



Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association

Park Section Annual Meeting Minutes

Waukesha, Wisconsin

September 16, 2008



I. Call To Order

G. Pinney called the meeting to order at 10:17 am.

II. Roll Call

Attending: George Pinney, Chad Brown, Steve Brunner, Tim McGuire, Ray Maurer, Matt Amundson, Cindy Robles

Excused: Kathy Gruentzel, Duane Hofstetter, Dave Mehls, Bob Rafel

III. Host Report

S. Brunner reported that Ruekert & Mielke has 135 employees and does approximately 95% municipal consulting work in Civil, GIS, and Financial Service areas. Steve's main function is working with communities to design parks.

IV. Minutes

Minutes from the July 24, 2008 Park Tour meeting were reviewed. C. Robles made a motion to accept; second by M. Amundson. Motion approved.

V. Reports

a. Chair report

G. Pinney extended thanks to Cindy Robles and Platteville for all the work on the Summer Park Tour. The 2009 Summer Park Tour will be in Door County and rooms will be held at Stone Harbor for \$89 per night (two nights before as well). Their Friends Group will be putting together family events and the YMCA, state, county, and city parks will all have facilities and events for attendees.

R. Maurer asked that AFO and WPRAA CEU's be confirmed beforehand.

Fees and flyers will be approved before the Annual Fall Conference for distribution.

b. Chair Elect report

C. Robles handed out the budget from the 2008 Park Tour. There was \$804.45 or revenue after expenses for the event.

She asked that moderators sign up for sessions to cover the Fall Conference and will email a list for people to sign up on.

c. Past Chair report

B. Rafel emailed a report: FEMA emergency response, a FEMA roundtable, and landfill/environmental park sites were topics that could be undertaken for the Spring Workshop.

Nominations are also due for Park Section Committee positions.

d. Secretary/Treasurer's report

C. Brown asked that budget details and vouchers be forwarded to the Secretary/Treasurer so that accurate records can be kept for future boards. He will provide a monthly spreadsheet with the expenditures and balance sheet for review.

- e. Region 1
No report.
- f. Region 2
No report.
- g. Region 3
M. Amundson reported that they met September 4. He also had some topics for future conferences that need to be considered: Design on a Budget, Easements and Trails, and Stormwater (innovative ideas rather than standard detention ponds)
- h. Region 4
No report.
- i. Rep at Large
No report.
- j. Rep at Large
R. Maurer met with the Emeritus Section to judge the Park Design Awards. There were 12 applicants that were considered.

Additionally, he asked if there should be a consideration of reducing the Representative at Large positions and adding term limits.
- k. State Park Subsection
K. Gruentzel emailed a report that she would be returning at State Park Subsection chair.

M. Amundson asked that the Park Section draft a letter in support of the WDNR being members of WPRA and will write a letter along with Duane Hofstetter to reflect the position of the Park Section.
- l. Committee Reports
Urban Forestry – R. Maurer mentioned that Brian Spencer from Oconomowoc Parks, Recreation & Forestry will take over for Jeff Gorman. The by-laws should be referenced for representation in 2010.

Conference Committee – see C. Brown’s comments.

WPRA Report – No report.

V. Unfinished Business

- a. Park Section Board Manual
Lynda Fink and Ray Maurer have worked extensively on the manual and will be finalizing the manual soon. Some recommendations include adding that the Secretary/Treasurer update the manual yearly with new dates, timelines, etc. Goals and recommendations should be submitted with the budget annually. Elimination of the subcommittees into current positions should be considered as well.

A running list of Summer Park Tour, Professional of the Year and Young Professional of the Year should be included; C. Brown can provide some of that information and verify by laws with R. Maurer. Finally, Park Design Award coordinator duties should be included.

R. Maurer will email a draft for revisions.

b. Park Section Name Issue

A suggestion to make the name more encompassing of the section was discussed: Park Operations and Development Section. The section asked what other states are doing and if we have this change, will WPRA's name have to change; if Wisconsin PARK OPERATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT, and Recreation Association will be necessitated. This issue will be added to the 2009 Goals and be brought up at the 2009 Annual Meeting.

Adding Commercial, Golf Course, and Facility subsections or representatives may meet these needs as well.

c. Park Section Board Nominations

B. Rafel was called for a list of nominations:

Region I – Dave Mehls

Region II – Vince Maas

Representative at Large – Ray Maurer

Secretary/Treasurer – Guy Smith

VI. New Business

VII. Other Business

VIII. Adjournment

M. Amundson made a motion to adjourn at 1:05 pm; second by T. McGuire. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Chad D. Brown, Park Section Secretary