A regular meeting of the Pleasant Prairie Parks Commission was held on Tuesday, March 3, 2009, 6:00 p.m. Present were Michealene Day, Glenn Christiansen, William Mills, Michael Russert, Monica Yuhas, Troy Holm (Alternate #1) and Jim Bandura (Alternate #2). Rita Christiansen and Kathleen Burns were excused. Also present were Mike Pollocoff, Village Administrator, John Steinbrink, Jr., Superintendent of Public Works and Ruth Mack, Executive Secretary.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 3 AND FEBRUARY 12, 2009 PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Michealene Day:

In your packet you have actually two Parks Commission meetings, one dated, we’ll do it first, February 3, 2009. If you’ve looked at them and there are no corrections or additions may I have a motion to accept?

Jim Bandura moved to approve the Parks Commission Meeting minutes of the February 3, 2009 meeting presented in their written form: Seconded by Monica Yuhas. Motion carried 7-0.

Michealene Day:

Thank you. And also we had a meeting February 12, 2009. Again, if there are no additions or corrections may I have a motion to accept?

Jim Bandura moved to approve the Parks Commission Meeting minutes of the February 12, 2009 meeting presented in their written form: Seconded by Troy Holm. Motion carried 7-0.

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS
5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Review and Discuss 2009 Lake Andrea Event Schedule

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

Good evening. Every year staff puts together a list of events that will take place and impact Lake Andrea Prairie Springs Park. Those were included in your Board packet. I’ll go through them briefly with a little description of each of them. On May 23rd the Board Shop at Bayside Lake Geneva requested to continue their annual wakeboard competition on May 23rd. It is before Lake Andrea opens up or the beach opens up I should say. And they do just impact a small area of the lake directly outside the RecPlex area.

The next event that we have is a two day event. May 30th and 31st is the Great Lakes Water Cross. There was a flier included in your packet. That is a jetski competition where it’s a whole series and we just are the first stop at Prairie Springs Park in Pleasant Prairie. We have both the Board Shop and the Water Cross for probably four or five years now and both events have gone off very well. It really doesn’t have too much impact for staff.

June 5th is the day that the Lake Andrea beach opens. The guards are there staffing it. This year we’re not looking to hold the Wakeboard National Competition, but the same organization is looking at holding a smaller three day event on June 19th through the 21st which is sponsored by Mastercraft Boats out on Lake Andrea and replaces the Wakeboard National Competition. We just weren’t able to accommodate the scheduling conflicts that we had. And so we’re still bringing an event to the park but it’s not going to be the large five day event that we had in the past.

Barracuda Swim Team is doing an open water swim on June 27th. And then this year on July 12th we have the Trek Women’s Series Triathlon going to be taking place there, which it should be very similar to the Danskin event we had. It has the same course, the same distances. The only difference is that it’s a different organization running it and it should be a little bit smaller impact than what the Danskin was.

August 1st and 2nd is Prairie Family days again, that Saturday and Sunday. And the Board Shop has offered to do a wakeboard competition on the lake as a free entertainment on the lake that day.

The Junior Triathlon is going to be held on Saturday, August 15th. And the day after that, August 16th, is the Pleasant Prairie Triathlon where all the proceeds for that event go to the therapeutic recreation program.

September 7th is the last day for the beach and then they wrap that all up. September 27th
we’re looking at having the Danskin SheRox Triathlon which, again, is a spring triathlon course the same as Danskin has had in the past.

And then on November 8th is the Veterans Day ceremony at Veterans Memorial. Those are the events that have requested to use the impact of the lake or the surrounding areas around the lake.

Michealene Day:

Thank you, John. Any concerns or questions at all with the scheduling?

Michael Russert:

I do have a couple questions. You mentioned that Pleasant Prairie Triathlon the revenue goes to the RecPlex therapeutic. For the other wakeboarding and Board Shop competition is there much of an expense to the Village and is there any revenue that’s generated for the Village?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

For the Board Shop it’s a much smaller series. I believe they might have about 25 riders over the course of like four hours so there really isn’t much impact. There really isn’t as far as personnel or anything like that. They really don’t require any setup or anything like that outside of the lake area. I think they set up a ten by ten tent for registration. They have one boat on the water for the matter of a couple hours.

The wakeboard competition, though, being a larger three day event, and if anyone had been there in the past, you kind of see they really set up their whole tent city again. They plan on having this back to the north side of the lake between the beach and where the ball diamonds are, because around this time frame there is going to be a lot of construction with the new pool at the RecPlex. That is a revenue source I believe of $2,500 that they charge just a site fee to be on site there.

Michealene Day:

Any other questions? Motion to accept?

Monica Yuhas moved to approve the 2009 Lake Andrea Event Schedule: Seconded by William Mills. Motion carried 7-0.

6. PARK COMMISSION COMMENTS
Michael Russert:

I do have one. Regarding the last meeting you had mentioned for the expansion of 116th Street that the application was due March 17th for funding. I’m just wondering if we’re on schedule in meeting that date.

