



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF MEETING
PARK COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
4:45 PM, MARCH 6, 2023**

Call to Order/Roll Call

The Board of Park Commissioners met on Monday, March 6, 2023 in the meeting room at the Public Works Building. Chair Mike Taake called the meeting to order at 4:47 PM. Members present were Mike Taake, Laura Taake, Howard Miller, Lori Hammer, Melanie Gray, Amanda Ketchum and Parks Superintendent/Arborist Jordan Wilke. Also present were Tina and Ann Miles (Girl Scouts).

Minutes

Melanie Gray/Amanda Ketchum to approve minutes from February 13, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

Board Chair Updates/Discussion

Review Financial Reports

Financial reports for the pending month tabled until next meeting.

Pickleball

The Park Board continues to advance the interest of pickleball. We currently have 6 courts available and nets to accommodate. Chair Mike Taake asked Jordan Wilke to get bids to add painted lines to courts 5 and 6 on the existing tennis courts. We are currently working on securing two nets on wheels and ordering nets for existing courts. Jordan Wilke informed the Board that security cameras are in use at the courts and the courts could be locked to minimize vandalism. Chair Mike Taake would like to pursue building 4 permanent pickleball courts within available land at existing city park acreage. The Board discussed the possibility of adding two more tennis courts (number 7 and 8) allowing the courts to be used for WIAA tournament play and with the School District's financial help. The Board continues to look for recreational improvements and experiences for the citizens of Mauston.

Softball signage

Chair Mike Taake asked the Board to table softball signage until the April meeting and to look over the existing policy and contract. There is a possibility that Eagle Enterprise could enter into our agreed signage project.

Basketball in Lion's Park parking lot

The Park Board recognizes the safety issues with the two basketball hoops located in the parking lot at Lion's Park. The Board would like to see the parking lot painted for parking requirements. The Board recognizes the many opportunities at our parks already, to play basketball. Lastly, Mike Taake asked the Board to give careful consideration to said basketball hoops and activity and table action for the April meeting.

Staff Report

With improvements being made at the softball diamonds at Veterans Memorial Park, Laura Taake asked about installing some playground/park equipment. Jordan Wilke is concerned about the necessary acreage and safety concerns. Jordan Wilke asked for improvement ideas for our highly successful Dog Park. He is continuing to pursue the walkway and possible fencing around the dog pond reflecting an interest. He is also looking into expanding dog park equipment and improvements including a concrete patio to the entrance to the fenced in area and tree stump removal. Tina and Ann Miles (Girl Scout representatives) will check with the Zoning Commissioner to hang up signage concerning the sale of Girl Scout cookies through April 9th. Ann Miles would like to see improvements made to the Dog Park, possibly as a Girl Scout fundraiser and project. Jordan updated the Board on many items getting done this Spring including hiring Mike Minard for new staff, appreciating the new Gator as a great addition to equipment, and cleaning up downed trees at Veterans Park (Tornado 2022). Lastly Jordan is working with the Tree Board to plan for Arbor Day 2023. He is excited to plant 22 fruit trees secured by a grant (\$2,600) from Trees Forever Alliant Energy in Marachowsky Park. Lulich Landscaping is slated to install necessary irrigation as weather permits.

Friends of Mauston Parks

Melanie Gray will be stepping down from the Park Board this summer. Chair Mike Taake asks for interested citizens and "Friends" to inquire and apply for the opening.

Adjourn

Howard Miller/Mike Taake to adjourn and voice vote carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.

CHAIR

DATED