

PARK BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 5, 2010

Board Present: Mark Anthony Martin, Jason Koscinski, Janet Luchies, Mike Zajac, Susan Williams and John Pfund

Excused: Elizabeth Jarzambek, Bery Pannkuk and Vicki Locke

Staff Present: Bill Deming and John Milowe

Guests: Resident – John Zull

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at West Lake Nature Preserve

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: The April minutes were approved with one revision.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. West Lake Nature Preserve Overview** – Susan Williams presented an overview on the history of West Lake Nature Preserve.
- B. Sub-committee reports:**
1. Green-a-Thon – Susan Williams commented on the event. The rain held off for most of the period. Overall, event was well received. The Youth Advisory Committee should be commended for the time and effort to make this event a success.
 2. Health Event – Mike Zajac suggested that the health and wellness event be combined with the Paddle Fest to hopefully benefit both activities. Mike will talk with Bery Pannkuk on this option.
 3. Paddle Fest – Bill Deming reported that a meeting was held May 4 to discuss. Publicity and promotion has been initiated. The next meeting will be at Ramona Park on June 8 at 1 p.m.
- C. Smoking Ban** – Mark Martin stated that City Council has given the Park Board approval to research this idea. Mark provided a proposed survey with the idea that Board members could solicit input in city parks. Jason Koscinski offered to put the survey into an internet program for easy access by citizens. Bill Deming indicated that cards could be made with the survey internet access site for distribution in the parks, limiting interruption of patrons enjoying the parks. Matter will be reviewed during June meeting.
- D. Citizen Comments** – Resident John Zull indicated that West Lake is a great place for walking and nature enjoyment. He does have concerns with deer and geese overpopulation. Bill Deming indicated that the deer problem is a concern for City Council and letters can be submitted for Council review. Bill stated that city parks are just one place deer populate, they are also abundant in privately owned open-space, therefore more than a park issue. Possibly a county program should be developed. With respect to geese, Bill believes that they are a protected specie. The MDNRE manages and the city has no authority.

SUMMARY ACTIVITY:

1. Adult Softball underway.
2. NW Portage Bikeway extensions continue under construction.
3. The Bicentennial Park Livery is open and Ramona Beach opens May 29.
4. Several benefit walks are scheduled for the Celery Flats area and two Teas scheduled for Stuart Manor.

Comments From Board Members

Mark Martin – Mentioned that softball teams need to use recycling container. Bill will follow up.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.