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Mequon, WI 53092
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PARKS AND OPERATIONS
Thursday, August 18, 2016
6:30 PM
Villa Grove Park
11900 N. Villa Grove Rd.
Agenda

1. Call to Order, Roll Call
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. Park Board Meeting Minutes May 18, 2016
3. Milwaukee River Tour
 - a. Milwaukee River Tour Report
4. Chairperson's Report
5. Director's Report
 - a. Director's Monthly Park Report
6. Informational Items
 - a. News Graphic Articles
7. Adjourn

Dated: August 12, 2016

s/ Bruce Barnes

Notice is hereby given that a quorum of other governmental bodies may be present at this meeting to present, discuss and/or gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility, although they will not take formal action thereto at this meeting.

Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations for attendance at this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at 262-236-2914, twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the meeting.

Any questions regarding this agenda may be directed to the Park's Dept. Office at 262-236-2945

Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

CITY OF MEQUON
WISCONSIN

PARK BOARD MEETING
May 18, 2016
Mequon City Hall
11333 N. Cedarburg Rd.
6:30 PM

Chairperson Barnes called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm with roll call as follows:

Members present: Bruce Barnes, Kip Jackson, Mary Glenn Fuchs, Tom Menzel, Robert Walerstein
Fran Rechcygl and Ald. Mark Gierl

Members absent: Jim Lysaught

Also present: Parks Director Curran and Staff Liaison Szymanski

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

Moved by Robert Walerstein and seconded by Fran Rechcygl to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2016 meeting. The motion passed unanimously by voice acclamation.

2. **Visitor Participation/Recognition:**

None

3. **Election of Officers:**

A motion by Robert Walerstein, seconded by Fran Rechcygl, to nominate and elect Bruce Barnes to continue to serve as Chairperson passed unanimously by voice acclamation. A motion by Robert Walerstein, seconded by Mary Glenn Fuchs to nominate and elect Robert Walerstein as Vice Chairperson, passed unanimously by voice acclamation.

4. **2016 Improvement Projects:**

At the March Park Board meeting there was discussion regarding potential improvement projects that could be addressed in 2016. A list a projects was discussed using the park improvement projects fund of approximately \$17,000.00.

Projects included improving drainage and walking tails at Carpenter Park. A quote from an outside contractor was discussed along with the possibility of volunteers providing some assistance.

Villa Grove Park is in need of an additional launch for kayaks and canoes to avoid congestion at the boat launch. The launch project could be done by a Boy Scout as an Eagle project along with Park staff removing trees and brush and preparing the area.

Little Menomonee Park is in need of improved accessibility. A walking trail could be constructed from the parking lot through the woods and grassy area.

Other improvements include replacing picnic tables as needed.

A motion made by Bruce Barnes and seconded by Mary Glenn Fuchs to proceed with the listed improvements projects utilizing staff along with Boy Scout projects at Villa Grove and Little Menomonee Park, along with additional pricing when available for walking path improvements at KKCP passed unanimously by voice acclamation.

5. **Katherine Kearney Carpenter Park Project:**

Director Curran met with a local Boy Scout that is interested in creating a dog obstacle course at KKCP. The project would assist him in his efforts to earn the Eagle Scout award. The course would consist of multiple stations for dogs to train and exercise as part of their visit to the park.

The proposed area will be located on the lawn area south of the Zedler Lane parking area. Signatures from patrons of the park were obtained supporting the project. The majority of the materials needed would be donated or purchased with outside funding. Park funding could be used to install a split rail fence to enclose the obstacle course.

A motion made by Robert Walerstein and seconded by Fran Rechcygl to approve the proposed obstacle course to enhance Katherine Kearney Carpenter Park passed unanimously by voice acclamation.

6. **Chairpersons Report:**

Chairperson Barnes recently accepted a donation by the M-T Lions Club for use in the parks to be determined. Gathering on the Green will feature Huey Lewis and the News on July 15th along with Family Day events on July 16th. Pre sales have been strong.

7. **Directors Report:**

Director Curran reported there are no new developments with the Shoreland Nature Preserve.

Adjourn:

A motion by Fran Rechcygl and seconded by Kip Jackson to adjourn at 7:28 pm passed unanimously by voice acclamation.

