

WATERLOO PARKS COMMISSION – MINUTES
February 8, 2017

1. ROLL CALL AND CALL TO ORDER. Stinnett called the Parks Commission meeting to order at 5:00 pm in the Municipal Building Council Chambers. ROLL CALL: Voting members present, Stinnett, Kegler, and Quimby. Absent: Kopplin and Strobel. Ex-officio members present: Yerges. Absent: Crave and Jones. Others present: Diane Graff of the Courier, Larry Killian, Jim Larrabee, Maureen Giese, Parks Coordinator Gabe Haberkorn and Clerk/Treasurer Hansen.
2. MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL: January 11, 2017. MOTION: Moved by Kegler, seconded by Stinnett to approve the January 11, 2017 public hearing minutes and meeting minutes. VOICE VOTE: Motion carried.
3. CITIZEN INPUT. None.
4. REPORTS/UPDATES
 - a. Coordinator's Report. DISCUSSION: From his written report Haberkorn said he is getting price information for 720 West Madison Street; the Major League Baseball grant application was not funded; a Watertown Community Foundation grant is in the works and the Spring Clean-up is scheduled for April 8th in the morning. Kegler said 720 West Madison Street was small for what is proposed.
 - b. 2017-2022 City of Waterloo Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan – For Public Distribution. Noted. Haberkorn distributed copies to attendees.
 - c. Parks Financial Report – January. Written report presented.
 - i. Coordinator's 2nd & Final 2016 Bonus Payment. Noted.
 - d. 2017 Capital Projects. Noted.
 - e. Other Reports. None.
5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - a. Monarch Butterfly – Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Request For Municipal Action. DISCUSSION: Stinnett said milkweed and other acceptable plants could be planted in Youker Park to benefit butterfly populations perhaps moving them from the McKay Way area to Youker Park. Yerges said the same area in Youker Park would be mowed. Haberkorn said seed could be planted where sunflowers had been planted. Giese suggested engaging students and contacting Olbrich Botanical Gardens in Madison. NOTE: Multiple statements by individuals were made, no Commission action.
6. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Jim Larrabee and Larry Killian – Waterloo Veteran Memorials. DISCUSSION: Referencing the January 12th email, Jim Larrabee said: he did not say to take down the memorial, and he hadn't talked with veterans except informally. He added he didn't want the downtown memorial to come down, but given its state of disrepair it may be best to dismantle it. He emphasized that it was not his decision and asked whose decision it was? Responding to a similar question from Quimby, Hansen said it was a community wide endeavor to originally construct that memorial downtown. It was donated to the City, and was a municipal park. Larrabee said this is your park, yours to do with as you wish, adding the Legion or VFW wanted no part in fixing existing memorials or dismantling them. In reply to Stinnett and Kegler questions, Larrabee said a new memorial project at Oakhill Cemetery would incorporate the plaques from downtown and the stones at the Firemen's Park memorial. Larrabee said the downtown memorial was in terrible shape, Killian asked if road construction would affect the memorial? Reply, no. Yerges said he had only been instructed to mow the lawn. Maureen Giese described the benefits of a single, new memorial at the cemetery. She asked what the costs would be to move the items of interest to the new memorial. She told of Historical Society activity noting the centennial of the end of WWI. Larrabee said minimal effort was needed to move the Firemen's Park memorial stones. Quimby asked how long before the new memorial would be ready for plaques and Firemen's Park memorial stones? Larrabee answered 9-18 months. Killian said items could be stored at the Legion in the meanwhile. Stinnett said the opinions of veterans carries weight in the decision process. BY CONSENSUS: the Commission asked the Parks Coordinator to present costs for dismantling the two memorials and costs for refurbishing the memorials. Stinnett placed the item be on the next agenda.
7. ANNOUNCEMENTS, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND NEXT MEETING
 - a. 720 West Madison Street Phase 4, Concept Plan, Implementation. Noted.
 - b. Next Meeting: March 8, 2017 at 5 p.m. Kegler said he would not be able to attend March 8th.
8. ADJOURNMENT. MOTION: Moved by Kegler, seconded by Quimby to adjourn. Approximate time: 5:50 pm

Mo Hansen

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Clerk/Treasurer