

CITY OF MEQUON

WISCONSIN

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**PARK BOARD MEETING**

**August 19, 2015**

**Sommer Pavilion – River Barn Park**

**9800 N. Cedarburg Rd.**

**6:30 PM**

Chairperson Barnes called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm with roll call as follows:

Members present: Bruce Barnes, Susan Chich, Jim Lysaught, Tom Menzel, Fran Rechcygl, Robert Walerstein (6:45pm) and John Leszczynski

Members absent: Mary Glenn Fuchs

Also present: Parks Director Curran and Staff Liaison Szymanski

1. **Approval of Park Board Minutes:**

Moved by John Leszczynski and seconded by Fran Rechcygl to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2015 meeting. The motion passed by voice acclamation.

2. **Visitor Participation/Recognition:**

Marleen Sobczak, James Angresano and Debbie Scott

3. **Review of River Barn Cell Tower:**

As part of the September and October 2014 Park Board meetings, the Park Board voted to allow the installation of a cell tower adjacent to the south parking lot at River Barn Park. Concerns by residents regarding the cell tower placement were brought up at the Planning Commission meeting. It was requested that the matter return to the Park Board for further consideration. Much of the park is restricted due to floodplain and limits placement options. Other considerations are access to the tower and electricity to support tower operations. As with other towers on city property the city receives \$1350 - \$2000 a month in fees. Several residents voiced their concerns regarding the planned placement of the tower. Discussion followed favoring placement on the north end of the park near the existing cemetery. A motion by Fran Rechcygl and seconded by Jim Lysaught to support locating the cell tower at the north end of River Barn Park east of the cemetery with approval by Department of Transportation for an access road passed by acclamation. If DOT does not approve the road, the tower placement will go back to the Park Board for discussion.

4. **Shoreland Nature Preserve Update:**

Several meetings with staff and elected officials have taken place regarding the recently acquired land adjacent to the existing Shoreland Nature Preserve. Representatives of the Ozaukee-Washington Land Trust have also assisted with finalizing easement information. Discussions have included establishing access points, use of the lake and related re-

strictions along with the overall use of the property. Residents living near the property have expressed concerns over the planned uses of the property. President Barnes of the Mequon Park Board stated the Park Board was not informed or involved in the decision to buy the land. The 2014 Comprehensive Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan does not have any designated funds for the Shoreland N.P. The Park Board would like to tour the property and understand what the intent is for the park space from the Common Council. The board would like the City Council to bring to the Park Board the background of the nature preserve, its intent and what the future is for the park.

5. **Chairperson's Report:**

Chairperson Barnes would like to plan a tour to Shoreland Nature Preserve. Jim Lysaught thanked the City for Mequon for their exceptional staff assistance for the Gathering on the Green event.

6. **Director's Report:**

The basketball hoop will be installed at Lemke Park and ready tomorrow. The concrete is being poured in preparation for the donated sculpture located by the Isham Day House. The River Advisory committee is planning their river clean up on August 29<sup>th</sup>.

7. **Adjourn:**

A motion by Susie Chich and seconded by Jim Lysaught to adjourn at 8:00 pm passed by voice acclamation.

Future meeting date.....September 16, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

CITY OF MEQUON PARK BOARD