Future meeting date.....June 15, 2016 at Reuter Pavilion

Respectfully submitted,

CITY OF MEQUON PARK BOARD



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www.ci.mequon.wi.us

Office of Parks and Operations

TO: Parks and Operations
FROM: Don Curran, Director of Parks and Operations
DATE: August 12, 2016
SUBJECT: Milwaukee River Tour

The main topic of our August 18th Park Board meeting will be a water tour of the Milwaukee River. It has been several years since the Park Board has had an opportunity to view our waterfront park sites and discuss potential ideas for changes and improvements. We also have several new members that were not on the Park Board when we last toured. One of the changes is the current work on the canoe/kayak landing at the east end of Villa Grove Park. A Boy Scout is currently working on this area to provide a safe entry area for canoes and kayaks. The project will assist him with obtaining his Eagle Scout award.

Please plan on arriving at the boat launch area at Villa Grove Park at 6:15PM. Once everyone is gathered we will begin our tour at 6:30PM. I anticipate returning to the dock before dark. We may also have members of the River Advisory Committee along that can provide interesting information about the river and the areas adjoining it. Please dress appropriately for an outdoor meeting on a pontoon boat.



TO: Parks and Operations
FROM: Don Curran, Director of Parks and Operations
DATE: August 12, 2016
SUBJECT: Director's Monthly Park Report

Katherine Kearney Carpenter Park

I was recently advised that the Eagle Scout project consisting of a dog exercise area has been approved by the Boy Scout leaders and will be underway in the next few weeks. The Park Board reviewed the project and voted to approve it earlier this year. I would anticipate completion early this fall.

Lemke Park

Cardinal Football activities will be underway at Lemke Park commencing the week of August 8th. All age levels utilize the park for practices each night of the week. The weekend games have relocated from River Barn Park to the new artificial turf field at Homestead High School.

Little Menomonee Site

Parks Department staff will be checking the site to determine where a walking trail can be established. A parking lot has been in place for several years but no formal path has been developed. A trail will be looked into in areas that are the most accessible and require a minimal amount of tree removal. In some areas previous trails can be cleared and linked to the new trails.

River Barn Park

Funds donated by the Mequon-Thiensville Lion's Club were used to purchase another picnic table for the outdoor patio area. As requested by the Park Board a plaque recognizing the donation was installed on the top of the table.

Rotary Park

Another successful Gathering on the Green event took place on July 15th and 16th. Parks Department staff assisted with preparing the grounds prior to the event. As in past years a very large volunteer effort supports the actual setup and cleanup of the grounds. A very large crowd attended the Friday night Huey Lewis and the News concert. A wide variety of family events and music took place on Saturday.

Villa Grove Park

Parks Department crews completed the preliminary work that will allow for a canoe/kayak launch area at the east end of Villa Grove Park. Several small trees and some brush was cleared in preparation for an Eagle Scout project that is scheduled to begin on Saturday, August 13th. Similar to what has been done at other riverfront locations lannon stone will be used to create a tiered approach to the water making it easier to enter and exit canoes and kayaks. This will also alleviate some of the congestion in the current boat landing area. Signs will also be installed directing canoes and kayaks to the new area.

Upcoming Events

The annual Taste of Mequon event will take place on Saturday, September 10th in the plaza area in the Town Center. A day of music, food and entertainment is planned.

NEWS GRAPHIC

Growing Mequon parks dependent on donations

Needs include swimming pool improvements and concession stand at Rennie Field

By Gary Achterberg
News Graphic Staff

MEQUON — Don Curran has watched Mequon's parks grow along with the city in the 37 years he's worked there, starting on a park maintenance crew and now as the city's director of Parks and Operations.

City residents can enjoy nearly 1,200 acres of park land that include 10 baseball fields, 6 miles of the Ozaukee Interurban Trail, four rental pavilions, a swimming pool and numerous fields that see heavy demand from a variety of youth sports programs, including football and, more recently, lacrosse.

Curran discussed the city's wide range of park offerings — and some of the challenges they face — during the Mequon-Thiensville Chamber of Commerce's monthly governmental affairs meeting May 3.

He said the city depends on — and very much appreciates — the support that it receives from various community groups who have made contributions to the parks over the years.

Two of the more visible examples of that are the formation of Rotary Park and Mequon Community Foundation contributions that played a key role in building the pavilion at River Barn Park.

The Mequon Community Foundation raised the funds for the Sommer Pavilion. The Sommer Family also donated acoustic tile for the interior.

Many of the organizations who use the parks for various sports teams, including Cardinal Football and the Thiensville Mequon Youth Baseball Association, have made improvements that not only benefit their organizations, but can be used by others.

