

Madison Beach and Recreation Department
Bauer Park Committee
Monthly Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2022 (via Zoom)

In attendance: Holly Johnson, Ted Rahmann, Jim Henneberry, John Paulson, Ann Judd, Kristen Wildermann, Laura Becker, Ruthanna Terreri

Beach & Rec.: Austin Hall, Pam Greene, Julie Ainsworth

Guests: Elinor Griffith, Pippa Mannino, Tom Cleveland

Meeting called to order at 7:07 pm

1. Approval of meeting minutes – Holly moved that the minutes of the December 1 meeting be approved; John seconded. All in favor.
2. Public Comments –
 - a) Beehives
 - i) Elinor Griffith and Pippa Mannino from the Garden Club of Madison reported that Lewis Strauss has ordered bees even though funding from the GCM hasn't been approved and questions about insurance, etc. haven't been answered. Apparently, bees sell out quickly and Lewis placed the order to ensure the availability of bees if all the details can be worked out by the spring.
 - ii) Austin obtained information about what would be involved in having hives at the park. Among the requirements are: bees would have to be registered and have a health check; signage notifying the public of the presence of hives would have to be posted around the park; a barrier would need to be installed around the hives; hives would need to be protected from animals (primarily bears and coyotes); people working with the bees would have to sign a waiver.
 - iii) The deadline for registration is given as October, but Austin will inquire as to exactly what the deadline means.
 - iv) Austin did report that no special insurance would be needed to have hives at the park.
 - v) Ted suggested that committee members should meet at the park to look at potential locations for the hives.
 - vi) John made a motion that the committee support continuing the process to establish hives at the park; Holly seconded. All in favor.
 - b) Fruit Trees
 - i) Tom Cleveland reported that he had done a review of the fruit trees in the park including both those in the new orchard and those in other areas.
 - ii) Tom is interested in volunteering to help take care of the existing trees (pruning, clearing out brush from around the trees) and to be involved in expanding the new orchard and replacing older trees that have died or are in bad shape.
 - iii) Laura expressed her appreciation to Tom for his offer.
3. Chair's Report – work has begun on the boardwalk from the park to the high school. This work should be done by the end of March/beginning of April.

4. Election of Officers –
 - a) Holly nominated Ted to continue as Chair for another year; Ruthanna seconded.
 - b) Ruthanna nominated Holly to continue as Vice Chair for another year; Ted seconded.
 - c) Ruthanna nominated Ann to continue as Secretary for another year; Holly seconded.
 - d) All voted in favor of keeping the same officers in place for this year.

5. Section Reports
 - a) Volunteers Coordinator – nothing to report.
 - b) Buildings and Grounds – nothing to report.
 - c) Public Relations and Publicity Report – nothing to report.
 - d) Gardens –
 - i) Applications for the 2022 growing season will be going out soon.
 - ii) Holly plans to organize a meeting of interested gardeners to take charge of running volunteer workdays.
 - e) Educational Report –
 - i) Julie has been holding classes outdoors for the past two years; classes have been going well.
 - ii) There were no school field trips to the park in the fall but Julie is hopeful that they can resume in the spring.
 - iii) Fewer classes are being offered. Those that are running have been full.
 - iv) Julie hopes to return to using the classroom; mouse problem will need to be addressed before she does.

6. Harvest Festival – the first planning meeting will be held in February.

7. Old Business – none.

8. New Business – none.

Adjournment

Motion made by Holly to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Ann. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Submitted by: Ann Judd