



City of Racine

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

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

*Chair Terry McCarthy, Joey LeGath, Pamala Handrow,
Michael Frontier, Keith Hemmig, Kristen Kaprelian, Amy
Schaal, Tom Rosholt, Ben Lehner, Kiana Johnson*

Wednesday, October 10, 2012

5:15 PM

Dr. John Bryant Community Center 601 21st St.

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:16 p.m.

Staff Present: Tom Molbeck, Lesia Hill, Mike Willis & Jena Kohlman

Guests: Charlie Manning, Jerrod Shorts, Glenn Lawson & Jay Christie

PRESENT: 10 - Terry McCarthy, Michael Frontier, Joey LeGath, Pamala Handrow, Kristen Kaprelian, Amy Schaal, Tom Rosholt, Keith Hemmig, Ben Lehner and Kiana Johnson

12-8211

Subject: Approval of the September 12, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [PRCS September 12, 2012](#)

A motion was made by Keith Hemmig and seconded by Kristen Kaprelian to approve the minutes. The motion PASSED by voice vote.

Public Input

Michael Frontier arrived at 5:18 p.m.

Bob Wortock presented a diagram of Monument Square along with a photo and list of supportive churches of the Nativity Site at Monument Square. He is proposing the Nativity Scene be moved to the south side of the Monument Square approximately 150 feet north of the Community Christmas Tree. In past years the Nativity Scene was on the north side of Monument Square. This area poses problems due to high winds.

Chair McCarthy recommended that Mr. Wortock's request to move the Nativity Scene location on Monument Square be placed on next month's meeting agenda.

12-8213

Subject: Director's Report October 10, 2012

Attachments: [Director's Report October 10, 2012](#)

The report was distributed.

Director Molbeck discussed the ADA updates at Lockwood. The paths are making their way to the facilities. Tom Rosholt asked if the goal was to make every park ADA accessible. Molbeck stated Bob Rafel could answer the question in more detail,

however there is a percentage of parks that must be ADA accessible. He also stated that it is the goal of the staff and department to look at those parks that have the need for it.

Molbeck spoke of the 1st Annual Monument Mash being held on October 20, 2012 at Monument Square. This event is free. There will be a jump house, music, pumpkin carvings, face painting and low intensity activities. Rosholt requested an announcement be sent to the PRCS Board members with all of the details of this activity.

Molbeck announced the department has a new staff member. Kellie Ptaschinski began working as a secretary in the main office in September.

Molbeck also briefly discussed there will be a strip and wax demonstration of the gym floor at the Chavez Center on October 23rd.

Amy Schaal asked if there was the possibility of moving up the adult volleyball season. Molbeck stated if they moved it up, there would likely be requests to also add another season on the back side of the season. He would look at if there would be a possibility to have a fall and then a winter season rather than a combined fall/winter season.

Rosholt commented on the large number of children signed up for Youth Hoops. To have 1,100 children signed up for this program is commendable.

Molbeck introduced Mike Willis, Parks Superintendent. Willis was given the extra title of, Lead of PRCS. Molbeck stated he had chose not to hire an Assistant Director. The department already has specialized people. Mike is very knowledgeable on the Parks side. The goal is to also have a lead on the recreation side, however at this time Molbeck will continue with that role.

A motion was made Kristen Kaprelian and seconded by Keith Hemmig that the Report be Received and Filed. The motion PASSED by Voice Vote.

12-8212

Subject: Approval of the Board of Cemetery Commissioners
September 17, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [Cemetery Commission Minutes - September 17, 2012](#)

Molbeck noted there will not be a November meeting. The meetings will resume in December.

A motion was made by Kristen Kaprelian and seconded by Pam Handrow to approve the Minutes. The motion PASSED by Voice Vote.

12-8214

Subject: Zoological Report October 10, 2012

Attachments: [Zoological Report October 2012](#)

The report was distributed.

Jay Christie spoke of the passing of Chuck Johnson, a member of the Racine Zoological Society Board. They are working on a tribute to honor Mr. Johnson.

Christie noted they are currently working on the 2013 Budget. He commented the camel rides were a huge success and they will be looking at keeping this activity as a

permanent summer feature.

Kaprelian asked if the animal encounter tickets expire. Christie stated at this time they do not, however this may change in the future.

A motion was made by Kristen Kaprelian and seconded by Keith Hemmig to receive and file the report. The vote PASSED by Voice Vote.

**Update on the John Bryant Community Center
Guest: Community Center Supervisor Lesia Hill**

Ben Lehner arrived at 5:44 p.m.

