

**PARK AND RECREATION MEETING  
CITY OF BERLIN  
April 4, 2018**

The Parks and Recreation Commission, Berlin, WI is Called to Order at 4:30 pm, April 4, 2018 by Charlie Beard.

**Roll Call:** Present: John Mix, Victoria Hill, Charlie Beard, Harry Kwidzinski, , Kimberly Nikolai, Ron Harke

Absent: Jerry Bella

Also Present: Karen Neuman, Scott Zabel, Jody Olson

**General Public Comments:** Justin Lindahl informed the Parks and Recreation Committee about Berlin Youth Baseball. He addressed the need for baseball activities between T-Ball and Adult programs. Currently working with around 100 kids in Kindergarten through 8th grade. Teams face off against Ripon, and Markesan. The season usually ends the second week of July.

The option was presented of eliminating the City baseball program and combining the kids with the youth baseball program, as they have started to pick up T-Ball aged students as well.

The Parks and Recreation Commission countered that sign-up is too soon and already coordinated for this year for the switch to work this late in the sign-up season, and that the combining of efforts might best be moved to next year.

Berlin Youth Baseball is insured and they do background checks as a formal organization.

**Approval of the minutes:**

A motion is made by to approve the minutes of the meeting from January 3, 2018 by John Mix. The motion is seconded by Harry Kwidzinski. The motion passes.

**Approval of the accounts:**

A motion is made by Harry Kwidzinski to approve the Park and Recreation Expenditure account. The motion is seconded by John Mix. The motion passes.

A motion is made by John Mix to approve the Park and Recreation Revenue account. The motion is seconded by Harry Kwidzinski. The motion passes.

**Public Appearances:** None

**New Business:**

A) World Elder Abuse Awareness Day request for a display at Nathan Strong Park - June 11-June 15.

Kristen Dorsch, speaking for the Green Lake County Aging Investigator advised on the display would bring awareness of Elder Abuse and be removed the morning of June 16th.

A recommendation is made by Victoria Hill to rope off the pinwheels to avoid incidental theft by children.

Karen Neuman advised there were no current uses of the park that day other than the Farmers Market.

Harry Kwidzinski advised to approve of the display on the dates June 11-June 15. John Mix seconded. The motion passes.

B ) Berlin Rotary Potential flags for Heroes Project presented.

Jody Olson presented in lieu of the original Rotary Representative. The proposed flags would be purchased as a fundraising opportunity for Berlin Rotary to honor local heroes and be displayed in Nathan Strong Park or Riverside Park, secured with PVC Pipe and set in the ground for a specific holiday. The flags would possibly be left up for 5-7 days.

Harry Kwidzinski inquired about ground destruction with Scott Zabel who recommended using spears vs pvc piping to avoid "coring" the ground.

Harry Kwidzinski makes a motion to entertain the Berlin Rotary moving forward in a positive direction, with the caveat that they return with additional information if they decide to go forward with the fund raising idea. John Mix seconds. The motion passes.

C) Update from Farmers & Artists Market Committee on the use of Nathan Strong Park.

Michelle Cassidy, Terry Pryzbyl, Annamae Caswell, Andi Rogers presented as committee members of the Berlin Farmers and Artists Market (BFAM).

Michelle spoke of how the BFAM has blossomed into more of a destination event, including farm products and music, artisans.

State street gets closed for the first market in June for military appreciation day as previously approved by the City.

First Tuesday in July the market moves to Riverside Park for the Berlin Fourth of July Event.

In August there will be a farmers appreciation day.

In September there will be a Hometown Heroes Night with the police and fire department.

Jodi Olson stepped up to remind the Commission that the BFAM is now including artisans of non-mass produced products, no manufactured items, hand-crafted items only.

Jodi also mentioned that the group is working closely with the City of Berlin for permits and permissions.

The Parks and Recreation committee thanks the BFAM Committee for their report.

A motion is made by Harry Kwidzinski to permit the Berlin Farmers and Artists Market the use of Nathan Strong Park for Tuesdays June 5-through September 25, excluding July 3rd, with the caveat that the BFAM return for specific approval prior to including any farm animals in their displays. The motion is seconded by John Mix.

D) Update on completion of Summer Recreation Book - first day sign up, Saturday May 5.

Karen Neuman said the Tuesday Billboard April 10 will have more information about the offerings. Karen discussed some of the ongoing and new programs being offered this year.

E) Discussion and any action to take for Aquatic Center.

Scott Zabel presented that the pool manager, Jason, is currently fine-tuning the pool policy book. The revision is mostly removing redundancies.

An ongoing concern is staffing. The interest in life-guarding seems to be declining. Certification can cost up to \$200.00 but the city covers half of the cost. The hourly pay is \$8.50 to start.

**Old Business:**

A) Update discussion on Volunteer Pamphlet for Park and Recreation Associated Groups - (also found in summer recreation book).

The high school has the flyer for their volunteer groups, Karen Neuman has added a portion of the flyer to the summer booklet, and the Berlin Journal has posted their advertisement for volunteerism.

A motion is made by John Mix at 5:40 to adjourn. Seconded by Harry Kwidzinski. The motion passed.

Next Meeting Date - May 2, 2018 4:30pm