosobucki discussed strategies that are being implemented for the closing of the VFW pool in 2019. The structure of swim lessons at Legion has been reviewed and there is a plan in place for the overflow from VFW. Strategies for summer day camp are in the planning process, and the parking and traffic team is looking into current bus routes within the city and if transportation to Legion pool could be implemented.
Discussion followed.

RESULT:	**DISCUSSED**

2. Discussion on the referendum results regarding the De Pere Pools.

Discussion on the referendum results regarding the De Pere pools followed.
George Brown commented that a lot of thought, time, deliberations, and money has been spent on the design of VFW pool and feels we should go through with the existing plan and then design Legion pool.
Alderperson Lueck stated that when the plan was designed, it was with the intention of closing Legion pool and feels it needs to be revised.

Alderperson Raasch feels that the design for the aquatic center needs to be scaled back; however with VFW pool failing the demolition of the pool should start even if the design isn't confirmed.
Marty Kosobucki feels that the park board needs to make a decision and present to council what conceptual idea they would like to move forward with.
Alderperson Jennings feels there is a need to radically scale back on what can be done for two pools and there needs to be a push to get donors.
Alderperson Lueck stated the referendum was drafted with the greatest flexibility possible to get aquatic centers on both sides of the river. Public input should be gathered to see what is wanted, but it needs to move forward.
Alderperson Raasch commented that the referendum gives flexibility to do what we want, but we do have to be prudent with the funds.
Sue Schinkten made a motion to open the meeting to public comment at 7:40 pm, seconded by Alderperson Jennings. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.
Betsy Hornseth feels that the public needs to be engaged and public input needs to be obtained.
Gene Hackbarth feels it is really important to keep moving forward with the pool, and part of the strategy should be to get community input. He also feels it is important to get additional funders for the pool.
Discussion followed.
Alderperson Raasch motioned to return to regular order at 7:45 pm, seconded by Alderperson Jennings. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.
George Brown questioned the bidding out of the demolition of the pool.
Discussion followed.
Marty Kosobucki stated he could look into amending the current contract with Graef to revise the current VFW aquatic center design and start the process of designing Legion. There is additional stadium funding available to be used for consultant fees for the aquatic center design. If Graef is able to provide necessary information, he will look into scheduling a special park board meeting in early December. This would allow an amendment to go to the last council meeting in December for approval.

RESULT:	**DISCUSSED**

IV. Staff Updates

1. Update on progress of the Communty Stage in Voyageur Park.

   Marty Kosobucki stated he asked for an update on the community stage. Carol Karls, from the De Pere Chamber of Commerce, stated they just completed a survey and are analyzing the data received.

RESULT:	**DISCUSSED**

2. Update on Chiller system repair at Ice Arena.

   Marty Kosobucki stated the temporary chiller system is up and running. There is ice, and the chiller barrel is ordered. The goal is getting the new system up and running in December.

RESULT:	**DISCUSSED**

V. Future Agenda Items

Future agenda items include the pool and the field rental policy.

VI. Public Comment Period

Mikaela, Nolan, Jackson, and Noah from the De Pere Voyageur Hockey society were in attendance to thank the park board for replacing the bleachers and chiller system at the De Pere Ice Arena.

VII. Adjournment

Sue Schinkten made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm, seconded by Alderperson Raasch. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Grace Lahtela