

**VILLAGE OF PLEASANT PRAIRIE
PARK COMMISSION
Village Hall Auditorium
9915 39th Avenue
Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin 53158
Tuesday, October 2, 2007
6:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Pleasant Prairie Park Commission was held on Tuesday, October 2, 2007, 6:00 p.m. Present were Michealene Day, Kathleen Burns, Glenn Christiansen, Rita Christiansen, Michael Russert and Monica Yuhas. William Mills was absent. Also present were John Steinbrink, Jr., Superintendent of Parks; and Ruth Mack, Clerical Secretary.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 5, 2007 PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES.**

Michealene Day:

In your packet you have the September 5, 2007 Park Commission meeting minutes. Did everyone have a chance to check their minutes? If there's no corrections or additions could I have a motion to accept?

Glenn Christiansen moved to approve the Parks Commission Meeting minutes of the September 5, 2007 meeting presented in their written form: Seconded by Monica Yuhas. Motion carried 6-0.

- 4. CORRESPONDENCE**
 - a. Receive proclamation designating October as Community Planning Month.**

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

Good evening. The State of Wisconsin and the Village of Pleasant Prairie has identified October as Community Planning Month. I have a proclamation I'm going to go through and read.

Whereas, change is constant and affects all cities, villages, towns, counties and other places; and Whereas, community planning and plans can help manage this change in a way that better provides choices for how people live, learn, work and play; and Whereas,

community planning provides an opportunity for all residents to be meaningfully involved in making choices that determine the future of our community; and Whereas, the full benefits of planning requires public officials and citizens who understand, support and demand excellence in planning and plan implementation; and Whereas, the Village of Pleasant Prairie has been a local leader in efforts to promote high standards for planning and quality development; and Whereas, the month of October is designated as National Community Planning Month throughout the United States of America and its territories; and Whereas, the American Planning Association and its professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners, endorse National Community Planning Month is an opportunity to highlight the contributions of sound planning and plan implementation to make the quality of our built community and environment; and Whereas, the celebration of National Community Planning Month gives us the opportunity to publicly recognize the participation and dedication of the members of the Plan and Park Commissions who have contributed their time and expertise to the improvement of the Village of Pleasant Prairie; and Whereas, we recognize the many valuable contributions made by professional planners of the Village of Pleasant Prairie and extend our heartfelt thanks for the continued commitment to public service by these professionals; Now, therefore, be it resolved that, the month of October 2007 is hereby designated as Community Planning Month in the Village of Pleasant Prairie in conjunction with the celebration of National Community Planning Month adopted this 17th day of September 2007.

We thought that this was something that's important to bring to the Park Commission because the Park Commission and a lot of the activities that we take care of over the course of a year really do have an impact in the way that the Village is developed. I guess one of the prime examples that we have is for a majority of the last year and a half we spent developing or updating our Master Park and Open Space Plan. And for staff that's been such a valuable tool to have because now when a developer comes in we can say here's the park, it's identified to be in this location, here are the amenities that we need to have in this park, and we've really been able to identify some really nice park areas and have some funding opportunities through contributions of developers.

I definitely believe without the work that the Park Commission has done over the last couple years that we would have a lot more homes and a lot less parks. So we just wanted to pass this information along. I don't believe that it's anything to act on but just recognition of National Planning Month as being celebrated in October.

Michealene Day:

Thank you, John.

5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**
6. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Consider and approve agenda for Veterans Day Ceremony at Pleasant Prairie Veterans Memorial.

Michealene Day:

John was going to have a beautiful PowerPoint presentation but he is minus some cords, so in lieu of that in your packet I believe sitting in front of you we do have a color printout of the Veterans Day ceremony.

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

On the slide that you see in front of us there is a national advertisement for Veterans Day which the Village will be adopting. We will be celebrating Veterans Day on November 11, 2007 at 1 p.m. at Prairie Spring Park in Veterans Memorial Ball Field at the Veterans Memorial Plaza that we have just recently newly dedicated during Prairie Family Days. So we are going to be a part of Veterans Day celebrations around Kenosha County, and we are just going to be one of the stops for all the local officials in all the communities that we have at one o'clock on that Sunday, November 11th.

