



City of Racine

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
www.cityofracine.org

Meeting Minutes - Final Board of Park, Recreation and Cultural Services

Chairman Terry McCarthy
Kristen Kaprelian
Amy Schaal
Keith Hemmig
Ben Lehner
Joey LeGath
Krystyna Sarrazin
Christina Mueller
Pamala Handrow
Kiana Johnson
Melissa Lemke

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

5:15 PM

City Hall Annex, Room 130

Call To Order

Chair McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m.

Staff Present: Tom Molbeck, Mike Willis, Jason Mars & Jena Kohlman

Guests: Dave Blank, Kari Dawson, Paul Holley, Alderman Sandy Weidner, Don Kirt, Richard Christensen, Alderman Melissa Kaprelian-Becker

PRESENT: 6 - Joey LeGath, Pamala Handrow, Christina Mueller, Terry McCarthy, Krystyna Sarrazin and Melissa Lemke

EXCUSED: 5 - Keith Hemmig, Ben Lehner, Kiana Johnson, Kristen Kaprelian and Amy Schaal

14-10541

Subject: Approval of the Wednesday, August 13, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [August 14, 2014 PRCS Board Meeting Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Joey LeGath and seconded by Christina Mueller to Approve the Minutes. The motion PASSED by Voice Vote. Unanimous.

Public Input

No Public Input

14-10542

Subject: Director's Report

Attachments: [Director's Report September](#)

Director Molbeck introduced staff present to the new board member, Melissa Lemke.

Molbeck provided a brief overview of the report.

A motion made by Pam Handrow and seconded by Joey LeGath to Receive and File the report. The motion PASSED by Voice Vote. Unanimous.

14-10543 **Subject:** Approval of the Cemetery Commissioner's August 18, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [Meeting Minutes Aug 18, 2014](#)

A motion was made by Joey LeGath and seconded by Pam Handrow to Approve the Minutes. The motion PASSED by Voice Vote. Unanimous.

14-10544 **Subject:** Zoological Report

Attachments: [Zoological Report September 2014](#)

A motion was made by Joey LeGath and seconded by Pam Handrow to Receive and File the Report. The motion PASSED by Voice Vote. Unanimous.

Presentation of Donation from AGA Nation

Presenters: Representatives from Real Racine

Representatives of Real Racine, Dave Blank, Kari Dawson & Paul Holley presented a donation check from AGA Nation to PRCS. Dawson advised the board AGA Nation recently held a Bikes, Boards & Beach event at North Beach. They were very grateful and appreciated being able to hold the event at North Beach. It is the hopes of AGA Nation, the PRCS Department will use this donation towards the Pershing Skateboard Park.

14-10296 **Subject: (Direct Referral)** Communication from the Alderman of the 6th District requesting referral to the PRCS Commission of a revision to amend Sec. 102.76 of the Municipal Code to include language granting authority to the City Forester to issue orders on private property within the city that constitute a hazard to life and property.

Recommendation from the Board of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services on 7-9-14: To Defer the communication from District 6 Alderman Sandy Weidner to revise and amend Sec. 102.76 of the Municipal Code to include language granting authority to the City Forester to issue orders on private property within the city that constitute a hazard to life and property.

Recommendation from the Board of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services on 8-13-14: To Defer.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Recommendation from the Board of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services on 9-10-14: To have language drafted by the City Attorney's office to revise and amend Sec. 102.76 of the Municipal Code. Further recommend the drafted amended ordinance then be provided to the

PRCS Board for review.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Attachments: [Communication from Alderman Weidner RE Amendment to Muni Code 102.7](#)

Director Molbeck provided a summary of what was discussed at last month's meeting in regards to this item and indicated Matt Koepnick was not able to attend due to a scheduling conflict.

Molbeck explained the Attorney's office as well as Koepnick researched other municipalities were not able to locate an ordinance that dealt with private versus private tree matters.

Molbeck stated he felt for Don Kirt's situation, however as the Director of PRCS, he recommended the ordinance remain as it currently reads. He does not feel the department should be involved with private versus private tree matters.

LeGath noted this is an issue that needs to be addressed. Alderman Weidner indicated she feels this is a growing problem between neighbors. It is her hopes through ordinance the City could be more proactive.

Molbeck reiterated to the board the concern of liability issues. Willis indicated the amount of additional work this will involve is a lot to ask of the Forester and the department.

LeGath made a motion to have wording drafted by the Attorney's office to include the following actions:

-Complainant to hire a professional tree care service to assess the tree at cost of their own.

-Should this written assessment indicate the tree needs to be removed, the complainant could then send a copy of the assessment to PRCS.

-PRCS will then draft a letter to the homeowner requesting the tree to be removed within 30 days.

-Should the property owner not agree with the assessment/request, they would be responsible for obtaining a second opinion through a private tree care service. This second opinion must be submitted to PRCS within the 30 day time frame indicated above.

