

**PARK COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, March 27, 2013**  
**City Hall, Room 207 5:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jerry Wiezbiskie, Brian Danzinger and James Warner

Excused: Joseph Moore

OTHERS PRESENT: Ald. Tim DeWane, Bill Kloiber, Dawne Cramer, Dan Ditscheit, James Andersen, Brian Pelot, Brad Drefcinski

A motion was made by Ald. Warner to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2013 meeting as recorded, seconded by Ald. Danzinger and carried.

A motion was made by Ald. Danzinger to adopt the agenda, seconded by Ald. Warner and carried.

1. Discussion/Action on a request by Dawn Miller of Family & Childcare Resources of NEW to host a *Fly A Kite Event* on June 29, 2013 at Arnie Wolff Sports Complex

The event will run from 10 am – 4 pm on June 29, 2013 at the Arnie Wolff Sports Complex. The Family & Childcare Resources of NEW support child development and support families with their programming. Admission is free. The event is a fundraiser with concessions, raffles, and contests. They have obtained their special event permit and raffle permit. Staff is in full support of this event.

Ald. Warner made a motion to open the floor, seconded by Ald. Danzinger and carried.

Dawn Miller, 3520 Bay Highlands Circle, Green Bay, explained that the event brings awareness to child abuse prevention and promotes childhood development. This event has brought positive feedback from the community. Ald. Danzinger said he is excited about this event and this is a good organization.

Ald. Warner made a motion to close the floor, seconded by Ald. Danzinger and carried.

Ald. Warner made a motion to approve the Fly-A-Kite Event June 29, 2013 at Arnie Wolff Sports Complex contingent upon all fees, proper permits, special event permit approval and insurances are obtained, seconded by Ald. Danzinger and carried.

2. Discussion/Action on a KaBOOM! Playground funding opportunity at Eighth Street Park

Staff explained that KaBOOM! is a national non-profit organization dedicated to finding safe places for children to play. They have completed over 2,200 projects in the United States. One of these projects was completed in Green Bay in 2007 at Eisenhower Park. An anonymous funding partner has teamed up with KaBOOM! to fund a new playground and garden space in the Green Bay area. We were invited to submit an application for this project. The grant is intended to target underserved

areas and engage community partners. The anticipated grant amount is \$80,000. Our department would be responsible for a matching fund of \$8,500 which is available from our Park Development Fund. The proposed site is Eighth Street Park. Our community partnership would consist of Ninth Street Community Christian Center, United South Broadway Neighborhood Association and the Hmong Asian American Community Center. These partners would participate in the planning process and organize volunteers. The existing playground is 22 years old and needs replacement. There is currently a garden located in the park and we have an enormous response for more garden space within that area. Staff has met with KaBOOM! and filled out the application. We were selected to move forward with the 90 minute conference with the community partners and our department. The decision on who will receive this grant should be made within the next two weeks.

Ald. Wiezbiskie asked what will happen to the old playground equipment. Staff explained that it is not code compliant; therefore we will recycle what we can. We would not be able to donate it to anyone.

Ald. Warner made a motion to open the floor, seconded by Ald. Danzinger and carried.

Pastor Patti Bilotto of Ninth Street Community Christian Center and Unified South Broadway Neighborhood Association said they are really excited about this project. This part of the city is in an impoverished area. KaBOOM! asked for 15 volunteers. Their group went door-to-door and received 41 signatures from the community supporting this project. We are very capable of getting volunteers involved.

Ald. Wiezbiskie asked about KaBOOM! Staff explained that their mission is to provide safe playgrounds within walking distance for every child in America. Ald. Wiezbiskie asked if there was a neighborhood association involved in that area. Pastor Bilotto answered that the United South Broadway Neighborhood Association is involved.

Ald. Danzinger made a motion to close the floor, seconded by Ald. Warner and carried.

Ald. Warner made a motion that if awarded, accept the KaBoom! Grant for playground replacement and community garden upgrades at Eighth Street Park and to authorize staff to use \$8,500 from the Park Development Fund as a match for the grant, seconded by Ald. Danzinger and carried.

3. Request by East Side Little League Group to construct a concession/restroom building in East River Optimist Park

Staff said Mr. Madigan and the Optimist Group has done great things for this park. We plan to work with this group to finalize the design and location for a concession/restroom building in East River Optimist Park.

Staff reviewed the plan to construct a concession/restroom building. A site plan with three possible locations was presented. The final location will be decided between the Park Department and the Optimist Group.

Staff explained this request is contingent on successful fundraising by the group. The Optimist Group would be responsible for construction and materials. The Park Department would be responsible for electrical, sanitary and water to the facility. The Park staff would have final say on the layout and construction plans and it would have to meet all building and inspection code requirements of the City. Concession rights would be determined by the Park Department who will work with the user groups. Once completed the building becomes property of the City of Green Bay.

