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Office of Parks and Operations

PARK AND OPEN SPACE BOARD

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

6:30 PM

South Conference Room

Minutes

1) Call to Order, Roll Call

Meeting called to order by Vice Chair Plier at 6:30 PM.

Present:

Vice Chair Breanne Plier

Alderman Brian Parrish

Board Member Peter Bratt

Board Member James Lysaught

Board Member Anton Usowski

Board Member David Wolfson

Chair Jason Cain -- **Absent**

Board Member Gerald Vite -- **Excused**

Also present: Bob Blazich from the Mequon-Thiensville Historical Society former Mayor
Connie Pukaite and Parks and Forestry Superintendent Gies.

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. Minutes January

Approved with amendment to update current voting members.

RESULT:

Approved with Amendments [Unanimous]

MOVED BY:

Board Member Lysaught

SECONDED BY:

Board Member Wolfson

AYES: Plier, Parrish, Bratt, Lysaught, Usowski, Wolfson

ABSENT: Cain

NOT PRESENT: Vite

3) Discussion Item

a. RFP 2024 Update: Comprehensive Park, Recreation & Open Space Plan

Discussion ensued on where fencing should be and ideas for fencing material. Instead of the previously discussed exterior fence the idea of an interior gated fence and landscaping be placed between the lot and the park to discourage dogs running out of the park. It was also mentioned that most dog parks have double fencing and signage to keep dogs leashed in the parking lot until entered in the double fence.

Staff to follow up on if the City would allow cyclone fencing in the interior of the park covered by landscaping.

Placing temporary snow fencing up for a visual deterrent for dogs to not run out of the park was discussed.

Staff advised identifying what the needs of the park should be identified to avoid fixing one problem but creating other problems.

Discussion ensued on the City taking the proper steps to comply with Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District surface and stormwater rules and requirements when planning changes to the current parking lot footprints.

The I43 construction analysis found that the water flow would increase minimally in the Fish Creek corridor of the park. Staff continues to monitor the area.

River Barn Park user groups will be invited to the stake holders meeting to further discuss what they would like to see on a Master list for the park.

b. Opitz Cemetery Improvements

Staff advised that they felt the POSB board would support improvements of Opitz but not be willing to fund it. Staff believes creating a separate board for cemetery decisions would be beneficial.

Possible improvements that were suggested:

Additional fencing or privacy hedge, landscaping, hiring a landscape architect, increased signage, benches, changing the name to include “historical”, creating an arch with stone pillars.

Staff will invite the Director of Community Development and the City Engineer/Head of Public Works to attend the next meeting to discuss what is known about the cemetery

and what the Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) money could be used for.

4) Adjourn

a. Motion to Adjourn at 7:33 PM

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Board Member Bratt

SECONDED BY: Board Member Lysaught

AYES: Plier, Parrish, Bratt, Lysaught, Usowski, Wolfson

ABSENT: Cain

NOT PRESENT: Vite

Respectfully Submitted,

Ren Schlereth

Administrative Assistant