

WATERLOO PARKS COMMISSION – MINUTES

June 7, 2023

1. ROLL CALL AND CALL TO ORDER. Parks Coordinator Haberkorn called the Parks Commission meeting to order at 5:02 pm in the Municipal Building Council Chambers. ROLL CALL: Voting members present: Setz, Vieth, Crave & Kegler. Absent: Weihert. Ex-officio members present: Parks Coordinator Gabe Haberkorn, Public Works Director Chad Yerges Absent: Friends of Firemen's Park President Jessica Pickel & WYSO Representative Otto Degler. Others present: Jennifer Zimmerman.
2. MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL: FEBRUARY 8, 2023. MOTION: Moved by Setz, seconded by Kegler. VOICE VOTE: Motion Carried 4-0
3. CITIZEN INPUT: NONE
4. REPORTS/UPDATES:
 - a. Coordinator's Report: Haberkorn spoke on the first summer concert and the first River Rats game with good attendance. Haberkorn talked about the lower bathroom painting and Lower Pavilion Renovations in the Fall of 2024. Haberkorn stated that Waterloo Utilities has not given a quote or invoice for field light projects to put towards Finance to ask for Contingency Fund. Haberkorn spoke on the TRP Play Space project to start in August 2024 and the completed Capital Projects for 2023. Carousel Works will be coming in late September to repair the 1911 C.W. Parker Carousel. Haberkorn spoke on the \$3,000 raised for the Dog Park to this date. Crave asked about the Field Light project. Yerges spoke on the secondary power that is coming from the transformers to the light switches. Haberkorn spoke about how they must prime some switches each Spring to get them to work after sitting over the winter.
 - b. Parks Financial Report: March 2023 through May 2023. Haberkorn asked to go to the April 2023 sheet and see that the Parks Department is at \$105,231 in the red, but we haven't received the Computer Aid money from the State Government yet. Haberkorn stated the Capital Projects have started, been completed, and we have not been reconciled with the money received from the Computer Aid. Haberkorn also spoke on the TRP Play Space Grant has just been received and not in the budget as of this report. Setz asked what Miscellaneous Revenue is and Haberkorn explained that is revenue or rentals from items we do not have on a specific Line Item, such as: Ceremony Extras, Bandstand Rentals, etc. Vieth asked if it will be rectified by the next Parks Commission meeting. Haberkorn spoke on that it should be but could depend on when we receive the Computer Aid money from the State Government.
 - c. 2023 Capital Projects: Haberkorn spoke on the Capital Projects. Haberkorn stated the changes on the priority list and stated the changes were made necessary to coincide with paving of Hendricks Street in 2025. Haberkorn spoke on the completed Capital Projects for 2023 and that the Lower Pavilion is the only project left for 2023. Haberkorn spoke on the Basketball Court project and Setz asked if it would include a Pickleball Court instead. Discussion was had on coming up with a design concept for a combined Basketball Court/Pickleball Court. Setz stated you need at least 3 courts. Kegler stated that we may have too many basketball courts in Waterloo, and we should possibly look to remove courts. Setz asked when the Reunion Hall Renovation was going to take place. Haberkorn stated that it is slated for 2025. Kegler stated that if the City of Waterloo has a City Ordinance for residence in good condition and here, we sit with the Reunion Hall and we needed to possibly decide sooner.
5. NEW BUSINESS:
 - a. Full Time Employment: Haberkorn stated that he wanted the opinion of the Parks Commission on going forward with adding a Full Time Employee to take care of Firemen's Park. Haberkorn stated that he is spending too much time doing these jobs along with the office work and not having enough time in the day to do both. Haberkorn said that this would be a crossover position with the DPW. Setz asked what the qualifications would be for this person. Haberkorn stated that those are the questions that we would start asking before we went into a hiring process. Vieth asked if the Title of this position is up for debate and Haberkorn stated that all of it is up for debate. Haberkorn stated that as we have done a good job of keeping up with Firemen's Park, having this job would be a step up from that. Haberkorn and Yerges spoke on the starting pay for the position and Setz spoke on that the School District does not have Teachers starting at that. Kegler stated that this would be more money than what some Waterloo Residents are not making. Setz also stated he would not be in favor of this as the perception is that some Departments seem to have time on their hands and that having this position would not help with this perception. Kegler spoke on that we hired a Parks Coordinator and now we want to add another full-time park employee when years ago they were doing it with less. Vieth asked who takes care of maintenance at Firemen's Park. She also stated that if the Parks Department had this position, that she believes it would take them all week to just mow and string trim. Discussion.
6. OLD BUSINESS:
 - a. July 4th – Community Survey: Haberkorn spoke on the Community Survey and the updates that have been made per the Parks Commission request. Haberkorn asked if they would like to see any more changes. Crave spoke of the fact that he believes that something needs to change as things are different than what they were in the past. Setz spoke that he would be in favor of having a small community event with the removal of the last band and moving Fireworks to Wiener and Kraut Day. Haberkorn said in 2022 when July 4 was canceled mid-day, the

Parks Department lost approximately \$13,000. Haberkorn also spoke on that if moving July 4th Fireworks to Wiener and Kraut Day, it would save \$2,000 on the Fireworks as the display would be considered out of season. Haberkorn spoke on going forward with a small community event instead in the future. Haberkorn spoke that he would have a Community Survey out after July 4th event and be in contact with the Waterloo Business Association on having a booth at one of the upcoming Farmers Market. Discussion. MOTION: Moved by Setz to move forward with the survey as is and to be published, seconded by Vieth. VOICE VOTE: Motion Carried 4-0

- b. CORP Update: Haberkorn spoke about the mistake made on the new Fox Park page and that it has since been fixed in the new update. Haberkorn stated that the CORP plan will now be printed for anyone to view.

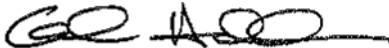
7. INFORMATION:

- a. Summer Concert: June 8 & July 13
- b. July 4th Celebration – July 4th

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND NEXT MEETING.

- a. Next Meeting: August 2, 2023, at 5:00 pm

9. ADJOURNMENT. MOTION: Moved by Setz to adjourn, seconded by Vieth. VOICE VOTE: Motion Carried 4-0 Approximate time: 5:58 pm



Gabe Haberkorn
Park Coordinator