

City of Lake Geneva  
Board of Park Commissioners - Meeting Minutes  
July 7, 2010

Meeting was called to order by Chair Skates at 6:36 p.m.

Members present:

Chair Doug Skates, Council Liaison Alderman Mary Jo Fesenmaier, Barb Philipps, John Swanson, Mayor Jim Connors

Members absent: Lynn Hassler, Dave Quickel, Pat Schroeder

Also present: Dan Winkler, Alderman Bill Mott, Gail Gygax, Ed Yaeger, Doug Harrod

Minutes from June 2, 2010, meeting approved unanimously on a motion by Swanson, second by Philipps.

Public Input:

Gail Gygax spoke about a new location for the memorial for her late husband. Mrs. Gygax asked the Commission to approve the memorial in Elm/Library Park in front of the library (see map). She brought copies of the deed restriction on the property; it specifies that no buildings may be placed on the eastern section of the park and that it was under the jurisdiction of the Board of Park Commissioners. She really encouraged the Commissioners to consider this location due to Gary Gygax's huge impact on education through his creation of role-play games which encouraged reading. Alderman Mott stated that he was 100% in support of the parking change at Veteran's Park.

Ed Yaeger brought a model of the railroad property closest to Sage Street showing the turntable. The model used an s-scale, and although no photos or pictures of the site were available, Mr. Yaeger based his model on the drawings which include the footprints of the structures from the 1870s. Now about half the area is covered with trees. He is also working with the Historic Preservation Committee for possible historic designation and/or preservation.

Permits:

None

Old Business:

Park Assignments/Park repairs-

Commissioner Swanson submitted a two-page report which he reviewed.

Mr. Winkler explained that the tennis court resurfacing is in progress and that references for Midwest Sealcoat did confirm quality work; Council approved the project.

Alderman Fesenmaier explained that she had a call about a broken bracket on the monkey bars at Veteran's Park. The street department has removed the section and is repairing the broken part.

Alderman Mott mentioned a broken yard hydrant also at Veteran's Park that needs repair.

Winkler explained that the Council approved the burying of the electric lines which will have some disruption in areas of Seminary Park. Work will not commence until late August or September.

**Commissioners are encouraged to walk through their assigned areas for maintenance or safety concerns.** Contact Dan Winkler or Ron Carstensen.

New park dedication process-  
no report from Attorney Draper yet

Determine ownership of land near bridge and Utility Commission-  
no report from Attorney Draper yet

Gygax Memorial- Mrs. Gygax is requesting that a memorial for her late husband Gary Gygax be located on the lake side of the library (see map). The design of the actual memorial will be presented once a location is approved.

Commissioner Swanson likes the idea of the memorial but felt the memorials should be kept in the same area such in Donian Park along Mill Creek; he was concerned that if Elm/Library Park location was approved it would be hard to deny other requests in the future for the same park.

Mrs. Gygax asked if there were DNR issues in using Donian Park.

Winkler will check on land/deed restrictions or DNR issues for Donian Park.

Commissioner Skates also agreed that Elm/Library Park should be left as is and that he preferred Donian Park.

Motion by Swanson, second by Skates, at this time, to deny the Gygax Memorial for this specific location in Library Park for this specific memorial.

Commissioner Philipps noted that she liked the memorial but not at this spot. She was concerned about others asking for this location too.

Alderman Fesenmaier suggested Donian Park might be a better location due to the proximity to the museum which might accept and display donations from the Gygax family.

At the June Museum Board meeting, Mayor Connors had mentioned the memorial and possible display of Gygax artifacts. He will bring up the idea again at the July meeting.

Bird City, USA -

Administrator Jordan left copies of the Bird City Wisconsin application with areas marked that the city is already in compliance with. Jordan also left a written report explaining that the city needed at least two more areas of compliance. He is working with the president of the local Audubon group to fulfill these two requirements, so the Bird City application can be completed and returned.

It was noted that this application is actually with Bird City **Wisconsin** not Bird City **USA** as previously approved by the Commission and Council due to concerns about application fee expense and authenticity of the national designation.

City Administrator will keep the Commission updated.

Granite memorial marker selection-

Winkler explained approximate pricing for granite, clay bricks, and bronze.

Motion by Swanson, second by Philipps, to approve the granite 8x12x2 inch markers for tree memorials. The cost of the tree and the granite marker is covered in the donation per the recently-adopted policy. Unanimously carried.

Citizen Volunteer Award update – none

Skate Park repairs – no update

New Business:

Veteran's Park south side parking change- Winkler presented the map and minutes from the Public Works Committee referring the issue to the Board of Park Commissioners and the Parking Committee. Winkler also noted that he had contacted the Geneva Lake Development Corporation. Attorney Torhorst will search for the records on the land affected.

Commissioner Swanson did not support any parallel parking along Townline Road due the safety issues and aesthetics. He says that people have gotten used to not parking there after it was changed from angle parking and that now it's used as a drop off point.

Alderman Mott indicated he believed this was a good location for parallel parking.

The recommendation from the Public Works Committee was to make the No Parking section all parallel parking and eliminate the existing parallel parking.

Commissioner Skates felt the additional parallel parking made it more convenient for park users.

Motion by Swanson, second by Fesenmaier, to have no parking at all along the south side of Veteran's Park including the elimination of the existing 5-6 spots for parallel parking.  
Motion passes 3 in favor, 1 against, 1 abstention.

Nomination of Commission Vice-President -  
No motion to remove from the table.

Consideration of Park Assignments-

Chair Skates presented the chart of Park Assignments with adjustments. Motion by Fesenmaier, second by Skates, to accept the revised Park Assignment list. Fesenmaier asked about the location of Gateway Park and Hidden Woods. Winkler will try to find these parks and report back. It was noted by the mayor that the TBD on the chart acknowledged the one remaining vacancy on the Commission. Unanimously carried.

Motion by Philipps, second by Skates, to adjourn at approximately 8:10 p.m. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Jo Fesenmaier  
City Council Alderman Dist. 2

**Next regular meeting: Wednesday, August 4, at 6:30 p.m.**