



Board of Park Commissioners

Regular Meeting

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

Final Minutes

Thursday, October 18, 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	Alderpersion	Present	
Larry Lueck	Alderpersion	Excused	
Dean Raasch	Alderpersion	Excused	
George Brown	Board Member	Present	
Sue Schinkten	Board Member	Present	
Randy Soquet	Board Member	Present	
Bill Volpano	Board Member	Present	
Lydia McMorro	Teen Advisor	Present	
William Soquet	Teen Advisor	Present	

II. Action Items

1. Approve Board of Park Commissioners Minutes from the September 20, 2018 Meeting.

Randy Soquet made a motion to approve the Board of Park Commissioner's minutes from the September 20, 2018 meeting, seconded by Sue Schinkten. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

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

2. Review and approve provisions for a Lease Agreement amendment with Brown County Ice Manament.

Marty Kosobucki explained that the chiller system failed at the Ice Arena and the estimated cost of repairs is \$250,000. City Council approved the emergency repair costs to come from unassigned reserves; however they also requested the park board consider amending the agreement with Brown County Ice Management to add a surcharge to the hourly rate. Once the debt is paid off, the money would go into the Ice Arena fund. With the amount of the repairs and the balance in the Ice Arena fund being allocated to help pay for the new bleachers, staff would recommend approving the amendment. Discussion followed.

Sue Shinkten questioned the difference in amenities between the Ice Arena and Cornerstone and if the user groups will justify the increase in charge.

George Brown questioned if Brown County Ice Management is willing to amend the agreement.

Marty Kosobucki stated that the current agreement with Brown County Ice Management is set to expire in 2020. If the agreement is amended, it would make sense to extend the expiration date beyond 2020. Brown County Ice Management would like the agreement extended 5 years, so building improvements could be done.

Randy Soquet approved to amend the agreement as presented in the memo to the park board, seconded by Alderperson Jennings.

Discussion followed.

Sue Schinkten verified the surcharge will be implemented on a gradual basis.

Randy Soquet questioned the opportunity of amending the surcharge in the future.

Upon vote, the above motion passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

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

3. Approve working with Brown County Extension to establish a community garden.

Marty Kosobucki met with Derek Beiderwieden from the De Pere Lions Club and Margaret Franchino from Brown County Extension, to brainstorm how to implement a community garden in De Pere. The Lion's Club is interested in funding the start-up of two community gardens in De Pere and Brown County Extension has agreed to run the gardens. Several locations were discussed and Lion's Trailside Park was determined to be the preferred location to start the pilot program. There isn't any water at the site, but Brown County Extension would take care of putting up a water tower at the location. The goal is to get one pilot program running next year, and then another one on the west side the following year.

Sue Schinkten opened the meeting to public comment at 6:45 pm, seconded by Randy Soquet. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Margaret Franchino, Community Garden Specialist with Brown County Extension and Abby Hill, representing De Pere Lion's Club were present to discuss community gardens. Margaret Franchino discussed the concept of community gardens. She explained the garden plots range in size, with renters being responsible for planting, maintaining, and harvesting their plot. 70% of the gardeners are of low to moderate income and there are many requests for gardening plots in De Pere.

Abby Hill from the De Pere Lions Club stated the Lion's Club would commit financially to the community gardens, as well as fundraising to possibly provide a garden shed with tools, and put up a little library with gardening books.

Sue Schintten questioned the proposed garden types and plot sizes.

Alderperson Jennings stated he has received very positive feedback from the master gardeners and they feel space will run out quickly. He also received some concerns with pesticide application in the grassy area near the garden.

Bill Volpano questioned the possibility of starting a west location at the same time.

Marty Kosobucki stated that city employees will have the responsibility for some of the gardening tasks. Without knowing what is entailed, he would recommend starting with one pilot program.

Randy Soquet questioned the type of garden that is planned and if it would impact the sledding hill.

Sue Schinkten questioned the number of plots in the garden.

Marty Kosobucki stated that the parking lot has around 20 spots and would try to start with the same amount of plots so parking is not a problem.

Sue Schinkten made a motion to return to regular order at 6:55 pm, seconded by Randy Soquet. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Sue Schinkten made a motion to approve establishing a community garden at Lion's Trailside Park, seconded by Randy Soquet.

Discussion followed.

Marty Kosobucki clarified that if approved, the agreement with Brown County Extension will need to go to Council for approval.

