



# Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association

Park Section Board Minutes

West Bend, Wisconsin

December 14, 2006



## I. Call To Order

L. Schmidt called the meeting to order at 10:00 am

## II. Roll Call

Attending: Ray Maurer, Lynda Schmidt, Kathy Gruentzel, Duane Hofstetter, Scott Halvorsen, Larry Buck, Kelley Woldanski, Jay Jansen, Bob Rafel, Cindy Robles, George Pinney, Jeff Gorman, Dave Mehls, Chad Brown

Guests: Juliene Hefter – WPRAs

Excused: Tom Barnes

## III. Introduction of New Members

L. Schmidt welcomed all those members who have taken on terms for those who have left and those who are new on the committee.

## IV. Minutes

Minutes from the September 19 and November 1, 2006 meetings/votes were reviewed. L. Buck moved to accept; second by J. Gorman. Motion approved.

## V. Reports

a. Chair report

No report.

b. Chair Elect report

No report.

c. Past Chair report

R. Maurer thanked the committee and those who stepped into unexpired terms. J. Jansen thanked Ray for bringing about the Small Community initiative and helping with the Park Design Awards.

d. Secretary/Treasurer's report

C. Brown asked that everyone review the contact list and get any changes immediately.

e. Region 1

S. Halvorsen reported that they met in Marshfield September 27 with a round table discussion on park maintenance.

f. Region 2

L. Buck reported that NEWPRO would be meeting concurrently with Park Section in Neenah.

g. Region 3

C. Robles reported that they met last week and Noah's Ark came to talk about their programs and facilities.

h. Region 4

K. Woldanski mentioned that SEPRC had their holiday party last week. Roger Kist asked members about the Executive Committee Task Force. R. Maurer added that the SEPRC took no action on the Park District question that has once again come up at the state level until more information is gathered.

i. Rep at Large

D. Hofstetter stated that Tom Blotz from the DNR may participate in the meeting with updates on the Stewardship program. He mentioned that there has been a move to reauthorize Stewardship and reanalyze the nature-based definition.

j. Rep at Large


No report.

k. State Park Subsection

K. Gruentzel reported the DNR is winding down from hunting season. They are still searching for a new director but don't expect one until spring. They are revising the firewood rules again in order to stem the spread of Emerald Ash Borer. Firewood must be from within 50 miles of the park and they are also discussing firewood certification for the state as a whole.

l. Committee Reports

Urban Forestry - J. Gorman distributed handouts on the Wisconsin Urban and Community Forestry Program recommendations and the DNR Urban Forestry newsletter. There are plans underway to prioritize needs within the state and to audit the recommendations made for use by communities.



Park Conference Committee - G. Pinney requested that all members email him two topics and speakers for the Annual Conference before the next meeting for discussion at that meeting. An update of the Stewardship program should be included. L. Buck asked if there was a listing of the past topics that might be revisited if they haven't been discussed in a while. He also added that we should once again have the roundtable discussions with moderators/speakers at each table.

J. Hefter added that the submission process for topics and speakers is significantly streamlined. There is one form which can be emailed to WPRA and the speaker will get a contract from WPRA to fulfill their obligation.

L. Buck and T. McGuire have an itinerary for the 2007 Summer Park Tour. They are getting final information from Shawn Schmidt about the 2006 Tour. Final costs are being reviewed. We may be able to pay for some items (i.e. buses) through the 2006 budget.

WPRA Report – J. Hefter has once again updated the website and taken out the password access so it becomes even easier for members to use. There is also a new List Serve for questions to the organization as a whole.

**VI. Unfinished Business**

a. 2007 Spring Workshop

L. Schimdt had a handout with budget information for review. A consultant is still needed for the third education track at the workshop so any ideas should be forwarded to Lynda immediately. The cost for WPRA members will be \$47

b. Review of Roles & General Calendar/Deadlines for 2007

L. Schmidt had handouts for all members on the roles of every position on the committee.

c. Review and Possible Approval of Donation to WPRA Foundation

A Year-To-Date financial statement was handed out. There is \$4929.15 remaining for the 2006 budget.

➡ C. Brown made a motion to approve \$770 for seven annual memberships to DNR personnel; L. Buck seconded. Motion carried.

➡ An invoice for the 2007 Park Tour buses should be forwarded immediately in order to pay for them through the 2006 budget per approval by Steve Thompson. K. Gruentzel made a motion to approve a not to exceed budget of \$1900 for Park Tour busing; second by K. Woldanski. Motion carried.

➡ The remaining funds from the 2006 budget were discussed as being donated to the WPRA Foundation for Park Section scholarships. S. Halvorsen made a motion to donate up to \$3900 to the Foundation (remaining budget if bus payment does not pan out) for scholarships; D. Hofstetter seconded. Motion carried.

d. Update on 2010 Park Tour Location

D. Mehls is looking at various locations for 2010.

**VII. New Business**

a. 2007 Park Section Work Plan

Work Plan was tabled for next meeting.

b. 2007 Proposed Meeting Schedule

B. Rafel handed out a preliminary calendar. He will make a few changes and get a new calendar out to members as soon as possible.

**VIII. Other Business**

The Aquatic Section would like to investigate having the Park Tour and Aquatic Facility Tour be a joint venture.

Bill Lecker has been asked to become a member of the Stewardship Advisory Council. He wants WPRA Park Section input to help direct the discussions that are happening at the state level. The acquiring of parkland is being discussed as having a nature-based as well as developed segment to the grant language (being discussed is an 80% nature-based/20% developed component). Please forward comments to Larry Buck or Bill Lecker from Appleton.

R. Maurer presented Chair Lynda Schmidt with a plaque for her great service through the year.

**IX. Adjournment**

G. Pinney made a motion to adjourn at 12:25 pm. Seconded by R. Maurer; motion carried unanimously.

**X. Gift Exchange**

Thanks to the Riverside Brewery for hosting out meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad D. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Chad D. Brown, Park Section Secretary