



Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association

Park Section Annual Meeting Minutes
Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin
May 15, 2007



I. Call To Order

B. Rafel called the meeting to order at 10:20 am

II. Roll Call

Attending: Kathy Gruentzel, Duane Hofstetter, Bob Rafel, George Pinney,
Chad Brown, Tim McGuire

Excused: Kelley Woldanski, Lynda Schmidt, Tom Barnes, Jeff Gorman

Guests: None

III. Minutes

Minutes from the March 8, 2007 meeting were reviewed. C. Robles moved to accept; second by T. McGuire. Motion approved.

IV. Reports

a. Chair report

B. Rafel reported that the WPRAs Board voted to keep members from receiving scholarships. The interpretation of the non profit rules by WPRAs auditing firm led to the decision; grants/scholarships are "profiting" to members.

C. Robles asked about setting up a Jay Jansen Memorial Fund. The WPRAs Board is already working on setting this up. Only monies earned through the interest on these funds is transferable to members use.

K. Gruentzel asked that specific criteria be set up for such a fund assuring that Park Section activities be sponsored through these efforts.

The reformatting of the WPRAs Board (number of members and organization) was discussed. The opinion of the Park Section is that the Region Representatives should be removed and NOT the section representatives. Additionally, the section would like further options to vote upon rather than the two that were given. Motion by Cindy Robles; second by Kathy Gruentzel. Unanimously approved.

Park Districting is still an ongoing topic. B. Rafel contact Alberta Darling who agreed to remove the one district per county stipulation. Information will once again be disseminated to the WPRAs membership in October.

b. Chair Elect report

G. Pinney handed out Door County Parks information and spoke about his operations. Thanks for hosting George!

The 2007 Annual Conference schedule was handed out. Contracts are to the WPRAs office for finalizing.

c. Past Chair report

L. Schmidt forwarded comments via email. Comments on the Spring Workshop should be incorporated into future year's events. Park Professional applications are due before our next meeting.

d. Secretary/Treasurer's report

C. Brown gave the financial report. D. Hofstetter moved to approve the report; seconded by C. Robles. Approved.

Geocache information was spoken about and handouts given. Renee Vanselow will help us with creating rules and guidelines for geocachers as well as giving us insight as to their activities.

e. Region 1

No report.

f. Region 2

Tim McGuire stated that NEWPRO met in Waupaca.

g. Region 3

C. Robles stated that PARR3 met in Wisconsin Dells and they had a lengthy discussion on the Park Districting issue. They voted NO as a region. Also discussed was the scholarship issue and there is some communication problems that will need to be ironed out so members are clear as to what is being conveyed.

h. Region 4

No report.

i. Rep at Large

D. Hofstetter relayed that Mt. Horeb will be building a new skate park.

j. Rep at Large

No report.

k. State Park Subsection

K. Gruentzel reported that the firewood issue (EAB, etc. related) is a big one for the state parks. The DNR is also looking to hire a new director by July.

l. Committee Reports

Urban Forestry – No report.

Park Conference Committee – Previously reported.

WPRA Report – No report.

V. Unfinished Business

a. Park Districting

See prior comments and handouts.

b. Stewardship Program Update

D. Hofstetter disseminated further correspondence and continues to work on this issue.

c. 2007 Annual Conference Topics

Above comments.

VI. New Business

a. WPRC Scholarship Policies Review

B. Rafel spoke with the Foundation about taking control of the scholarships. Scholarships will no longer be available as in the past. K. Gruntzel asked that the Park Section meet with the Foundation to come up with rules and criteria for future grants, fund raising efforts, etc.

VII. Other Business

None.

VIII. Adjournment

G. Pinney made a motion to adjourn at 12:20 pm. Seconded by D. Hofstetter; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chad D. Brown".

Chad D. Brown, Park Section Secretary