

CITY OF FRANKLIN
PARKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
April 10, 2023

Approved
May 8, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

- I. Chair Michael Wrench called the April 10, 2023, Parks Commission meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. commencing in the Hearing Room at Franklin City Hall at 9229 W. Loomis Road, Franklin, Wisconsin.

Present were Chair Michael Wrench, Vice Chair Karen Malecki, Commissioners Susan Lance, Mary Remington, Kristen Stanley, Owen Poborsky, Alderwoman Shari Hanneman and Non-voting member Ex-Officio Michelle Runte. Also present were Associate Planner Marion Ecks, City Engineer Glen Morrow, Department of Public Works Kevin Schlueter and Dale Borchardt.

CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD

- II. The citizen comment period opened at 6:31 p.m. and closed at 6:31 p.m. No citizens present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular meeting minutes of March 13, 2023.

- III. Commissioner Remington moved and Commissioner Stanley seconded to approve the minutes of the regular Parks Commission meeting of March 13, 2023. On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Update on Parks Maintenance

- IV.
 - A. The ice rink has been taken down. Pavilions at the parks are open except for Ken Windl. Pickleball nets are up at Lions Legend II. Some tennis nets are up as well. Winter trail markers have been taken down. Lions Legend I had a successful Easter egg hunt this past weekend. City Engineer Morrow reported that repaving of the tennis and pickleball courts will be taken out of service in October, 2023 and will be coated in spring. Repaving all courts at once will save the City a significant amount of money. All agreed this was appropriate. Non-voting member Runte reported volunteers are needed to help with clean-up at Kayla's playground on April 25th. Clean-up times will be sent to Associate Planner Ecks. Rain date is scheduled for April 26th. Discussion only, no action taken.

2022 and 2023 Budget. Parks Commission request for information on personnel additions, Capital Outlay Fund needs, Equipment Revolving Fund needs, Street Improvement Fund needs and Major Capital Expenditures to be made with borrowed funds.

- B. Associate Planner Ecks reported she will get worksheets from last and this year's priorities and bring them back to a future meeting for discussion. Parkland Acquisition Studies - it was requested the Commission think about recommendations for use of available impact fees. This discussion will be brought back.

Park amenities donation policy and Parks marketing materials including maps, pamphlets, etc..

Little league and/or adult recreation league, youth league and community reservations of sports facilities for baseball and pickleball.

Result of Parks Commission recommendation to rename Lions Legend II Park, located at 8717 West Drexel Avenue, Vernon Barg Park (Common Council approval on March 21, 2023).

Draft ordinance to add Municipal Code Section 183-48D. to prohibit use of City park pavilions without proper authorization.

Request by City of Franklin resident Ken Solis to conduct an invasive species Weed-Out in Franklin Woods Nature Center located at 3723 West Puetz Road.

C. Associate Planner Ecks reported the final draft of the maps of City parks is complete. It is with hope this will be put on the City website and also in the next newsletter. She will contact the Franklin Recreation Department and share this information so it can also place on their website. Vice Chair Malecki was recognized for the work she did on the park's map and is now working on a draft pamphlet to complement the park's map. Discussion only, no action taken.

D. Department of Public Works, Dale Borchardt, put together a document showing where all pickleball courts are located (striped and permanent). Information is included in the meeting packet. Rec Trax is used by Milwaukee County to reserve courts online. This should be researched as to the cost of using a website. Can co-op be done with the Recreation department? The site can also dictate when you want to open or close courts d/t maintenance. This should be added to the budget discussion. Commissioner Lance put together a draft proposal on reserving pickleball courts. Feedback provided by the Commission. Vice Chair Malecki had also drafted information on reservations. Perhaps the information could be combined.

E. This was approved by Common Council. The park will need new signage. Discussion only, no action taken.

F. City Engineer Morrow drafted an Ordinance for use of City pavilions without proper authorization. Large groups are using Vernon Barg pavilion without permits. Commissioner Stanley commented that she does not care for the language in the draft document and does not feel this is a police issue. She commented citizens are already responsible for not breaking park rules and cannot litter or vandalize. She would like to see pictures of the issues being seen at the park. The main concern is the amount of food items and trash that is being left at the parks by non-permitted use of the pavilions. This ordinance could be used for egregious violations. City Engineer Morrow will take back to Common Council for their input /advice. Discussion only, no action taken.

G. Associate Planner Ecks reported a draft of a waiver is currently with the City Attorney. Non-voting member Runte expressed concern about the use of chemical sprays. Buckthorn would be cut and spray painted. Remaining questions – Who will be project manager? Will

there be signage and where will the material be deposited? Is a map of the area where buckthorn infestation will be treated available to the Commission for viewing? Discussion only, no action taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

Request by City of Franklin resident, Jessica Sardina, for use of a 10 foot by 20 foot outdoor patio tent at Lions Legend Park Vernon Barg Pavilion, located at 8717 West Drexel Avenue, for a birthday party on Saturday, June 3, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

V.

- A.** Chair Wrench asked if the 'hotline' would be needed to survey/search for electric or water lines. Liability is a concern. It was asked how the tent would be secured to the ground. Associate Planner Ecks will request proof of insurance and will bring it back to the next meeting. Discussion only, no action taken.

Proposal to post "No Trespassing" signs on City-owned properties including the undeveloped "Southwest Park" (Tax Key Nos. 937-9999-004 and 892-9999-002).

- B.** City Engineer Morrow reported there are certain parcels throughout the City that are undeveloped. There is a need for a possible Ordinance to be in place until a park is ready to open to prevent public access.

Alderman Hanneman moved and Commissioner Stanley seconded a motion to post no trespassing signs on city owned properties, including the undeveloped parks (Southwest Park and Water Tower Park). On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).

NEXT MEETING DATE

- VI.** May 8, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

- VII.** Vice Chair Malecki moved and Alderman Hanneman seconded to adjourn the meeting of April 10, 2023, at 8:00p.m.. On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).