

City of Baraboo  
Parks & Recreation Commission  
January 21, 2019 – Minutes

**Present:** Roy Franzen, James Francisco, Craig Schlender, Angela Witzcak, Mike Plautz & Mike Hardy

**Also Present:** City Attorney Emily Truman, Police Chief Mark Schauf & Ben Bromley (media)

Franzen called the meeting to order. Legal Posting of the Agenda had been met. Witzcak moved and Francisco seconded approval of the December 10, 2018 minutes. Motion carried.

Witzcak moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Schlender. Motion carried.

**Action Items:** City Attorney Emily Truman presented proposed changes to Chapter 19 of the Code of Ordinances. She noted that the Commission has had these on two previous agendas, and had last asked her to work with Hardy and Schauf to prepare recommendations for updates. Truman noted that many lines were simply deleted as they were repetition from other chapters. Schauf spoke on alcohol enforcement and the need for a consistent ordinance. Hardy noted that while we have rules that were approved by the Commission and posted at the dog park, those rules were never added to the Ordinance, so technically they are not easily enforceable. Franzen moved to accept all changes as recommended and move Chapter 19 on to City Council for consideration. Seconded by Plautz. Francisco asked about making language changes to section 19.11(2) to state that Director could make approval (not Commission) to correlate with Special Event Permit approvals and about 19.4(3) to add Myron Park to the parks in which alcohol is not allowed. Franzen agreed to amend his motion to include the changes. Plautz asked if dogs were allowed on the arboretum path. Hardy stated that the arboretum was signed “No Dogs”, but being that it is right across the street from the dog park many owners walk them back there anyway. Again not being in the ordinance, it is not enforceable, so if Commission wants it enforced, Hardy suggested adding it to Chapter 19. Witzcak asked if there were problems with having dogs on the arboretum path. Hardy explained that the arboretum has many birds and small animals that dogs can scare away. Franzen agreed to amend his motion to recommend Council acceptance of Chapter 19 revisions with the changes of 19.11(2), allowing Park Director (not Commission) to allow alcohol consumption during special events and 19.11(3) adding Myron Park to the list of parks not allowing alcohol consumption and 19.03(8b) not allowing dogs in the arboretum. Seconded by Plautz. Motion carried.

Discussion was held as to replacing the Ochsner Park & Zoo sign at Draper and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Members preferred to see something similar in looks to what is currently there. Hardy stated that initial estimate was about \$2,000 to replace. He will go back to vendor with comments from members and get a firm cost along with a design.

Witzcak moved to make the corner at Park Street and Zoo Lane a full public entrance and exit gate. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Francisco. Motion carried.

Hardy discussed 2019 as being the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ochsner Park and discussions with Sauk County Historical Society staff to promote an event on August 10<sup>th</sup> during which the Ochsner family would be in town. Franzen asked about getting the chamber involved. Members showed support and Hardy will bring back plans as the event planning continues.

Hardy suggested charging coaches of co-sponsor groups \$20 refundable deposit similar to picnic shelter rentals. With \$10,000 spent to re-key all system locks, Hardy wants to make sure we protect the City’s investment. Witzcak felt that \$20 was not enough and many wouldn’t bother to return keys for that amount. Franzen preferred charging the group, not the coach, for keys with each group keeping one key for access after their season ends as long as they contact the parks office for approval before entering the facility. If keys are not returned, locks will be changed and the group will be invoiced for the \$50 lost key. Franzen moved to change all co-sponsor groups \$50 per key which will be refunded at the end of their season if all keys are returned. Second by Francisco. Motion carried.

Co-Sponsor requests were approved as follows:

BABA use of MRE, Statz and Pierce parks was moved by Witzcak, seconded by Schlender

Legion use of MRE was moved by Schlender, seconded by Franzen

Ultimate Frisbee use of Steinhorst was moved by Witzcak, seconded by Francisco

Soccer Club use of Steinhorst was moved by Schlender, seconded by Witzcak

Riptide use of Campbell swimming pool was moved by Franzen, seconded by Francisco

Thunder softball use of Pierce park was moved by Witzcak, seconded by Schlender

Roller Derby use of Pierce Park Pavilion was moved by Schlender, seconded by Witzcak

**Staff Report:** December revenues were \$8,296.48.

Hardy reported that 2 more elephants sculptures would be coming to Myron Park this summer from another donation. The beavers are now at the zoo on limited viewing until the exhibit is completed. The large cottonwood near Center Street was removed December 27<sup>th</sup> with no issues. Winterfest is next weekend, volunteers still needed. Dan Lewison has resigned his seat on the Park Commission in order to accept a High School softball coaching position. Anyone with ideas for a replacement should contact Hardy or the mayor.

**Next Regular Meeting:** February 11, 2019.

Witczak motioned to adjourn, Francisco seconded. Motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mike Hardy, Parks, Recreation & Forestry Director