

**TOWN OF CEDARBURG  
PARK & RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES  
Town Hall  
February 7, 2012**

Present: David Salvaggio, Thomas Esser, Carol Boettcher, John Bishop, Larry Lechner

Also Present: Town Administrator, Jim Culotta, Director of Recreation & Planning, Eric Ryer

**1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Chairman Salvaggio called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

**a. Approving December 6, 2011 Park & Recreation Committee Minutes**

John Bishop moved for approval of the minutes of December 6, 2011. Tom Esser seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Update, discussion, and possible motion on Town recreational programs**

Director of Recreation & Planning Ryer summarized the status of the Town's self-supporting recreation programs and other recreation related topics including Cedarburg Little League, Cedarburg Flag Football League, deep water toning, sponsorships and pickle ball. Regarding Little League, softball clinics continue to occur on select Saturdays, registration for Little League baseball and softball continues to be open at Town Hall, with 41 participants registered so far, and the Town is offering a chance to win 4 tickets to Little League Night at Miller Park if participants register by March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The spring deep water season continues to be underway. The program is self-supporting for the season. Larry Lechner then gave a brief summary of the Community Pool Commission meeting on January 26th at City Hall. Mr. Lechner stated the Commission recognized Mikko Hilvo for a job well done on controlling pool costs in 2011. Pool Commission topics included but were not limited to the Annual Community Pool Report and new ADA aquatic regulations for handicapped entrances and exits to pools. The Town Park & Recreation Committee discussed costs associated with making the Community Pool compliant with ADA regulations regarding improvements to improve access/exit for handicapped individuals. Mr. Lechner explained it was his impression the Pool Commission was not necessarily in favor of immediately spending money on accessibility improvements, but rather study the situation along with Grafton and Port Washington. The Parks Committee directed Town staff to contact Mikko Hilvo and ask if hiring additional lifeguards could be an alternative to pool improvements.

Sponsorship pledges stand at a total of \$12,250, with \$5,250 collected.

**b. Update and discussion on Town parks / electrical costs**

At the November Parks meeting, the Committee discussed electrical costs associated with Town parks, particularly in regards to Hamilton Park and Pleasant Valley Nature Park. Part of this discussion zeroed in on closing and winterizing the bathrooms at Pleasant Valley Nature Park over the winter months (January-April) in order to reduce electrical costs. Based on this

discussion, the public works crew winterized and closed down the bathrooms at PVNP in early December to realize cost savings. The mechanical room must still be heated to maintain a certain temperature to avoid equipment failure for computers etc. Staff will track the electrical bills throughout this winter and provide the information to the Committee so they are aware of how the bills fluctuate as a result of the winterization of the bathroom portion of the shelter. Costs include heat for the bathrooms, video cameras and lights. Savings for the first two months after winterizing the bathrooms are \$472.28 over the 2010-2011 winter. Chairman Salvaggio asked if there were any complaints about accessibility now that the bathrooms are closed and winterized. Staff said there was one comment by the public, which was just making sure the bathrooms were supposed to be closed, not a complaint that they were closed.

Tom Esser asked if the money that was being saved on electrical costs would be available for other recreation projects. Administrator Culotta explained he believed the electrical utility costs were contained within a more general account, but staff would check on this. Tom Esser suggested taking saved monies and using the funds on smaller recreation related projects if it were available. Chairman Salvaggio asked about the cost associated with a possible extension of electricity to the new concessions stand. Staff will get a price quote for this, which was not budgeted for in 2012. Tom Esser questioned if electricity to the concessions stand would be necessary, or if the Town should give it time to see if a demand for hot food/power is needed. Larry Lechner felt offering hot food might be beneficial.

**c. Update on possible grant for Fields at Five Corners**

Dir. of Recreation & Planning Ryer explained Town representatives met with a representative from the Milwaukee Brewers on January 31st to discuss a one-time \$25,000 grant for naming rights to the Fields at Five Corners in honor of Gary VandenBerg. The money would be an unrestricted grant the Town could use in any way toward the Little League program, including spreading the expenditure of the money over more than one year. The Brewers would like to see at least one improvement using grant money to be installed by the time of a ceremonial check presentation in summer. Tom Esser asked how long the naming rights would be good for. Eric Ryer explained staff would suggest the name of the park travel with the baseball fields should the fields ever move (i.e. a new larger park such as a sports complex would not adopt the name, only the baseball field portion of the sports complex). Tom Esser felt the Town could be limiting itself if the name was permanent.

John Bishop asked if the Town could approach our contact with the Brewers about obtaining some of the playing surface the Brewers use for the Town fields. Chairman Salvaggio explained the granite top dressing the Town recently installed drains well and is low dust. Staff would check with the Brewers on what surface they use and the possibility of purchasing some. Administrator Culotta indicated he would like the following input from the Parks Committee: 1) thoughts on if the fields were to be moved, would they retain the Gary VandenBerg name, 2) what should the name of the fields be, 3) possible improvements. Mr. Culotta envisioned the Committee making recommendations on all three for the Town Board to consider. Chairman Salvaggio then asked the Committee for their feelings on accepting the \$25,000 grant, to which the Committee unanimously said "yes" they would accept the grant. Tom Esser said he would still like to understand how long the name would be with the fields.

Chairman Salvaggio directed staff to assemble a list of possible improvements for the March Parks Committee meeting. Tom Esser would be in favor of spreading the expenditure of the

funds out over several years. Carol Boettcher expressed this is donated money and not tax dollars. The Committee generally discussed the importance of having a notable improvement installed for the time of acceptance of the grant in the summer. Eric Ryer noted the Brewers representative would like to have the entrance sign completed for this event. The Town already has a piece of stone and staff will price out a metal sign, as well as score boards. Staff was also in favor of spreading out the expenditure of the money over several years to stagger improvements and buffer possible sponsorship decline. Staff will prepare a list of possible improvements and present that to the Committee at the March meeting.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Discussion on future meetings**

The next meeting will be held on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 5pm at Town Hall.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

Carol Boettcher moved to adjourn the meeting. Tom Esser seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Ryer  
Director of Recreation & Planning