

# MINUTES N.E.W.P.R.O MEETING

Ashwaubenon Village Hall  
Ashwaubenon, Wisconsin

Thursday, March 20, 2008  
10:00 AM

**I. CALLED TO ORDER:**

**A. Welcome**

**B. Introductions** – Everyone at the meeting introduced themselves & where they were from.

**C. Brief Overview of Host Community and Department** – Rex Mehlberg, Director of Ashwaubenon Parks, Recreation & Forestry gave a brief overview of the Village of Ashwaubenon and some of the current and upcoming projects.

**II. REPORTS**

**A. WPRA** – Sara King passed around National Playground Safety Institute Certification Course & Exam information. She also said the IMPACT magazines and Membership Guides were sent out to everyone. Sara talking about the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Golf Outing and to get your nominations in for WPRA awards. A new College Relations committee has been formed and WPRA is creating a FRIENDS group. The Aquatic technician workshop is in April. Steve Thompson, spoke about the Citizen Board Member Guide (38 page guide) that you can download for free off of the internet or purchase for \$5 or \$7 to have it mailed out to you. Joe McLafferty, spoke about speaking to legislation in Washington D.C. with Steve Thompson and Roger Kist. May is also Community Fit; Let's Play month. The next WPRA board meeting is in Manitowoc on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

**B. Park Section** – No Report

**C. Recreation Section** – March 13<sup>th</sup> is the Spring Workshop at Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells. Nominations are being accepted for President elect.

**D. Aquatics Section** – Jeremy Moeller, spoke on the Aquatics Seminar that will be held in Sun Prairie on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

**E. Other (WYSCO, Benefits, Membership, Awards)** – Al Schaefer spoke on the Brewers Tailgating party that is going to be held on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. Jeremy Creech, spoke on the Benefits committee and that they are currently working on 2008 goals and Media kits for Departments. They are also promoting Benefits awards more this year. Steve Thompson stated May 1<sup>st</sup> was the deadline for the elected official's award.

### III. **DISCUSSION**

- A. Softball** – Rex Mehlberg, spoke on the umpire clinic Ashwaubenon will be holding...contact Ashwaubenon Park & Rec if anyone is interested in sending their umpires. Kimberly is hosting a National tournament this summer....32 teams from around the world. Appleton is also hosting 2 tournaments. They are also looking at putting on a recreational tournament in June for men's teams. Appleton also updated diamonds, lighting, electric and scoreboards this past year. Ashwaubenon and Allouez are hosting Northern nationals for 2009. They are working with Packer Country on grants to pay for field rentals, maintenance, etc. You can work with your VCB (Visitor's Convention Center's) to apply for Ready Set Go Grants. Fond du Lac is also hosting many tournaments this summer. Renee passed around a tournament schedule for the summer.
- B. Facility Scheduling Software** – Renee from Fond du Lac asked what other departments use for scheduling. Oshkosh uses Rec Trac (but does not include their softball diamonds) All aquatics after 6pm by department are done on Rec Trac. One person in their department processes contracts and schedules.) Sheboygan has their department scheduling school facilities.
- C. New Programs for the summer** – Oshkosh is doing 1 on 1 swim lessons or private lessons. (Veronica is looking for guidelines and costs). Sheboygan has been doing soccer camps for elementary and middle school age children and have been getting excellent turnouts. Ashwaubenon is offering more pre-school programs. Appleton is offering more field trips for their playgrounds. They are also working on a community Bike Safety program for 2009. Allouez is working with groups on putting together a map of all bike trails in Brown County. It will be available for sale. New London is having a Gutz Frisbee tournament at one of their parks. Green Bay is hosting a National Birding Conference where bird watchers from all over the United States will come to the Wildlife Sanctuary the weekend of May 10<sup>th</sup>.
- D. Community Fit, Let's Play** – Sara King asked how other departments are using Community Fit, Let's Play theme in their departments.
- E. WPRA Board Governance Presentation** – Joe McLafferty and Yvonne Monfils gave a presentation to the board on the board government size. After discussion of the 4 options presented to the group Kent Kostelecky made a motion to choose option number 1, Maria Andersen added that if option number 1 was chosen that they should also include the students and Steve Sharrer from Sheboygan seconded the motion.
- F. Other Topics** – The next N.E.W.P.R.O meeting on Thursday, April 17 has been changed from Kaukauna to Appleton.
- G. Raffle & Adjourn**