

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS**  
**May 6, 2020 AT 6:30 P.M.**  
Meeting held via Zoom online meeting

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Approval of the March 4, 2020 Minutes**
3. **Lease agreements with Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development council, Inc. for garden sites located at 300 Franklin Street and on the corner of West Cornell and West Whitney streets (Mead Park).**
4. **Emerson Park Concept Plan Design**
5. **Bench request for Bukolt Park by Prime Water Anglers**
6. **Election of Officers (Chairperson and Vice Chairperson).**
7. **Maintenance Agreement with North Central Conservancy Trust for property parcels adjacent Bukolt Park.**
8. **Director's report**
9. **Adjournment**

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Freckmann, Glodosky, McDonald, Okonek, Przybylski, Slowinski, Shorr, Alderperson Zarazua

Absent: Hall, Kirsch

Also Present: Director Dan Kremer, Alder Meleesa Johnson, Alder Cindy Nebel, Amy Thorstenson

**2. Approval of the March 4, 2020 Minutes**

Motion by McDonald, seconded by Okonek to approve the March 4, 2020 Minutes.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

**3. Lease agreements with Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development council, Inc. for garden sites located at 300 Franklin Street and on the corner of West Cornell and West Whitney streets (Mead Park).**

Motion by McDonald, seconded by Okonek to approve lease agreements with Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development council, Inc. for garden sites located at 300 franklin Street and on the corner of West Cornell and West Whitney streets (Mead Park). Amy Thorstenson from Golden Sand RC&D reported garden sign ups have increased and the gardens are open since May 1, 2020.

Ayes all; Nays: none; Motion carried.

#### **4. Emerson Park Concept Plan Design**

Director Kremer presented on the updated concept design for Emerson Park. Alder Meleesa Johnson, Friends of Emerson Park member, spoke to the great relationship between the Parks Department, Rettler Corporation, UWSP, the Friends of Emerson Parks and all the community members to move the project forward. The Friends of Emerson Park continue to update the park neighbors about new plans and meetings. Przybylski asked about a dedication to the history of the site. Alder Johnson said there are plans to incorporate a dedication of the site and community history.

Motion by Okonek, seconded by Przybylski to approve the new Emerson Park concept plan design.

Ayes: all; Nays: none; Motion Carried

#### **5. Bench request for Bukolt Park by Prime Water Anglers**

Motion by McDonald, seconded by Okonek to deny the bench request for Bukolt Park by Prime Water Anglers. The board recommends staff develop a memorial bench program.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

#### **6. Election of Officers (Chairperson and Vice Chairperson).**

Gladosky nominated McDonald for Park Commission Board Chairperson.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

McDonald nominated Gladosky as Park Commission Board Vice Chairperson.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

#### **7. Maintenance Agreement with North Central Conservancy Trust for property parcels adjacent Bukolt Park.**

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Alder Zarazua to approve the maintenance agreement with North Central Conservancy Trust for property parcels adjacent Bukolt Park.

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.

#### **8. Director's report**

##### **Administration**

- Online reservation went live on Friday, May 1 st via CivicRec program. Anne Hylla and Kate Gullickson were instrumental in getting this programmed and ready to roll out to the community.
- I have delayed seasonal hiring and overtime expenditures during the month of May except for a handful of seasonal employees we needed to complete our essential duties due to loss of 2 full time staff for the next several weeks who are out on leave. We have our regular number of seasonal employees on stand by and hope to hire them for a normal full-time schedule if restrictions improve after May 26.
- We were on a modified schedule for a few weeks in late March and early April in response to Covid-19 but have now transitioned into everyone reporting to work on a normal schedule. We have spread staff out through 6 work site locations to limit employees being in the same spot. We have also increased our daily sanitizing and cleaning of touchable surfaces. The staff has

responded to Covid-19 incredibly well thus far and has continued to keep our parks safe for people to enjoy.

### **Forestry**

- Spring tree planting is in full swing.
- We were unable to celebrate a traditional Arbor Day this year but the department will be doing a separate celebration for Arbor Day at a later date.
- Performing playground structure repairs to be ready for them to possibly open in late May.

### **K.B. Willett Arena, Goerke Stadium, Pool**

- KB Willett is receiving LED light upgrades above the ice area. This is being paid for via an energy efficiency grant through the Treasurer's office.
- K.B. Willett ice is out and available for summer use and rental once we are allowed to do so via Safer and Home expiration
- Swimming Pool filter project is in full swing and over half done. Contractor will fill the pool to test the equipment when they finish in late May. o We continue to monitor guidance from the state about if pools will be allowed to open this summer. We are building out a plan to open on time and a plan to open a month late. We also are preparing if we are not allowed to open due to regulations, timing or lifeguard availability. This is a very fluid situation we are continuing to monitor and will provide updates in June.

### **Parks**

- Lodge rentals, special events, and activities are all cancelled through May 26
- All playgrounds, swings and play structures are closed through May 26
- Park locations are open for walking, running, hiking, bicycling, exercising and passing through • Mead shelter, Iverson main restroom, Bukolt Boat Landing and Goerke West restrooms are open and cleaned and disinfected once daily including the weekends
- Tennis courts, skate park, disc golf courses, Goerke Community Stadium are all open. Signs have been posted with guidelines that must be followed in order for the facilities to remain open
- Park security has started patrolling in the evenings on a reduced schedule of 8 pm to 11 pm.
- Pfiffner Pioneer Park irrigation project began Thursday.

### **Riverfront Rendezvous**

- Being evaluated and discussed with planning team, local health officials and the Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association as we continue to monitor the Covid-19 guidance and regulations. An announcement will be made later in May for the festival.

Our park spaces have become a safe haven during Covid-19 response and we are seeing record numbers of people using them. We are fortunate to have these spaces for our community, especially during these challenging times.

“Crowded parks may lead to closed parks, please do your part to follow CDC guidelines”

## **9. Adjournment**

Motion by Okonek, seconded by Sorenson to adjourn the meeting 7:33pm

Ayes all; Nays none; Motion carried.