



MINUTES

**City of Warsaw
Parks and Recreation Board
Regular Meeting (Parks)
Tuesday, April 17, 2018, 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm
Pete Thorn Youth Center**

In Attendance

Bill Baldwin; Diane Quance; Heather Frazier; Jill Beehler; Joe Thallemer; Larry Plummer; Michelle Boxell; Shaun Gardner; Sheila Wieringa; Steve Haines

Not In Attendance

Larry Ladd

I. CALL TO ORDER

Park Board President Steve Haines Called the meeting to order.

II. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

1. *Approval of March 2018 Minutes*

The March 2018, minutes were approved on a motion by Board Member Baldwin, seconded by Board Member Boxell.

Move: Bill Baldwin Second: Michelle Boxell Status: Passed

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. 2017 Campground Report

Superintendent Plummer advised that Jill Boggs from the Kosciusko County Convention and Visitor's Bureau had contacted him in reference to the Pike Lake Campground. Jill said she was working with Certec Inc. and was interested to see what type of influence the Campground had on bringing tourism to the City of Warsaw and Kosciusko County. Upon reviewing 2017 campground rental receipts for this information, it was found that the number of camper nights sold in 2017 was 6,971, an average of 3 campers per site, and an estimated 70% of the campers were from outside Kosciusko County with them being in 33 different counties and 33 different states. Campers from all around the states and Canada enjoyed our campground facility.

Certec Inc. is working on collecting this type of information from a sample of campgrounds in counties across Indiana from the Ohio River in the south to Lake Michigan in the North.

2. Central Park Master Plan

Superintendent Plummer advised the Park Board that as the Buffalo Street Project evolves there are many affects to Central Park that we need to address. We felt as a department that a Central Park Master Plan is needed to give us the direction in years to come. There are so many moving parts to the puzzle being looked at right now. Where our park offices will be located, where our maintenance facility best fits in, how the NIPSCO substation project will affect the area, possible acquisition of the Mobile Station on Detroit Street, how to remodel the Center Lake Pavilion, how a multi-use covered Pavilion could enhance our recreation opportunities, and how revitalizing our Center Lake shoreline brings new opportunities to our Recreation Department. We have secured funding to allow Design Collaborative Architects and Engineers to assist us in the Master Plan Process. We want the public to have every opportunity to be involved in this process working with both community leaders and city administration. This will provide us with the most complete Master Plan.

Essentially due to all the moving pieces of these projects, Plummer would like the Board's approval to work with Design Collaborative to develop a Master Plan for Central Park. Essentially this plan would include 3 phases:

Phase 1: Discover, social media, public design

Phase 2: Engagement to develop a few different master plans and test scenarios

Phase 3: Final Master plan

If a motion to approve the master plan is approved both with the Park Board and the BOW, it will be kicked off on Memorial Day Weekend at the Lakes Festival and then end on Family Safety Day in September. The main aspect of this is to have as much public input and participation as we can.

A motion to proceed with the Central Park Master Plan in collaboration with Design Collab., was approved on a motion by Board Member Boxell, seconded by Board Member Beehler.

Move: Michelle Boxell Second: Jill Beehler Status: Passed

3. *Recreation Guide*

Recreation Director Wieringa advised that the 2018 Recreation Guides arrived this afternoon! Wieringa advised that tomorrow we are looking to start sorting them tomorrow and delivering to local businesses around the Warsaw/Kosciusko area.

This Saturday (4/21/18) is opening day for the Mantis Skate Park. Food will be served all day from local sponsors!

4. *Maintenance Report*

Maintenance Director Gardner advised that the piers were installed at the campground. Although the freezing temperatures are delaying the

restrooms opening, they are expected to be fully open within the next week. All parks have been rolled, tree limbs and leaves picked up, and prepping them for the upcoming summer. New tables are being assembled for the Central Park Shelters to replace the older ones, which have been there since 1994. Picnic tables have been placed throughout all the parks and shelters as well. Tennis nets are out on the courts, a new bench swing has been purchased to replace the one at the campground, and the Barber Surf Rake has already been on the beaches!

The Parks Department is still looking for laborers, lifeguards, and recreation leaders for this summer season.

V. OTHER MATTERS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

VI. MEETING REVIEW

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further matters to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Move: Bill Baldwin Second: Jill Beehler Status: Passed