Ald. Wiezbiskie stated that the middle site would be the logical site but if that doesn't work he would appreciate if you would consider the site near the parking lot. Staff explained that is the location of our overflow parking which we would have to address as parking is an issue. We have funded the concession stand utilities at Arnie Wolff and Perkins Park and we would like to be consistent and do the same with this facility.

Ald. Danzinger made a motion to open the floor, seconded by Ald. Warner and carried.

Dan Madigan and Dave Crevcoure of the Optimist Group stated we have the best park system in the country and they really appreciate it. At Optimist Park we would like to have the building be a show piece. This is our 60<sup>th</sup> year of running baseball programs in the City of Green Bay. We would like to get a plan in place so we can start seeking donations and a labor force so we are ready to go. Staff thanked the Optimist Group for all they have done for the kids.

Ald. Warner made a motion to close the floor, seconded by Ald. Danzinger and carried.

Ald. Warner made a motion to approve the fundraising and construction of a concession/restroom building at East River Optimist Park contingent on the following, seconded by Ald. Danzinger and carried:

- Successful fundraising by the Optimist Club of Green Bay. The Optimist Club of Green Bay would be responsible for all costs of construction and materials.
- The Park Department will fund the electrical, sanitary and water utilities to the building.
- Park staff approval of the final layout and construction plans. All materials and supplies must meet the City's building and inspection code requirements.
- Concession rights to the building would be established between all user groups and be determined by the Green Bay Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department.
- Once the building is completed it becomes property of the City of Green Bay.

4. Request by East Side Optimist Girls Softball and Preble Optimist Foundation Senior Girls Softball to construct a storage shed at the Finger Road Ball Field Complex

Staff explained that this group approached the Park Department to add an additional shed next to our existing shed. Park staff decided it would be in our best interest to have one large shed. We would remove the old shed. The Optimists would be responsible for the concrete slab. DPW will engineer a venting system underneath the concrete slab as this is located on a landfill site. The City would be responsible for the carpentry work. Materials and supplies would be split evenly between the Park Department and the Optimists Group. Our expenses would come from funds left over from the Finger Road Development Fund. The shed would cost approximately \$12,000.

Staff distributed a plan with a image of a 20' x 32' shed, a rough guide of what the shed may look like. Any donations solicited will benefit both groups. We will partition the shed so that each user group will have a separate garage door giving them access to their area.

Ald. Wiezbiskie asked who will be installing the venting system. Staff explained that DPW will design it and inspect the installation but it will have to be the concrete installer who installs the system because it goes underneath the concrete. Ald. Wiezbiskie asked why we wouldn't include restroom facilities. Staff explained that because this is a landfill site we do not have DNR approval for underground utilities. This shed will not have electricity. The user group would like to add a concession stand with restrooms in the future.

Ald. Warner made a motion to open the floor, seconded by Ald. Danzinger and carried.

Dave Crevcoure of 3104 East River Drive has been working with the softball program for ten years. You have done a wonderful job with the four diamonds and now we would like to enhance the park. We have to keep our pitching machine at Emilie Street because we have no secure facilities at Finger Road right now. We are looking forward to working with the City to enhance these facilities.

Ald. Warner made a motion to close the floor, seconded by Ald. Danzinger and carried.

Ald. Warner made a motion to authorize staff to construct a storage shed in conjunction with the East Side Softball group at Finger Road LL Complex contingent on the following, seconded by Ald. Danzinger and carried:

- All costs of materials and construction labor are split evenly between the East Side Softball group and the City of Green Bay Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department.
- Department of Public Works approval to successfully engineer a venting system for the building.
- All proper permits and insurances being obtained.
- Rights to the building would be established between all user groups and be determined by the Green Bay Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department.

- Once completed the building becomes property of the City of Green Bay.

## 5. Discussion/Action on 2013 Park Capital Improvement Program request

Staff distributed a list of projects to consider for bonding projects. The total Park bond request is \$900,000.

### **PARK DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Athletic field renovations**

- Arnie Wolff Sports Complex - \$115,000 – cost to install ADA accessible perimeter gravel walk and topsoil/seeding of the fifth soccer field. Four fields are completed and updated. The last two fields are rough graded but still need topsoil. We have a source for free topsoil for one more field. DPW will haul it to the site. The \$115,000 is providing funding for gas to haul the topsoil and to rent equipment to load the trucks. This will also provide funding to mix the topsoil with leaf mulch and grade/seed the fifth soccer field. ADA accessible crushed gravel walks will also be installed around the four existing soccer fields. We will request funding to topsoil and seed the remaining field at a later date.
- Athletic Field Renovations - \$150,000- update athletic fields throughout the City. These dollars are to upgrade athletic fields to be used for fencing, seeding, bleachers and small upgrades to projects to be used on fields throughout the City.
- Joannes Stadium Sports Lighting Replacement - \$250,000 —to replace aging infield sports lighting. In 2010-2011 we upgraded the outfield lighting using an energy grant. We have had the infield poles tested. They are rotted and need immediate replacing. Ald. Danzinger asked if we are just replacing the poles or the lighting fixtures as well. Staff said the fixtures are old and outdated. We will replace four infield poles and purchase new energy efficient fixtures.

