

**CITY OF WOODSTOCK
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

April 14, 2015
City Council Chambers

The regular meeting of the Woodstock Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Mike McCleary on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

A roll call was taken.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mike McCleary, Steve Erwin, Nic Kearfott

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Recreation Director Dave Zinnen, Parks and Facility Superintendent Ernie Nelson

OTHERS PRESENT: Deputy City Clerk Amy Weber

C. FLOOR DISCUSSION:

1. Public comments
No Comments

2. Commission Member comments for any item not on the agenda

Nic Kearfott asked Ernie Nelson if there was a plan to continue yearly maintenance for Little League fields, would they be able to help with maintenance where areas are getting overgrown and mossy. Ernie Nelson stated that they have started maintenance including pouring limestone at Merrimen 7. Nic Kearfott said he didn't want it to be 2-3 years and we're losing areas of the field. Ernie Nelson indicated that the city will address it.

Dave Zinnen stated that had happened in the past. The problem is the lime stone pile is a half mile from fields one and two making it difficult for the user groups to move the limestone without equipment. User groups are willing to spread the limestone in the bullpens and warning tracks but need material the material hauled to each field. Ernie Nelson indicated his crews would haul the material to each field.

Nic Kearfott asked about maintaining infield and dirt areas. Ernie Nelson indicated that they are addressing it, with two guys out there today. Two semi's of material are on order, but everything is wet so they have to wait. Workers have started cutting grass.

Mike McCleary commented on Councilman Mike Turner's support for the city assisting District 200 with the Woodstock High School turf project. Some C.I.P. projects are funded and but many are not funded. If the city has an extra \$150,000 lying around, he suggested using it for parks projects and not giving it to another taxing district. He cited there not being enough money to do the floor resurfacing in the men's locker room at the pool. Ernie Nelson said they can get a lot done with \$150,000. Dave Zinnen indicated the issue did come up but that he wasn't there for that part of it. Right now the city is taking a wait and see approach. Mike McCleary asked if the city completed the C.I.P. Dave Zinnen said yes and that the council asked for additional projects to be funded. A lot of money is coming from video gaming. He recommended getting copy of minutes. Mike McCleary asked how much the city got from video gaming. Dave Zinnen replied in excess of \$150,000 yearly. Mike McCleary asked if it goes to the general fund or is it earmarked for something else. Dave Zinnen replied that it is earmarked for capital improvement projects and that should be spelled out in the minutes. The city's finance director could answer the questions.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Nic Kearfott, second by Steve Erwin to accept the January 13, 2015 Meeting minutes with the following changes:

Page 2, last paragraph, change Perdue to Purdue.

Page 4, first and second paragraph, change Thoreau to Thurow

Page 4, first sentence, change to read: Eric Thurow, Woodstock Girls Softball Coordinator, stated that they wanted to propose putting in scoreboards in Bates Park Roskie Field.

Ayes: Chairman Mike McCleary, Steve Erwin, Nic Kearfott. Nays: None. Absentees: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

E. TRANSMITTALS: (No discussion or action requested)

1. Recreation Department Report for March, 2015

Dave Zinnen had budget workshop and the council approved all 4 budgets. Approval cannot be done until council meeting on 21st. Dave thanked Nick for scheduling the basketball program at Woodstock North and Woodstock High. The schools are willing to help us get additional gym time. Mike McCleary asked how much for work on the men's locker room? Dave Zinnen guessed \$10,000 was in the neighborhood. Work on woman's and walkway, around \$7,000. Dave indicated they will need to replace the boat slide as the palm tree is looking ratty. Ernie Nelson suggested finding a replacement. Dave Zinnen noted there is also a significant hole that they are patching now, and that there is a lot of fence work and piece work. Ernie Nelson added that the parking lot looks bad from hauling snow. Mike McCleary asked if they had any quotes. Dave Zinnen indicated \$50,000 to replace boat slide. Steve Erwin asked when it opened. Dave said 2002. Mike McCleary asked if the buckets still worked. Dave Zinnen said yes, adding that the water guns were placed on the wrong side. He noted that the summer City Scene would be out tomorrow or Thursday. Nic Kearfott asked if they had found a location for swim lessons. Dave Zinnen replied no, indicating that they had to cancel the adult swim classes until heater was fixed.

