

**City of Batesville  
Parks & Recreation  
Mayor's Conference Room  
May 21, 2014  
6:30 PM**

Members Present: Tim Hunter, Ed Negovetich, Don Karbowski, Lisa Gausman  
Absent: Robert Fitzpatrick

Don Karbowski made a motion, seconded by Ed Negovetich, to approve the minutes from the 4/16/14 meeting. All ayes so passed.

Eric Frey, ARA, gave an update to commission members of the 5 year Master Plan for the Parks & Recreation of the City of Batesville. He noted that the first public meeting will be held on June 11, 2014 in the pavilion at the Liberty Park. The 2<sup>nd</sup> public meeting will be on July 16, 2014 in the Mayor's Conference Room. A Plan Presentation date will be decided after the public meetings are completed. Eric also informed the commission that 74 survey responses were received from Survey Monkey. The public meeting dates will be advertised and the public process notice will be attached to the minutes.

One item on the agenda, from Ron Weldishofer, Indiana Smoker Food Sales, was passed on because there was no information provided and he was not in attendance at the meeting.

Councilman Jim Fritsch (sponsor for the dog park) came before the commission on a request to move the dog park to a new location on the west side of Liberty Park near S. Park Ave. He felt this would be a better location because there is good drainage and the area is not developed as of yet. After discussion by the commission and review of a letter from commission member Robert Fitzpatrick (attached to the minutes) the commission recommended to allow the Dog Park to locate on the Northwest area of the park near the railroad tracks and the north shelter building. Don Karbowski made a motion, seconded by Lisa Gausman, to allow the Dog Park Committee to erect temporary fencing in the commission recommended area of the Park on a trial basis. All ayes so passed.

Don Karbowski made a motion, seconded by Ed Negovetich, to allow advertising banners to be placed on the fencing at Liberty Park Field. The signage must follow the same rules as the signage for the Baseball "Plex". All ayes so passed.

Commission members denied a request to allow a group to pick and eat edible plants on a walk thru Brum Woods due to liability issues.

Park Commissioner, Chris Bradford, provided a written monthly report of activities for all the Parks & Recreation areas in the city.

Mayor Fledderman reported on the Pool noting that city Pool Manager, Elizabeth Hall, plans to open the pool on Saturday 5/24/14. He also noted that city council allocated \$5,000.00 from Belterra Funds for needed equipment purchases, and that concessions will expand to give healthy choices and hopefully increase revenues by promoting more activities and programs at the pool. Several city employees will cross rain to help with chemical use. Don Karbowski suggested members visit the pool soon for a tour.

Ed Negovetich made a motion, seconded by Don Karbowski, to adjourn. All ayes so passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

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Tim Hunter, President

Attest:

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Ronald C. Weigel, Clerk-Treasurer

## Batesville Park Plan Public Input Process

Activity	Date	Time	Location
1st notice in the paper	On or before June 1, 2014		N/A
1 <sup>st</sup> Public Meeting	June 11, 2014	5:30 - 6:30 PM	Liberty Park Shelter
Survey ends	July 5, 2014	5:00 PM	NA
2 <sup>nd</sup> notice in the paper	On or before July 6, 2014		N/A
2 <sup>nd</sup> Public Meeting	July 16, 2014	5:30 – 6:30 PM	City Hall
Plan Presentation	TBD	TBD	TBD

### Notice of Public Meeting

The City of Batesville and the Batesville Park Board would like to invite all interested parties to attend a public meeting to discuss the following:

- The current park facilities needs
- Park and recreation programming needs
- New park and recreation opportunities

Please join us on **June 11, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.** at Liberty Park, Shelter House. The information gathered at this meeting will be used in the development of a 5 year park master plan for the City of Batesville.

If you cannot attend this meeting, surveys are available at the City Hall or you can write a letter to Park Board regarding the issues listed above. For more information you can call (812) 933-6100.

### Notice of Public Meeting

The City of Batesville and the Batesville Park Board would like to invite all interested parties to attend a public meeting to discuss the following:

- Summary of 1st public input session
- Results of the public survey
- Prioritization of needs

Please join us on **July 16, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.** at City Hall Council Chambers, 132 South Main Street Batesville, Indiana 47006. The information gathered at this meeting will be used in the development of a 5 year park master plan for the City of Batesville.

If you cannot attend this meeting, you can write a letter to Park Board regarding the issues listed above. For more information you can call (812) 933-6100.

TO: Mayor, President Tim Hunter, and Park Board Members  
FROM: Bob Fitzpatrick  
DATE: May 18, 2014  
RE: Dog Park

You are receiving this information in written form as I am not able to be at the meeting on Wednesday.

When considering the two locations for the dog park I ask the Board and committee to give thought to the following comparisons.

The present location of the dog park has the rail road bed to shield neighboring residence from the noise and activity created by the dog park. Parking is abundant, owners and dogs do not have to mingle with the public as much, and there is not nearly the amount of large group activities that often take place at the gazebo and the pavilion. The more people are caused to mingle with the dogs the more likely there can be problems.

The west side location is less expensive to prepare, however, even though it has drains, it does set wet after rains. It remains for days after heavy down pours. The area is up front and visible as one of the first images of the park as visitors approach. Wouldn't it be more inviting to have the impression be green lawn and planting as a park should be, not fencing and romping animals? It would give the impression the city's dog pound is there. The impression should not

be the likeness of a dog kennel. In consideration of the neighbors across Park Avenue, they would have to put up with the noise and activities that will be created at that location. Parking is at a premium every time we have an event that draws larger crowds. This happens several times each year and every time there is a ball game. To add additional demand for spaces seems unreasonable.

In the past the west lawn area has been looked at as the most likely area for frisbee golf and possibly a put-put course.

I haven't seen an engineer study that addresses drainage of the original location. Surely the city can come up with enough fill to bring the ground level to a height necessary to cause runoff and then maybe a catch basin and tile system would not be so expensive. The city's workforce has done several tiling jobs in the park and might be able to do such for this project.

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And finally, is it necessary to have such elaborate amenities for the dog park? The original concept was to provide an enclosed area - dog run - with watering stations and benches for owners. There is a need for a larger gate down line from the pet gate so that maintenance vehicles can enter the area. The pet gate need only to be configured so as to prevent a pet from exiting as someone is entering. We do not need an elaborate, titled gate. Our emphasis is on the promotion of Liberty Park as a whole and not as independent areas. I'm sure owners and pets can find the area without an overhead sign at the gate.

That's it,

Bob Fitzpatrick