

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
June 14, 2016
City Council Chambers

A. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Woodstock was called to order by Chairman Mike McCleary at 6:50 PM on Tuesday, June 14, 2016, in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

B. ROLL CALL:

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Bruce Farris, Peter Riis, and Chris Neuhart.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Vice-Chair Steve Erwin and Chairman Mike McCleary.

STAFF PRESENT: Recreation Department Director Dave Zinnen, Public Works Director Jeff Van Landuyt, Parks & Facilities Superintendent Ernie Nelson and Chief Deputy Clerk Jane Howie.

OTHERS PRESENT:

C. FLOOR DISCUSSION:

1. Public Comments: None.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 10, 2016 Minutes could not be approved because there some of the Commission members were not present. These Minutes will be addressed at the next meeting on July 12, 2016.

E. TRANSMITTALS: The following items have been transmitted to the Commission for information and there is no discussion expected or action recommended.

1. Recreation Department Report for May 2016.

D. Zinnen was disappointed with the turnout for the 5K run at Saturday's Woodstock Challenge Road Run. However, there was an increase in participation in the kids' event. The heat may have kept turnout low, or competition of other local races and events. Due to the heat, participants were able to cool off in the pool after the event.

2. Parks Division Report for May 2016.

Avalanche had their tournament last weekend and had a significant turnout,; 48 teams played 88 games in just two days on eleven fields in Woodstock.

B. Farris said there are a lot of bushes overgrown in the Park in the Square. E. Nelson said he'll look into this and have them trimmed as needed.

F. OLD BUSINESS:**1. None****G. NEW BUSINESS:****1. Discuss Chapter 3 of the Park Master Plan.**

P. Riis said some of the numbers are missing for trend comparison. The Commission would like to see where that's going, especially with regard to the Adult Leagues. E. Nelson added that Field "A" was used this past weekend; a temporary mound was constructed. It's nice to have lights out there. The graphs are not complete as they're still waiting for numbers.

Chapter 3, Introduction. Page 2, type-o, frisbie golf should be Disc Golf. J. Van Landuyt will change this. B. Farris asked if Woodstock North uses the City's fields. D. Zinnen said that they do on occasion. Should this section add Woodstock North? Add, 'At times both Woodstock High School and Woodstock North High School use City parks'. This is mentioned in another section that pertains more to Woodstock North's uses.

Bar graph for District 200, change wording; J. Van Landuyt will provide this information.

Marian Central High School only uses City fields on occasion when weather conditions have caused their fields to flood in past years.

Graph for Woodstock Girls Softball, top paragraph – at an all-time high – waiting for updates on numbers of games played.

Heat Wave Girls Softball graph – McHenry County 30 & over, Other.

City of Woodstock Recreational games, Leagues,

D. Zinnen left at 7:24 PM due to the Lightning Detection System going off.

Current User Groups:

Parking issues back in the day has dictated an increase in size of parking lots at some City parks. Crossfire, Woodstock District 200, utilize Emricson Park for cross country meets – both Woodstock High School and Woodstock North High School.

Premier Soccer League – Adult

Quantum Fusion – Child Development Program – uses City Parks as open space. (during infancy of their organization)

Woodstock Thunder Youth Football & Cheer, mid-July through November. Use of City parks is vital to this user group for practices and games (on upper field). They may need to seek additional fields in the future. This group may use the football field at Creekside Middle School for games.

There is a possibility to convert fields for other user groups to get more use in the future; however, parking may be an issue. Thunder Football has become a feeder program for Woodstock's high schools.

The Commission talked about Gavers Barndance being held on the football field, and the Barndance committee has taken steps, a pro-active approach, to decrease the damage to the field.

St. Mary football program plays at Marian Central High School. This youth program is a feeder program for Marian Central.

Woodstock Aquatic Center

Potential / Future User Groups & Facilities:

Disc Golf

Objectives & Implementation: Woodstock Travelers, are they defunct? And now there's Avalanche. J. Van Landuyt will look into the 'Travelers'.

C. Neuhart asked, "With regards to the artificial turf at places like Crystal Lake, what's the proper time to put that on the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and/or cost it out for fields here in Woodstock.?" Is it a cost benefit situation if the City invests in artificial turf? What is the cost of putting in artificial turn? Is the demand there? What's the process?

Add this to a future Agenda. Cost of artificial turf at some City parks.

J. Van Landuyt said this would go on a Capital Improvement Program, but it may be on there for 20 years. The cost the City charges to play on Woodstock's fields couldn't pay for an artificial turf field. C. Neuhart said he has not seen Lippold Parks field. P. Riis said it's very bouncy play. This is the former method, they used rubber pellets. J. Van Landuyt said this can be looked into. P. Riis said these are things that we should find out about; if this would be cost effective.

C. Neuhart asked about potential future user groups – the general public is the largest user group. Where has this information come from?

Skate park came to fruition from a group of parents; however, the small group could only raise \$1200. B. Farris said the Commission had identified that skateboarding had a large following, and they had thought to build a park by the old Peters Pool; it didn't pan out.

A Woodstock resident raised some money for Disc Golf course at Raintree Park. However, the City had to help with funding the project. There hasn't been much support from the general public. The organizer was able to get a lot of things donated, but he had a difficult time raising funds for the project.

P. Riis said he was on another commission in Texas and they'd hold meetings to get public input. If it's a specific thing in a specific place they'd get more attention and attendance. It's not a bad idea to go back and have a meeting for open discussion.

H. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Tentative agenda items identified by Administration:**

2. **Requested by Commission:** Any member may suggest an item to be considered by the Commission at a future meeting, but must be approved by a majority of the Commission to be included as a future agenda item.

Chapter 4 of the Park Master Plan will be discussed at the next meeting on July 12, 2016.

I. ADJOURN:

Motion by P. Riis, second by C. Neuhart to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission on Tuesday, June 14, 2016 at 7:55 PM. Ayes: Bruce Farris, Peter Riis, and Chris Neuhart. Nays: None. Absentees: Vice-Chair Steve Erwin and Chairman Mike McCleary. Abstentions: None. Motion carried. Meeting Adjourned until the next Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission on Tuesday, July 12, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Howie
Chief Deputy Clerk