Mike Pollocoff:

Yes, we submitted it. It probably will be a second phase funding which means we’re going to be submitting another application by the end of this month, and we’ll probably get funding out for next year construction if we’re selected. If we’re not selected, 116th still is a project in the Village’s capital improvement program. We switched over and secured some STP which can be up to a 70 percent grant and the Village would pay 30. So it was still in our capital improvement program. It’s just that it’s a chance in the first instance make it happen sooner and have 100 percent of it paid for which would free us up to be able to use those road funds to fix them. We have plenty of other streets to do those things. And if we do it next year it will actually—we could have got it done this year but it would probably be a little bit easier task on everybody because that one is a major reconstruction on 116th Street. That thing really will require quite a bit of work.

Michael Russert:

Then what’s the next steps with the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin and with this project and other projects moving forward?

Mike Pollocoff:

I kind of want them to look at this one to see if we can pick up some funding. But my plan is I’d really like to have them focus in on the trail from Prairie Springs Park up to 104th Avenue and Highway C as one. And then also identify some connectors for it so we can get these things kind of hooked together. We’re probably farther down the road on 116th Street than we want. But if it goes to next year then we might be able to pick up and see if we can get it in the grant cycle. I think John can tell you where—we just got going with . . . started so far.

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

We did just have our contracts finalized a couple weeks ago. We did have an initial meeting with our Village Engineer, Mike Spence, Assistant Engineer Matt Fineour and Catrine from the Bicycle Federation. We probably spent about three hours. I probably took her around for about an hour in the Village, showed her 116th Street, 85th Street, 80th Street by Cooper, and we drove through the LakeView RecPlex. We saw the Kenosha County Bike Trail, Lake Michigan and where we’re looking at proposing a trail that ties
in Pleasant Prairie Park to Prairie Springs Park. Or, just to kind of give her a little bit of an idea of some of the obstacles that she might face and really how the lay of the land is.

And so she is putting together a little synopsis for us that says here is the recommended lane markings for 85th Street so we can incorporate that into our design. Here’s the recommended lane markings and signage for 91st Street by the tracks as part of our construction there. And she’s having a little bit of input on us with 116th Street with the off street trail that we’re looking at doing as a part of that project. We kind of really had to fast track her on some of these projects just because of the stimulus package as a whole. Any of these recommendations will still be coming before the Parks Commission before final approval. But at least as far as from a design standpoint we had to make sure we had some expertise in there before they got submitted, so actually the day after the Parks Commission meeting we had a phone call, we met in the next couple days, and we started moving forward on that.

One of the things that she did talk about in an email this afternoon was she wants us to put together a steering committee to work on the bike and ped plan. So staff is going to have on the agenda next month development of a steering plan which will be representatives from the Parks Commission, the Rec Commission, planning and zoning, engineering, myself and residents of Pleasant Prairie that are passionate about having a successful bike and ped plan.

Michealene Day:

Any other Parks Commission comments?

Jim Bandura:

Just one. John is there any other further plans for Pleasant Prairie Park?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

One of the newest things you’re going to see is we’re going to not be scheduling any softball out there this summer, but we’re actually moving all of our soccer out there this year. So our soccer is going to be moved out. That was done actually as a program reduction as a part of our Parks Department budget. And the thought is now that we have the lights on the north ball diamonds over at Prairie Springs Park, it makes more sense to utilize those diamonds more throughout the evening and not put the initial investment in of having the ball field nicks and the . . . and blowing down the weeds and . . . the diamonds at all times.

So we’re really trying to focus all of our games that we have on the six ball diamonds that we have at Prairie Springs Park and really loading up those diamonds over there and not having to spend staff time driving over, prepping, dragging, bringing all the equipment
over from the park. So you are going to see more soccer going on over at Pleasant Prairie Park. Where the Village had acquired the new land just off of 108th we actually built the large soccer field up there. We kind of leveled it and graded some dirt. It’s actually the area that’s between 104th and the new playground that was built last year. So we plan on having a larger soccer field up there. I believe it’s a U10 or U12 size soccer field and then a bunch of U8's that we’re going to have where the ball diamonds are.

Jim Bandura:

So you’ll still have ball diamonds out there?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

We’re still going to keep the two backstops up but we really don’t plan on doing any prep work of those diamonds. So if someone wants to use it as a practice facility that’s great, it’s available. It’s a public park. We definitely encourage all the residents and teams to go out and take advantage of it, but it’s going to be maintained at a little bit of a lower level where we’re not going to be out there spitting it every day like we were. We’re not going to be striping it, we’re not going to be painting it. We really won’t even be putting bases on it. But if someone wants to use it as a practice field it’s available. It has the home plate and it has the back stops to identify direction. That was one of the program reductions that we had in our 2009 budget that was accepted by the Village Board this past year.

Michealene Day:

Any other questions?

William Mills:

Just one question. I notice that one of the north ball fields is actually lighted at night. Is that just for security reasons, John?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

There are four parking lot lights that are on the north side that we really just keep on for security measures. Ever since we started keeping two of those four lights on we noticed we really had a lot less problem with people driving back there in cars, driving back there at night, spinning donuts in the grass, spinning donuts in the gravel parking lots. So two of the four parking lots are on but it’s not the ball field lights.

Michealene Day:

Any other comments?
7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Jim Bandura moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Troy Holm. Motion carried 7-0.

Michealene Day:

    Thank you very much.