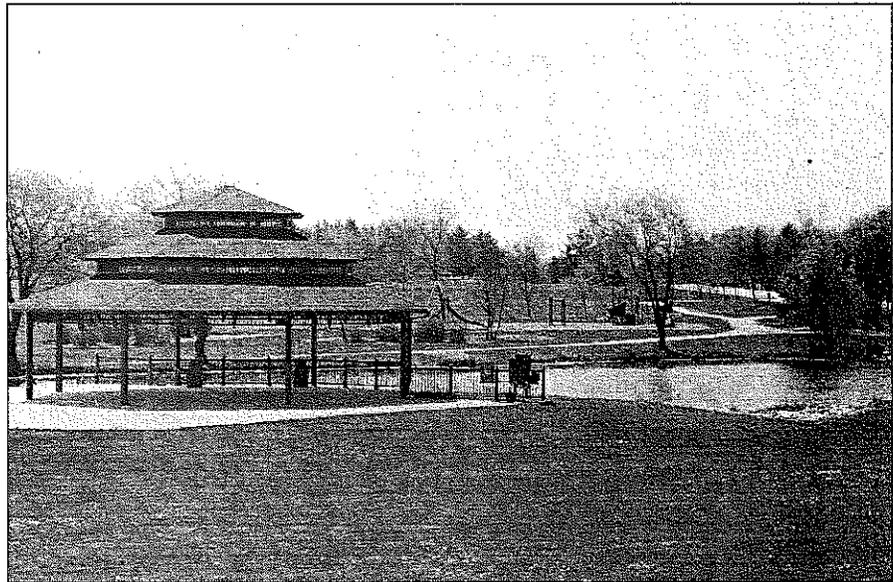


Photo by Mark Justesen

Mequon's Rotary Park on Highland Road is home to the city's popular Gathering on the Green.

To sum it up — Mequon Parks Department

- Number of parks: 26
- Total acreage: 1,154
- Number of dog parks: 1
- Number of pavilions: 4
- Number of boat/canoe landings: 4
- Miles of Ozaukee Interurban Trail: 6

Curran added that many improvements in parks have been made by local teens as Eagle Scout projects. Those have included canoe landings, tree plantings, bridge construction and the addition of benches and signs.

Looking forward, Curran shared some thoughts about the needs and future direction of the parks. He said:

■ The city pool, located between City Hall and the Frank L. Weyenberg Library along Cedarburg Road, needs attention. The pool initially was built

in 1933 through the Works Progress Administration. Significant repairs and renovations occurred in 2008.

■ A more extensive pavilion with flush toilets would be a nice addition to Lemke Park on the city's west side. He said the park is used much more than in years past, both by individuals and organized groups, including lacrosse, which has grown immensely in popularity.

■ Possible improvements in the Town Center and along the Rotary Riverwalk are on the table as the area continues to develop.

■ A concession stand and storage facilities would be a nice addition to Rennie Field, the city's baseball diamond located near the pool and library. The field and surrounding amenities were upgraded in the recent past.

■ Many asphalt parking lots in parks are in need of work.

Email: gachterberg@conley.net.com

NEWS GRAPHIC

Ozaukee County's Newspaper Since 1883



\$1 gmtoday.com

Thursday, July 28, 2016

Gathering on the Green was a huge success

To the editor:

Gathering on the Green would like to thank all of our guests who attended our event this past weekend at Rotary Park in Mequon. Because of you, our sponsors and donors, this year was a huge success. Zach Pietrini led off Friday night and Huey Lewis and The News rocked the park and played to a wildly enthusiastic audience. Family Fun Day! on Saturday featured an afternoon filled with activities for children and the family, followed by The Kids From Wisconsin, The Starliner Big Band featuring Jenny Thiel and our fireworks closed out the event. The families loved having the police car, fire truck and K-9 unit there.

We'd like to thank the city of Mequon for all their efforts. The entire administration, police, fire and parks departments all do an incredible year-round job and each year come together to present Rotary Park as the jewel that it is and provide the setting to make Gathering on the Green so special. We'd especially like to thank Don Curran, Wayne Peters, Ken Harmon, Pam Szymanski and the entire Parks Department. These people and their department go way beyond the call of duty in their service to us all. We're very lucky to have them. Lastly, the event could not come together without the incredible job by Steve Shallock, his crew at Suburban Rental and all of our wonderful and dedicated volunteers.

Thanks again and we are excited about next year's!

Rob Kos
Executive Director
Gathering on the Green