Lesia Hill, Community Center Supervisor of the Dr. John Bryant Community Center stated the center is moving forward. They have brought to the center tennis lessons for youth ages 6 to 12 years. They currently have a class of 12, 8 of which come on a regular basis. A Halloween Party is scheduled for October 26th, 2012. Her vision for the Bryant center is to have it become the center of the arts. She is looking into various options, and is seeking grants. She feels it is important to bring more culture to the children. Tap Dancing lessons will begin. She would like to begin a program involving musical instruments. Hill also mentioned the boxing team is doing well. Youth Hoops is about to begin this fall. She is very excited with the direction the center is taking.

Pam Handrow suggested Hill contact the Racine Arts Council. Handrow stated they may be able to provide assistance or guidance.

Frontier asked if the Bryant Center was holding any After School Zone Programs. Hill stated there were not any programs at this time. Molbeck stated there were low enrollment numbers for all of the centers. He also stated the After School Zone Program is set up for middle school aged children. The centers would like programs for all age groups. Molbeck has a meeting scheduled with RUSD regarding the program. Frontier requested that the board be updated on the results of the meeting.

Amy Schaal feels there should be another committee to assist the centers in search of funding. She loves the idea of bringing the arts to the center. McCarthy recommended a discussion on board support be placed on next months' agenda.

Joey LeGath asked Hill what made her want to bring arts to the center. Hill stated that being at the center she has noticed what the children are good at and what they have a desire to do. Some enjoy sports, but there are many that also enjoy the arts. She believes some of these children would flourish if you give them tools to do so.

12-8165

Subject: Communication from Charlie Manning, Commodore, Racine Yacht Club, requesting permission to use the Rooney Recreational Area open space on a temporary basis in case a portion of the space is needed to facilitate the upcoming dredging operation. (RES No. 12-3349)

Recommendation of the Public Works and Services Committee on 9-25-12: That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to enter into a License to Use Real Estate Agreement with the Racine Yacht Club granting them permission to use the Rooney Recreational Area open space on a temporary basis in case a portion of the space

is needed to facility the upcoming dredging with the following stipulations:

- A. A Hold Harmless Agreement be executed and a \$62.50 processing fee paid;
- B. A Liability Insurance Certificate be filed;
- C. Racine Yacht Club provides environmental documentation that the materials are non-hazardous;
- D. They provide documentation that the project has been approved by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; and
- E. All materials be removed from the site by October 31, 2013, with the caveat that the City may order its removal earlier, for any reason, with a 60 day written notice.

Fiscal Note: Not applicable.

Recommendation of the Board of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services on 10-10-12: That Charlie Manning, Commodore, Racine Yacht Club, be granted permission to use the Rooney Recreational Area, open space on a temporary basis to facilitate the upcoming dredging operation.

- A. A Hold Harmless Agreement be executed and a \$62.50 processing fee paid;
- B. A Liability Insurance Certificate be filed;
- C. Racine Yacht Club provides environmental documentation that the materials are non-hazardous;
- D. They provide documentation that the project has been approved by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; and
- E. All materials be removed from the site by October 31, 2013, with the caveat that the City may order its removal earlier, for any reason, with a 60 day written notice.

Fiscal Note: Not applicable.

Attachments: [RYC Use Rooney site for dredging.pdf](#)

All damage made to the pathway area be repaired by the Racine Yacht Club.

A motion was made by Kristen Kaprelian, seconded by Pamala Handrow, that this be Recommended For Approval. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

Discussion: 2013 Budget

Molbeck advised the board a 2013 budget proposal was constructed and presented to the Mayor about a month ago. He is asking the board to come forward with any ideas or suggestions they may have on what can or cannot be cut from programming, activities, etc.

Frontier stated the children have taken a tremendous hit between budget cuts at their schools and the city. He stated the PRCS department provides a lot of alternatives for the children and the cuts from last year were huge alone. He stated having 1,100 children signed up for Youth Hoops is incredible, but the success of this is invisible to some.

Ben Lehner inquired if there were any utility efficiencies to be had. He said there are grants for efficiency projects. There is also Americor. It's a Federal Program that provides a \$800 per month stipend for volunteer work.

Frontier stated over the past summer with as dry as it was, grass was still being mowed. He suggested reducing these types of expenses.

Kaprelian inquired about marketing the centers to be used for birthday party's. Molbeck advised that the department does rent out the centers, however the centers have a specific amount they are allowed to use to have staff on hand for rentals.

McCarthy proposed that the 2012 Budget be sent to the board members for review. Also proposed was to have the November meeting be moved up one week if possible.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

If you are disabled and have accessibility needs or need information interpreted for you, please call the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at 262-636-9453 at least 48 hours prior to this meeting.