

NEWPRO MINUTES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Hosted By: Town of Greenville Parks and Forestry
Greenville Town Hall
W6860 Parkview Dr.

Attendance: Vince Mass – City of Menasha, Rob Way – Winnebago County Parks, Chad Hoerth – New London, Amanda Geiser – Town of Menasha, Kabel Helmbrecht – Appleton, Tony Armstrong – Appleton, Tony Nowak – Greenville, Kent Kostelecky – Marinette, Laurie Olson – Neenah, Trish Nau – ECWRPC, Tom Baron – ECWRPC, Jody Brooks – Sheboygan, Steve Scharrer – Sheboygan

I. Welcome

a. Commercial Vendor Presentation – Reinders

- Dale Marach from Reinders gave a brief power point presentation of the service that Reinders provides.

b. Host Report

- Director Tony Nowak gave a brief overview of Greenville's department. Greenville has 211 acres of parkland on 9 properties and 3 mile of trails. Greenville has minimal recreational programming. The department is responsible for the management of more than 2,500 trees.

II. Reports:

a. WPRA

- Looking for donations for the Conference Basket Raffle
- Block of rooms available for the National Conference in Minneapolis. \$189
- WTRS is selling shirts. Contact WPRA office.
- July is Park & Recreation month. There is a neat toolkit available.
- Board meets on the 26th.

b. Park Section

- Meet next week.
- Summer Park tour – info in Impact.
- Looking for nominations for Professional and Young Professional of the year.

c. Recreation Section

- Region 2 and 4 reps, Chair Elect and Treasurer/Secretary positions are open. Nominations due by Aug. 20th.
- Silver Star Awards forms are available on the WPRA website and are due by July 30th.
- Youth Leadership Workshop is June 11th from 9-noon in Appleton. Cost is \$8.00 for WPRA member organizations and \$12.00 for non-members. Forms available online.
- Looking for nominations for Professional and Young Professional of the year.

- d. **Aquatics Section**
 - Workshop in DePere.
 - e. **Conference**
 - Info in impact, more coming soon.
 - River Clean-up is almost full. Contact Sasha Snapp
 - f. **Lifeguard Competition**
 - Sat. July 17th 8-11am at Appleton Mead Pool
 - \$15, includes lunch
 - Register online through New London
 - Laurie made a motion to fund up to \$50 from the NEWPRO fund. Chad second, motion passed.
 - g. **Playground Workshop**
 - See rec. section report.
- III. Old Business**
- a. **Regional Revenue Generating Ideas**
 - Nothing new.
- IV. Discussion**
- a. **Seasonal wage rates**
 - City of Menasha \$9.25, Appleton \$7.79, Greenville \$8.00, Sheboygan \$7.50, Town Menasha \$8.00, Winnebago County \$8.00
 - For most communities the rate is higher for lifeguards
 - b. **Weed Control in Parks**
 - New London – Athletic fields and designated areas
 - Menasha and Winnebago County a couple of small areas
 - Neenah and Appleton – none
 - Sheboygan – athletic fields, contract out \$15,000/yr.
 - Greenville – has started spraying many areas to knock down the weeds.
 - c. **Prairie/natural areas**
 - New Holstein is installing one in a new park.
 - West Bend has used it quite a bit.
 - Winnebago county has about 30 acres. Has some issues with being able to burn them. Have turned out well. Better than just letting it go.
 - d. **Seasonal Orientations**
 - Appleton – HR training all staff, Parks equipment rodeo, Aquatics policy, emergency, Gold Cross, fire and police training
 - Sheboygan – playgrounds – full week or training before kids, umpire training
 - Town of Menasha – tour park sites, new staff come in first, CPR training, playground workshop
 - Neenah – Pool/park/rec. training is on the weekend, Gold Cross for pool
 - City of Menasha – HR online training for full time staff
 - Most communities do t-shirts and ID badges for staff identification
 - e. **Fall 2010/Spring 2011 Meeting Sites**
 - September – New London
 - October – City of Menasha

- December – Neenah (3rd Thursday)
- January – Little Chute
- February – Winnebago County
- March – Kimberly
- April – Sheboygan
- May – Green Bay (3rd Thursday)
- All meeting preliminarily set for the 4th Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted.

f. Other Topics

- **Peanut Sale Restrictions:** New London has had a request to restrict peanut sale because of an allergy issue. Nobody has any restrictions on peanut sale. Some have heard of some places having special “No Peanut Nights”
- **Basketball Courts:** Winnebago County is looking at possibly turning old tennis courts that are rarely used into basketball courts. How well used are people outdoor courts. Greenville has good use of their courts. The Kimberly YMCA has a lot of use on their courts. Having the courts away from a neighborhood may be a good thing. Sheboygan has received complaints about basketball at all hours.
- **Contracting Concession:** Does anybody contract out their concessions? Appleton has a local restaurant owner that does their concessions by contract. He pays \$4,000 per season to do the concessions. They have the option to renew the contract if desired.