

CITY OF VERONA

MINUTES PARK, RECREATION & FORESTRY COMMISSION WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2019

1. The meeting was called to order by chairperson Mike Bare at 7:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Present: Mike Bare, Heather Reekie, Charlotte Jerney, Mark Giesfeldt. Excused: Paul Schmidt. Also present: Dave Walker, Parks Director; Casey Dudley, Recreation Director; Adam Sayre, Director of Planning; Fred DeVillers, Forward Development Group (FDG); Dennis Midthun, FDG; Jessica Vaughn, FDG.
3. Moved by Reekie, seconded by Jerney, to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2018 meeting of the Park, Recreation, and Forestry Commission. Motion carried 4-0.
4. Representatives from Forward Development Group were at the meeting to discuss the preliminary plat for Whispering Coves (a.k.a. North Neighborhood). The plat included minor changes from the concept plan that had been previously reviewed by the Park Commission. Proposed parkland included six cul-de-sac pocket parks, a six acre bike trail/pedestrian corridor, and a nine acre wetland conservancy. The Commissioners liked the overall design of the subdivision but were divided on whether or not the cul-de-sac parks and the conservancy area should be given credit as parkland.

The developer argued that all the proposed park areas would all be improved with amenities and were designed to work together as integral features of the development. City staff argued that past developments had not been granted parkland credit for similar features and the size and topography of several areas would limit their usefulness as traditional park spaces.

5. Moved by Giesfeldt, to accept outlots #6, #16, #25, and #26 as parkland. No second was received on the motion.
6. Moved by Bare, seconded by Jerney, not to accept any of the proposed cul-de-sac outlots as parkland. Motion failed 2-2.
7. Dave Walker updated the Commission on changes to the park configuration in the Kettle Creek North subdivision. The park size and shape had been altered slightly due to a replat of the subdivision and the addition of a stormwater basin along the northern border of the property. The park area grew slightly larger due to the change and the functionality of the parcel was unchanged so no action was required.
8. The Commission considered a proposal from KSW Construction for a feasibility study to look into remodeling the existing Public Works building into a Recreation Center. The cost of the project was \$9,900 and would include a review of facility needs, development of two to three conceptual designs, and a final plan that would include a floor plan, building elevations, and a budget estimate to complete the work. Funding for the study was included in the 2019 Parks budget.

9. Moved by Bare, seconded by Giesfeldt, to approve a proposal from KSW Construction for a feasibility study on the existing Public Works building. Motion carried 4-0.
10. The Commission considered operational changes to the youth dance program proposed by the Verona Area Community Theater. The Theater had expressed interest in taking over the staffing and operation of the program in exchange for half of the proceeds. The Recreation Department would still take registrations and retain oversight of the program. Casey Dudley reported that he was comfortable with the proposed arrangement provided the cost remained similar to past years and the program continued to be accessible to all area youth. The Commission was comfortable with the idea as well but thought it prudent to begin with a one year contract so any initial issues could be resolved.
11. Moved by Giesfeldt, seconded by Jerney, to approve a 1-year contract with the Verona Area Community Theater for the operation of the youth dance program. Motion carried 4-0.
12. The Commission considered six special event requests including the Triterium Triathlon at Fireman's Park on June 22, the Verona Farmers Market at the Hometown Junction, the Tri-4-Schools Mud Run at Festival Park on September 21, the Hometown Brewdown at Festival Park on July 13, and two wedding receptions at Festival Park on June 22 and September 28.
13. Moved by Bare, seconded by Jerney, to approve six special event requests as presented. Motion carried 4-0.
14. Moved by Giesfeldt, seconded by Jerney, to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0. Time: 9:40 p.m.

Mike Bare
Chairperson