#### **Buildings and Shelters**

- East River Optimist Concession Building Utilities - \$35,000 – provide electric, sanitary and water to the building.

#### **Walkways, Trails and Bridges**

- Pavement Replacement - \$150,000 - replace old parking lots and walkways throughout the Park System.

#### **Site Work**

- Bury utilities at Navarino Park - \$200,000 - estimated total cost is \$350,000. \$150,000 is currently available in CD funding. Major overhead utilities run through the middle of the park and our objective is to move them to the outside perimeters. The expense is high because there are seven utility companies involved that need utilities moved.

Pertaining to the Arnie Wolff Sports Complex, Ald. Wiezbiskie questioned whether a walking trail could be placed around the perimeter of the park. Staff explained we could consider this at a future date.

Ald. Danzinger questioned whether we would be doing any major athletic field renovations and if we had a rotation system or a prioritized list. Staff replied this year we will be starting to renovate Beaver Dam Park. We have a list of priorities

based on needs. There are not enough dollars in this account to complete a major project. Staff looks at our priority list to determine projects that are most needed. This list changes frequently as user groups approach us with new opportunities for fundraising and partnerships.

Ald. Danzinger stated that none of the Colburn Pool components have been considered for bonding. Staff said that is correct. Ald. Danzinger asked if this would be a separate consideration. Staff stated discussions have occurred this week to determine how to move forward with this process.

Ald. Wiezbiskie asked if we have a point system/renovation plan for replacement of paving. Staff replied the dollars requested are used as band aids to fix immediate needs.

Staff said this Capital Improvement proposal gets forwarded to the Mayor and Finance Committee for consideration.

Ald. Danzinger made a motion to approve staff's recommendations for the 2013 bond request, seconded by Ald. Warner and carried.

6. Discussion/Action on a Green Bay Forestry Department grant application submitted to the U S Forest Service F4 2013 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Project Proposal

The City Forestry Department partnered with Bay Lakes Regional Planning Commission to apply for a forestry grant to improve the health of our urban forest and expand our efforts to mitigate the impact of EAB as it relates to our slam zone. This proposed project will help us slow down the spread of EAB, treat three times the number of ash trees and allows for tree replacement. 1,200 trees will be given out to neighborhoods within the infestation area. We will concentrate on a 1.5 mile radius of our known EAB infestation. In this area we have 1,152 ash trees which is approximately 15% of our ash street trees.

This grant will greatly enhance our opportunity to slow the advancement of EAB. Our intent is to slow the spread of EAB in this 1.5 mile zone. We can remove and replace the trees and grow the urban forest. We are looking at treating 420 trees long term to slow or contain the spread of larvae. This allows us to manageably treat the trees instead of becoming a crisis problem.

Ald. Wiezbiskie asked how we treat the trees. Staff explained the treatment method is a soil injection using a systemic insecticide at the base of the tree. Trees are injected within a foot of the base of the tree. The roots absorb the product and it goes up into the tree and kills the larvae. Other application methods are more expensive and can wound the tree. This is an economical and effective treatment.

Staff explained the grant is for \$157,564. Green Bay would receive \$124,950. \$15,450 to remove 400 ash trees and treat all remaining street and park ash trees in the slam zone. \$52,500 to plant 1,500 trees. \$27,000 to treat additional ash trees city wide annually. \$30,000 to build the urban forest.

We would give away trees to neighborhoods in the infestation area. Bay Lakes Regional Commission would receive \$32,614 to pay for administration of the grant

and required signage. We have an in-kind funding of \$6,450 budgeted for EAB treatment chemicals. Bay Lakes Regional Commission has in-kind funding of \$2,000 for signage materials.

Ald. Danzinger made a motion that if awarded the grant, authorize staff to accept the U. S. Forest Service State and Private Forestry F4 2013 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant to mitigate the impact of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) by providing treatment options and replacement of ash trees to maintain the City urban forest, seconded by Ald. Warner and carried.

## 7. Director's Report

The bid for the West Side Trail has been awarded to Peters Concrete. We hope to begin construction on April 15 with completion of the trail in July.

DPW has almost completed the plans and specifications for the Wildlife Sanctuary bridge. We hope to start construction on the day after Labor Day.

The remaining buildings in Navarino Park will be completely removed in the next few weeks.

High School softball/baseball games are scheduled to start next week. Due to weather that is not going to happen. We will start the season with an extensive make-up schedule and will do our best to catch up.

Ald. Wiezbiskie stated that the Sea Dragon has been purchased. He also stated Perkins Park parking lot replacement will start this fall.

Ald. Danzinger made a motion to receive and place on file the Director's Report, seconded by Ald. Warner and carried.

Ald. Warner made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Danzinger and carried.