-Should the second assessment differ from the complainant's received assessment, the City Forester would then inspect the tree to make final assessment.

-Should the homeowner not respond after 60 days, the City would then fine the homeowner.

And further moved to have the drafted, amended ordinance be submitted to the PRCS Board for final approval.

Sarrazin seconded LeGath's motion.

Mueller stated she had a difficult time believing this is not a civil matter and be handled as such. She also indicated the motion should not pass through without having knowledge of that one way or another. She also stated this is a lot to ask of the Parks department.

Vote was taken:

(3) Ayes: Pamala Handrow, Joey LeGath & Krystyna Sarrazin

(2) No: Christina Mueller & Melissa Lemke

The motion PASSED by show of hands.

A motion was made by Joey LeGath and seconded by Krystyna Sarrazin to have language drafted by the City Attorney's office to revise and amend Sec. 102.76 of the Municipal Code and further moved to have the drafted amended ordinance be brought to the PRCS Board for approval. The motion PASSED by show of hands.

14-10483

Subject: Communication from the Alderperson of the 6th District submitting on behalf of Richard Christensen requesting a change of rules and regulations concerning weekend tee times at Johnson Park Golf Course.

Recommendation of the Board of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services on 9-10-14: To request PRCS staff to work with Johnson Golf Course staff on drafting a written policy in relation to weekend tee times at Johnson Park Golf Course to be reviewed by the Board of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services.

Further recommend this item be referred to the Golf Course Liaison Committee.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Attachments: [Communication from the Alderperson of the 6th District on Behalf of Richard](#)

Richard Christensen stated he believes he should be able to play 9 holes on weekends between 6 a.m. and 1 p.m. Currently only foursomes playing 18 holes are permitted to play during these times. He also expressed his concern of others holding tee times year after year.

Alderman Weidner advised the board this is not the first time this issue has been brought to the Board of PRCS. She expressed she wanted the board to direct the Director of PRCS to request changes be made to the Johnson Park Golf Course weekend policies.

Molbeck stated he had spoken to Scott Schuit in regards to Mr. Christensen's concerns. He stated a comparison of other area courses similar to Johnson Park Golf Course with the same number of holes may be necessary.

Alderman Weidner requested a copy of the Golf Course contract be provided to Richard Christensen and herself.

A motion was made by Pam Handrow and seconded by Joey LeGath to have PRCS staff and Johnson Golf Course staff draft a written policy concerning weekend tee times at Johnson Golf Course to be further reviewed by the Board of PRCS. The motion PASSED by Voice Vote. Unanimous.

14-10503

Subject: Communication from Alderman Kaprelian-Becker, Tom Rutkowski, and Natalie Chulew seeking approval for the placement of a second mural on the Zoo Beach stair well.

Recommendation of the Board of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services on 9-10-14: To approve the communication from Alderman Kaprelian-Becky, Tom Rutkowski and Natalie Chulew to place a second mural on the Zoo Beach stair well.

Fiscal Note: No cost to the City.

Alderman Kaprelian-Becker advised the board the artist who had completed the first mural would also be completing the second. The Persephone design would allow a consistent theme. This project would be paid for through grant funds.

A motion was made by Pam Handrow and seconded by Melissa Lemke to Approve the placement of a second mural on the Zoo Beach stairwell. The motion PASSED by Voice Vote. Unanimous.

14-10554

Subject: (Direct Referral) Communication from CREE, Inc. requesting as many as 100 parking spaces in the western one-third of the Pershing boat launch parking lot on Saturday, October 25, 2014.

Recommendation of the Board of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services on 9-10-14: To allow the Director of PRCS to work administratively with the organization.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Attachments: [CREE B.L. Parking Lot Request](#)

A motion was made by Krystyna Sarrazin and seconded by Pam Handrow to allow the Director of PRCS to work administratively with the organization to accommodate the request. The motion PASSED by Voice Vote. Unanimous.

Discussion: 2015 Budget

Director Molbeck reviewed the possible 2015 reductions as well as potential revenue.

Sarrazin suggested all Community Centers be asked to seek out grants to assist with their programming. She also suggested an increase in fees and/or to ask for donations for the Playground program.

Mueller stated there is a huge need for disc golf in the area and suggested this be looked into as a possible future revenue generator. Molbeck stated this had been looked at in the past; however the primary obstacle is finding an adequate location for a full course.

McCarthy questioned if Johnson Dog Park should remain free for use. Mueller indicated a Kenosha area dog park has annual dog park passes as well as daily passes.

McCarthy also inquired if not mowing some of the pocket parks was an option. Molbeck indicated requests would eventually come through to have the area mowed regardless. It was mentioned some of these smaller pocket parks could possibly be used by urban gardeners.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.