



WPRA - Park Section

Friday, December 6th, 2019

10:30 am

DeForest Fireman's Park Community Room Meeting MINUTES



1. Call Meeting to Order

Meeting called to order by Dan Wick at 10:30am.

2. Roll Call

x Dan Wick President	Adam Breest Chair Elect	Dan Kremer Past Chair	VACANT Sec./Tre.
Steve Peterson Region 1	Vicky Redlin Region 2	x Joleen Stinson Region 3	x Erin Cross Region 4
Marcus Aumann Rep. at Large	x Patrick Groom Rep. at Large	Kathy Gruentzel State Park/DNR	x Tony Nowak Urban Forestry Council
Jake Anderson WPRA			

Also in attendance: Seth Westberg, Steph Schlag, Ethan Lee, & Eddie Santiago

3. Review Minutes from October 25th

Motion to approve the minutes from October 25, 2019 by E. Cross. Motion seconded by J. Stinson. Motion passed unanimously in a voice vote.

4. Unfinished Business

a. Spring Workshop 2020

2-day workshop on April 23, and 24, 2020 in Middleton. Registration is open and online.

There has been a request from Madison College if we would consider a student rate.

Separate from that, we were also asked last year if we would do a one-day rate. That was decided that it wasn't a good idea as it eventually becomes a 1-day event.

Suggestion to look at true cost for food and bus for the student rate. Suggestion to charge direct cost, but no less than \$40.

Midwest has offered scholarships for events in the past to individuals who don't have purchasing power/decision. Just an FYI.

Motion to direct Joleen to pursue student pricing and verify via email for final approval by E. Cross. Motion seconded by P. Groom. Motion passed unanimously in a voice vote.

5. New Business

a. 2020 WPRA Conference

i. Session topics & speakers: please bring 3-4 session topic or speaker ideas

1. Concern by park section of WPRA office making sure that all details are taken care of for speakers, as some details were missed for conference this year, specifically not having checks ready, hotels not booked, etc. Concern may be greater especially if you have a personal connection with a speaker. Steph will bring up at next BOD meeting.

a. Homelessness in parks—how to make staff feel safe

- i. MKE county's safety, security and training manager—

Eddie to see if he will do this

- b. How to be successful in an award application (parks, section or any)
- c. Preventing vandalism
- d. Fun run bring it back—can it get CEU's?
- e. Outdoor ice rinks
- f. County parks/ natural areas
- g. Technology in parks/what's trending
- h. Designing trail way finding signs
- i. Identifying hazard trees (re-invite Dan Trass(sp?))
- j. Storm water management, best practices for parks
- k. Shoreline restoration and water fluctuation (Sarah Hudson from Ashland will be looking for a speaker)
- l. Room tax dollars—what it can be used for
- m. How to fill fields when not programmed
- n. Best practices for P&R / convention and visitors bureaus (CVBs) partnerships for successful events
- o. Great place to visit is a great place to live (venues, trails, parks, etc. are valuable assets to locals and visitors)
- p. Conservation & competitions (how to work with natural resources like trails or waters)
- q. Help us help you (how CVBs and P&Rs can better collaborate and how to streamline processes from each)
- r. Case studies of success of partnerships
- s. Management of ice rinks, or other big facilities
- t. Facility management
- u. Dr. Laura Joll (sp?) from Madison for tree species
- v. Tree related pre-conference: Forestry 101
- w. Planting the right tree
- x. Gary Johnson (U of MN) (tree related sessions)
- y. Life lessons from a retiree—mistakes to learn from
- z. Turf management—integrative pest management
- aa. Astro turf management
- bb. Round tables that can get CEU's
- cc. Playground design and trends (possible roundtable so it doesn't become a sales pitch)
- dd. Green infrastructure-storm water, rain gardens, how many is too many, when do you say no
- ii. Review 2019 conference survey results
 - 1. Good feedback on our speakers
- b. Approve Seth Westberg as 2020 Chair Elect
 - i. **Motion by E. Cross to approve Seth Westberg as the 2020 Chair-Elect for the Parks Section. Motion seconded by J. Stinson. Motion passed unanimously in a voice vote.**
- c. One Day Summer Parks Tour in 2020
 - i. Approached by both Jake and Chad for the parks section to consider hosting again. Jake has a lot of ideas.
 - ii. Some have opinion that one-day tour is hard to logistically do, possibly do something for an afternoon on one day and then a full day the 2nd day. Others thing it is better to do a one-day event so you can get away and back in one day.
 - iii. Committee agrees that this would be a good idea to try to implement.

Suggestion for end of July early August

- d. Spring Workshop 2021 – Location
 - i. Suggestion to table the conversation until after spring conference. Need to make a decision based on this year's attendance.
- e. Professional and Young Professional of the Year Awards
 - i. All organized through WPRA office.
- f. Park Design Awards
 - i. Deadline is the same, but section would like to confirm that the application form will be the same.

6. Reports

- a. Chair – Dan Wick--nothing to report
- b. Chair Elect – Adam Breest not in attendance
- c. Past Chair – Dan Kremer via proxy--thank you for serving with him. Very enjoyable group.
- d. Secretary/Treasurer – Vacant
- e. Region 1 – Steve Peterson—not in attendance
- f. Region 2 – Vicky Redlin—next region 2 meeting on Dec. 19th in Neenah
- g. Region 3 – Joleen Stinson—next region 3 meeting in Sun Prairie on Dec. 12th
- h. Region 4 – Erin Cross—meeting next Friday
- i. Representative at Large – Marcus Aumann –nothing to report
- j. Representative at Large – Patrick Groom--nothing to report
- k. State Park/DNR – Kathy Gruentzel--not in attendance
- l. Urban Forestry Council – Tony Nowak—next council meeting is in March. 2-year report is available. Tony will email to group. Last meeting was 2 months ago.
- m. WPRA – Jake Anderson –not in attendance

7. Adjourn

Motion by P. Groom to adjourn. Motion seconded by T. Nowak. Motion passed unanimously in voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 12:14pm.

Next Meeting: Friday, January 24, 2020, 10:30 AM, online