

CITY OF VERONA

MINUTES

PARK, RECREATION & FORESTRY COMMISSION WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2018

1. The meeting was called to order by chairperson Mike Bare at 7:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Present: Mike Bare, Paul Schmidt, Heather Reekie. Excused: Mark Giesfeld, Charlotte Jerney. Also present: Dave Walker, Parks Director; Casey Dudley, Recreation Director; Al Brisack, Edgewood College; Fred Volker, 705 Poplar Way; Jeff Mikorski, City Administrator; Adam Sayre, City Planner; Ron Henshue, FDG; Dennis Midthun, FDG; Fred Devillers, FDG.
3. Moved by Reekie, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2018 meeting of the Park, Recreation, and Forestry Commission. Motion carried 3-0.
4. The Commission considered changes to the rental fee structure for baseball and softball fields. Casey Dudley told the group about a recent rise in the number of ‘for profit’ teams inquiring about field use and the current fees simply separated users by residency. Many of these newer teams charged players several hundred dollars, had paid coaches, and were clearly operated as businesses. His suspicion was that our fees were the lowest in the area and so teams were simply looking for the best price. Fred Volker was also at the meeting on behalf of local baseball teams to further attest to the rise in ‘for profit’ teams.

The Commission agreed that a new category of team should be considered with a separate fee structure and instructed Casey to return at a future meeting with a proposal.

5. Al Brisack was at the meeting on behalf of Edgewood College to present a summary of the first 10 years since the City and College entered into an agreement for the use of Stampfl field. He also requested that the agreement be extended an additional 10 years in exchange for Edgewood purchasing and installing a new scoreboard at the field. If amended, the field use agreement would be extended through 2040. Included with the summary information were letters of support from the school district and home talent baseball team. Dave and Casey also attested that the relationship between Edgewood and the City had been very beneficial and they had proven themselves as great partners in maintaining and improving the field.
6. Moved by Schmidt, seconded by Bare, to recommend amending the field use agreement between the City and Edgewood College as proposed contingent upon paragraph 3.A. being amended to include a review of the terms in 2022. Motion carried 3-0

7. Representatives from Forward Design Group (FDG) were at the meeting to present a revised concept plan for the Whispering Coves subdivision. Minor changes had been made since the initial review earlier in the year and no action was taken. Overall the Commission liked the concept but at issue was how much of the proposed greenspace in the plan would be considered parkland and credited toward their required dedication.
8. Moved by Reekie, seconded by Schmidt, to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0. Time 9:25 p.m.

Mike Bare
Chairperson