Upon vote, the above motion passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

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

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

Marty Kosobucki stated he received an email from Alderperson Lueck requesting that the consideration of policy changes for renting fields to private user groups be tabled until the next meeting.

Randy Soquet made a motion to table the consideration of policy changes for renting fields to private user groups, seconded by Alderperson Jennings. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

RESULT:	TABLED [UNANIMOUS]
	Next: 11/15/2018 6:30 PM
MOVER:	Randy Soquet, Board Member
SECONDER:	Ryan Jennings, Alderperson
AYES:	Jennings, Brown, Schinkten, Soquet, Volpano
EXCUSED:	Larry Lueck, Dean Raasch

5. Consider ordinance changes to allow for Beer Gardens.

Marty Kosobucki explained that two ordinance changes would be necessary to start a beer garden. The first change would allow city employees to sell beer, which is needed if the city is to run the beer garden. The second change would allow private groups to sell beer. This currently can be done under the picnic license; however this will make it less cumbersome for the groups. If the park board approves the changes, a meeting with Alderperson Nelson will be arranged to develop a program.

Discussion followed.

Bill Volpano questioned checking with Green Bay to see if their city employees sell beer. Marty Kosobucki explained that currently Green Bay does not have a beer garden, but he has been in contact with Milwaukee County and City of Madison and both have employees run them.

Sue Schinkten questioned what groups would have the ability to sell.

Bill Volpano feels that there should be a concept in place for the beer garden before ordinance changes are made.

Marty Kosobucki stated that starting there would probably be a tent put up at Voyageur Park. A permanent structure wouldn't be considered until we see if it is a success.

Alderperson Jennings commented that there was a beer trailer and music at the Farmers Market all year. It was a positive experience and helped draw people to the Farmers Market.

Marty Kosobucki stated the ordinance changes just allow us the opportunity to proceed with a beer garden.

George Brown made a motion to allow staff to draft ordinance changes that allow for beer gardens, seconded by Randy Soquet. Upon vote, the motion passed 4-1, with Bill Volpano voting Nay.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [4 TO 1]
MOVER:	George Brown, Board Member
SECONDER:	Randy Soquet, Board Member
AYES:	Ryan Jennings, George Brown, Sue Schinkten, Randy Soquet
NAYS:	Bill Volpano
EXCUSED:	Larry Lueck, Dean Raasch

6. Consider developing ordinance to restrict fishing from the Riverwalk.

Marty Kosobucki explained that there have been many complaints of people fishing off the Riverwalk. Most of the complaints are from people fishing from the Eagles Nest, or lower level platform area. There are no fishing signs posted; however there are no ordinances in place for the police to enforce.

Aldersperson Jennings made a motion to allow staff to develop an ordinance restricting fishing from the Riverwalk, seconded by Bill Volpano. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ryan Jennings, Aldersperson
SECONDER:	Bill Volpano, Board Member
AYES:	Jennings, Brown, Schinkten, Soquet, Volpano
EXCUSED:	Larry Lueck, Dean Raasch

III. Staff Updates

1. De Pere Ice Arena chiller repair update

Marty Kosobucki gave an update on the timeline for the temporary chiller system for the Ice Arena. It was scheduled to be delivered on Wednesday, October 17th and to have ice by October 24th. However, as of the meeting, the temporary chiller has not been delivered, so ice will be delayed. Everything has been ordered for the replacement chiller system and we are working with the insurance company. Cornerstone has been working with the user groups to get them ice time.

RESULT:	DISCUSSED
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2. Update on status of Legion Tennis/Pickle Ball Courts

Marty Kosobucki stated that due to the weather conditions and time needed for the concrete to cure, we will not be able to color coat the Legion tennis courts until early next spring. The public will be notified of the pickleball courts once they are available for use.

RESULT:	DISCUSSED
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3. Southwest Park Playground status

Marty Kosobucki stated the playground is open; however the donor fence has not been installed because it has been too wet. Mary Meyers doesn't want a large grand opening and would prefer a soft opening, just notifying the donors of the fence.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

4. 2019 Budget update

Marty Kosobucki gave an update on the 2019 budget. The major changes were that the mayor included money to install water at the Riverwalk for the master gardeners. Also, the operational budget is only for one pool, with the assumption that VFW will not be operational in 2019.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

IV. Public Comment Period

None

V. Future Agenda Items

Sue Schinkten questioned if there were any updates on the community stage.

VI. Adjournment

Sue Schinkten made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm, seconded by Randy Soquet. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Grace Lahtela