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**CITY OF BURLINGTON****Department of Public**

Street & Park and Water Departments  
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**CITY OF BURLINGTON PARK BOARD MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2016 6:30PM**  
**2200 S. Pine Street, Burlington, WI 53105**

Chairman Darrel Eisenhardt, Commissioners Jennifer Amborn, Clay Brandt, Lori Hintz, Jeff Schopp, Peter Turke, Ald. Ruth Dawidziak, DPW Supervisor Dan Jensen, P.E., Student Rep: Nicole Witbrod

**Chairman Darrel Eisenhardt called the February 18, 2016 Park Board Meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.**

**Roll Call: Present:** Commissioners Jennifer Amborn, Jeff Schopp, Peter Turke, Ald. Ruth Dawidziak, DPW Supervisor Dan Jensen, Student Representative Nicole Witbrod and Chairman Darrel Eisenhardt. Excused: Commissioners Lori Hintz and Clay Brandt. Commissioner Brandt arrived at 6:47 P.M.

**Approval of November 19, 2015 Park Board Minutes:** Chairman Eisenhardt entertained a motion for approval of the November 19, 2015 Park Board Minutes. Deb Rintamaki stated that Aaron DeGrave, Park Foreman had thought on page two, under B2000, Field and Fencing, that the minutes stated Congress field, but should actually state Beaumont field. The Park Board Commissioners agreed, and noted this should be changed.

Mr. DeGrave also suggested that where the Minutes stated BB2000 wanted to raise the outfield by 6 ft., that perhaps that should be 6". The Commissioners all agreed that what was presented at the November 19, 2016 meeting was 6 ft., and therefore the Minutes would not be changed. Chairman Eisenhardt then entertained a motion for approval, with the change of Congress to Beaumont field. Motion to approve made by Commissioner Schopp. Seconded by Commissioner Amborn. All voted aye motion carried.

Mr. DeGrave had also asked Deb Rintamaki to convey his concerns regarding the clay tiles and irrigation system that is underground in the area BB2000 wants to make improvements on. Dan Jensen, DPW Supervisor stated this would be something that would be discussed when BB2000 comes back before the Park Board as requested once they have come up with a definitive plan.

**Citizens Comments: None**

**Aldermanic Report: Ruth Dawidziak: None**

**DPW Supervisor Report: Dan Jensen** presented the Development Fund financials.

Mr. Jensen reported he had met with Melissa Cook from the DNR, Jim Metzger of Racine County and Blake Thiesen of Ayers and Associates to discuss the rail road trestle and bike trail improvements and what could be done to make the bridge safe. The area has become a great concern due to the condition of the old rail road trestle and Mr. Jensen's fear is that a child could be severely injured if the rail road trestle were to get to the point of collapse. The DNR's stance was that there are not funds to make the bridge safe and the DNR is not going to do anything about it. If the DNR were to even put up signs warning of the danger, they would then be agreeing that it is dangerous, opening themselves up to possible future lawsuits should someone get hurt.

The Commissioners were all in agreement that this is something that needs to be pursued further and should not be ignored. They suggested Mr. Jensen should proceed by first bringing it to the attention of Carina Walters, City Administrator, which he agreed to do. One suggestion was to possibly plant several thorny bushes to keep anyone from wanting to even walk through the area.

Mr. Jensen will be bringing before the City Council a change to Chapter 234 of the City Ordinances to prohibit the storage of boats or other watercraft on City Park property and to allow for the removal of boats on park property.

Jen Reese, Racine County 4H has requested an Overnight Camping permit for homeless awareness. The request was for May 21, 2016 at Echo Park. They have done this in the past, with no fees charged. Chairman Eisenhardt entertained a motion to allow the Racine County 4H to overnight camp at Echo Park as presented and to waive the \$15.00 fee. Motion to approve made by Commissioner Turke. Seconded by Ald. Dawidziak. All voted aye, motion carried.

Mr. Jensen had been contacted by the Burlington Community Fund who would like to possibly do some work on the Echo Park Gazebo. They thought possibly replacing the handrails and resurfacing the concrete. They also would to possibly open the rail that goes out to the area in the Park where the audience gathers for concerts. They are working with the Peter Scherrer Group, and the ACE group at Burlington High School for the project. Mr. Jensen will contact Mr. Weis to let him know what steps are necessary to bring it before the Park Board for approval.

#### **New Business:**

**Dog Park Committee Financial Report: Karlie Thate:** Ms. Thate distributed the Dog Park Committee Financial Report. She stated that their fundraiser of A Dog's Life with the Haylofter's brought in \$500.00 in concessions and their Silent Auction raised \$987.00. The balance in their account is currently \$3861.24. Ms. Thate also stated they continue to receive donations from people visiting the Dog Park. All Park Board members agreed that Ms. Thate has done a great job with the Dog Park and thanked her for the time she puts into making it the success that it is and thanked her for coming.

**Bike Burlington: Madonna Carr:** Ms. Carr was unable to attend the Park Board meeting, but there to represent her were Keith Kemper and Matt Jarocki. Bike Burlington would like to use Wehmhoff-Jucker Park again for their Art in the Park event, which is scheduled for Saturday, April 16, 2016. There would again be a contest to design a new bike rack. Their ride event will stay away from the new trail since DPW Supervisor Mr. Jensen stated it is not finished and not officially open to the general public, although some people have ridden on it. Mr. Kemper and Mr. Jarocki were requesting that the fees for this event be waived.

Although City of Burlington Parks are not officially open until May 1st, Dan Jensen, DPW Supervisor did not think this would present a problem. If restrooms cannot be opened early, port-a-pots could be used for the event. Chairman Eisenhardt entertained a motion to waive the park rental fees for the Bike Burlington event. Motion to waive fees made by Ald. Dawidziak. Seconded by Commissioner Schopp. All voted aye, motion carried.

Mr. Kemper and Mr. Jarocki also presented a map indicating where they would like to see bike trail signs placed along the route indicating it was a bike trail that would go through the City to connect the new trail and West White River Trail to the bike hub at Wehmhoff Jucker Park. The trail would travel through quiet residential areas on Garfield, Gardner, Kane and Jefferson Streets, skirting the edge of the historic downtown area. They will work with Dan Jensen, DPW Supervisor on types of signs, placement and which streets they could be placed on.

Larisa Gallagher of Union Grove and representing Rails to Trails was present stating they now have a face book page that has been up for only a few days and has been quite successful so far. Their Leadership Union Grove Project is bringing awareness to Rails to Trails and they would like to see the trail completed from Union Grove to Burlington. The Rails to Trails 70 mile loop trail has only 15 miles left to complete the connection. People are becoming more aware of the trails and there are a significant amount of riders who use them.

**Old Business: None**

**Other Items**

**There being no further items for discussion, Chairman Eisenhardt entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Schopp. Seconded by Commissioner Amborn. All voted aye and Chairman Eisenhardt adjourned the meeting at 7:16 P.M.**

**Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:**

**Deb Rintamaki  
Department of Public Works**