Staff went through and developed a temporary agenda for the Veterans Day ceremony. It will begin with the posting of the colors which will be done by the Village of Pleasant Prairie Color Guard. We are working on having some other groups representing also the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the National Anthem, some introductory remarks, and in those remarks we will call out the color guards, introduce some of the guests that are in the audience, acknowledgment of the veterans in the audience, and then reading of all the names of people that either had dedicated bricks or had bricks dedicated to them or benches also. A moment of silence, a closing prayer by Pastor Don Hackbarth and then some refreshments afterwards.

With this coming up as quickly as it is next month in November, we just wanted to run this preliminary agenda by the Park Commission and see if there's anything else that the Commission would like to see added or changed with this before we make this official.

Michealene Day:

Any comments? I think it's a good job well done. I don't believe that anyone has any additions that they would like to see and I think it's a good thing to do.

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

Okay, thank you very much. This is something that we do plan every Veterans Day annually going through and reading the names of the new people that have had bricks or benches dedicated in their memory. We definitely invite the Park Commission to be on

site November 11th to take part in the ceremony.

7. PARK COMMISSION COMMENTS

Michealene Day:

Anyone have any words of wisdom they'd like to express?

Michael Russert:

I do have two questions, one going back to August. We had an action item bringing the Sheriff and the Coast Guard together. I just wanted to know I believe it was supposed to be this meeting?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

Correct.

Michael Russert:

It was postponed.

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

We had talked with the Police Chief, Brian Wagner, about this action item. He had made the decision that it's probably better that the Village's stance is just to contact both the Sheriff and the Coast Guard and give them both the opportunity to respond since anything that is on the waters of Lake Michigan are both the responsibility of the Coast Guard and of the Kenosha County Sheriff. He had felt that it would probably be just an opportunity if we did have that forum to be a lot of political grandstanding that's probably not in the best interest of the safety of anyone that's out there.

So the policy that the Village of Pleasant Prairie is going to follow is that if there is any sort of incident that happens on the water of Lake Michigan that we will contact, or the Pleasant Prairie dispatch will contact the Sheriff's Department and the Coast Guard, and then whoever can respond first or in conjunction with each other would how that would be handled.

Michael Russert:

The second question is from last month's meeting minutes the budget proposal for 2008 for the playground equipment for Pleasant Prairie Park did that pass?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

It was put into the budget under the capital items and we are still in the negotiation stages with the Village Board on what component of that will be passing. We did have a working session last Saturday and we do have another working session coming up I believe on the 13th, so I believe a week from this Saturday. So I believe by our first meeting in November we will know where we stand with that capital item and how much of it, all of it, half of it was funded in the budget. We'll make sure that we update the Park Commission as soon as we know.

Glenn Christiansen:

I suppose since John and I were discussing something a few minutes before the meeting started, what we were talking about is bringing some issues about the Des Plaines River onto the agenda in the upcoming meetings, and hopefully we'll be able to start moving on some of these things that off and on talked a little bit about on the Des Plaines River that may encourage some nonprofit organizations who wanted to do some projects along the river maybe this would be an opportunity to start moving in that direction. We'll first have to start with a little planning on this, correct, John?

John Steinbrink, Jr.:

That would be correct. The first thing that we did, the project that Mr. Christiansen is talking to there, is the river planning grant which the Village received a couple years ago. Then we spent probably over the course of a year and a half developing that planning grant or that planning document. One of the things that planning document allows the Village to do is now that we have a plan established we can move forward on some of the action items. By having a plan it makes us eligible for grants to work on things that are identified in that plan. So staff will go through and have a report for the Park Commission next month on different grants that are available and different projects that are available based on the content of that plan.

Michealene Day:

Thank you. Any other comments?

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Monica Yuhas moved to approve motion for adjournment. Seconded by Michael Russert. Motion carried 6-0.

Michealene Day:

Thank you all for coming.