2. Parks Division Report for March, 2015

Ernie Nelson noted that the Parks March task completed had been completed. He is trying to recruit for five positions, with four having been filled. Steve Erwin asked if he should mention it to his classes and wanted to know what type of positions were open. Ernie Nelson replied that they were maintenance jobs. The path at Merriman fields one and two they hasn't started due to weather. He hasn't heard back from Woodstock Girls Softball on moving the last pole of the backstop going into the field a little bit to make it wheelchair accessible. Woodstock High School has the material for path, to replace the pallets that were thrown over wetland area. Avalanche has proposed four poles at Merriman 7. The city is working on a grant from the Baseball Tomorrow Fund which they hope will provide up to \$83,000 dollars for renovations for that field. City officials met with them and toured the site-- they should hear back by mid-April. Mike McCleary asked for an update on the Rotary's electronic sign. Ernie Nelson said the Rotary club indicates the responsibility falls on the Chamber of Commerce and that they don't have anything to do with sign. Mike McCleary asked about turf matting for the farmers' market. Ernie Nelson said the idea behind turf matting arose back in the fall when they re-sodded the whole area due to wear patterns. It turned into a muddy mess, so to prevent that from happening again they are looking at turf matting similar to football field sidelines. After further discussion, Ernie stated that likely they will have to re-sod it and that is probably cheapest. Mike McCleary asked how Peace Park was coming along. Ernie Nelson indicated that the peace sign and everything associated with it is done. Jeff Van Landuyt met with garden club who looked at the labyrinth and put a stop until further discussion. They are waiting for the garden club to get back to them with their plan change. Ryder's woods part of grant

that will allow building out the parking lot. Mike McCleary asked how the oak tree planting is going. Ernie Nelson said that was a project of the previous mayor, but they will make sure they are watered.

F. OLD BUSINESS:

1. None

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request by McHenry Athletic Complex (MAC)- New User Group Request

Dave Zinnen indicated that the new request will likely exceed the number of fields available, and that the city's guidelines place a priority on Woodstock resident use. Under the guidelines, MAC's priority would be at bottom of list. He has talked to the city manager, and they agree that we shouldn't hold up fall scheduling for this group, though they have scheduled a few of their games when there is space available. But the long term vision that they have won't be possible if Woodstock United also needs the fields. However, Woodstock United may be leaving. Mike McCleary noted that soccer fields shouldn't have more than 3 games per day on them. Further discussion ensued on how many games the group was planning, how games were tracked, and whether/how it would be possible to police the use of the fields. Dave and Allen will be trying to police it better. Mike McCleary speculated on where they had previously played and what brought them to Woodstock. The difficulty lies in possible conflicts with Woodstock United and what their plans are for the future. Dave suggested a preliminary approval based on what transpires with Woodstock United and whether they follow through with their proposal. Nic asked why they might be moving, but Dave Zinnen couldn't say for sure. Nic Kearfott asked how the city determines residency. Dave indicated they ask for rosters and then Allen goes through them, checking against water bills. Mike McCleary suggested approval of the request contingent upon established user group scheduling and that they are fully compliant with existing rules. Motion to approve McHenry soccer program to use the Davis Road complex contingent upon existing user groups submitting their schedules by Nic Kearfott, second by Steve Erwin. Ayes: Chairman Mike McCleary, Steve Erwin, Nic Kearfott. Nays: None. Absentees: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

2. Request by Next Level Baseball Organization- New User Group Request

Dave Zinnen noted they are asking for very few ballgames. They would be planning 24-30 games over the entire season, so that would not create scheduling problems. Nic Kearfott asked what facility they would use, and Dave Zinnen said 6 and 7. Basically, whatever is left over is what they get offered. Nic Kearfott asked how scheduling fields work, particularly with Little League registration and scheduling issues. Avalance and Little League sat down together and did a master schedule. Avalance has turned in their schedule, but Little League has not. Further discussion of practice use of fields ensued, then Mike McCleary asked if there was a motion. Motion to approve request by Next Level Baseball Organization to become a new user group by Nic Kearfott, second by Steve Erwin. Ayes: Chairman Mike McCleary, Steve Erwin, Nic Kearfott. Nays: None. Absentees: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

H. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Tentative agenda items identified by Administration
None.
2. Requested by Commission

- a. Mike McCleary requested an updated comprehensive review of Parks and Recreation policies and practices. Steve Erwin asked if that would need to go to the City council for approval. Dave Zinnen indicated they did not need approval from City council and once Ernie and Paul have a couple years under their belts they would take a look at this.
- b. Request new list for Woodstock Parks and Rec directory.

I. ADJOURN:

Steve Erwin made a motion to adjourn, Nic Kearfott seconding. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm to a Regular Meeting May 12, 2015 @ 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Weber – Deputy City Clerk