

**City of Hastings**  
**Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes**  
**City Hall Council Chambers**  
**December 13, 2011 – 6:00 PM**

- 1) **Roll Call at 6 pm:** Commissioners Garrett, Schommer, Smith, Juntunen, & Schossow, Parks & Recreation Director Bernstein  
Absent: Commissioners Hedin & Miller
- 2) **October Minutes:**  
Motion to approve October minutes as presented by Smith. Seconded by Juntunen. Passed unanimously.
- 3) **Setting Agenda:** No changes to the agenda.
- 4) **WHEP Presentation:** Members of the Wetland Health Evaluation Project presented their annual report to the PRC. WHEP volunteers present included Joe Beattie, Summer Hendrickson, Brian Huberty, Wes Powers, Connie Slaten, Kevin Smith, and Commissioner Dwight Smith. Data from the four different monitoring stations in Hastings – Stonegate Road, Lake Rebecca, Sand Coulee, and 180<sup>th</sup> St Marsh – was reported on. The PRC was very appreciative of the efforts of the WHEP group and thanked them for their volunteerism and hard work. An invitation was issued to all commissioners to join WHEP in June when they collect data to see the process first hand.
- 5) **Departmental Updates:** Departmental Updates were passed out and briefly reviewed. Warming houses were scheduled to open December 12<sup>th</sup>, but were unable to due to the warm weather. As soon as it gets below freezing, Parks & Recreation staff will flood the rinks so they can open as soon as possible. Only three warming houses will be operational this winter – Pioneer, Lions, and Wallin. The Arena rink will only be available for scheduled time for the Hockey Boosters. The general rink at Lake Isabel will be flooded, but the warming house will not be open.
- 6) **Parks & Recreation Survey:** Commissioners should have received a copy of the Parks & Recreation portion of the city survey by email. Bernstein asked that commissioners review the results of the survey for the January meeting. He will be looking for the PRC's input on how this survey data will affect Hastings Parks & Recreation in 2012 and beyond. Commissioner Smith commented that people seem to value our parks and trails in Hastings and that the survey was very positive.
- 7) **Hudson Reuse Study:** The Hudson Reuse Study was emailed to commissioners for review. Bernstein sees a potential for open public space in at least a portion of the property. Commissioners were asked to review the study so that a recommendation from the PRC can be made in January or February regarding use of the Hudson property.
- 8) **PRC Chairperson & Interviews:** Commissioner Schommer has reached the end of his term limit as of December 31, 2011. Commissioner Garrett will have completed her first term effective December 31, 2011 and wishes to resign from the PRC for personal reasons. Bernstein thanked both commissioners for their hard work and contributions to the PRC. Six people have been contacted regarding interviews for the two open commissioner positions. Three interviews have already been set up for December 22<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 5:00 PM at the Parks & Recreation office. Commissioners will receive copies of the interview questions along with candidate applications before the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Bernstein mentioned we also have a high school student who is interested in serving as a contributing but non-voting member of the PRC. A new chairperson for the PRC is needed, since Commissioner Schommer will no longer be serving.  
**MOTION:** Schommer motioned to elect Steve Miller as the new chairperson of the Parks & Recreation Commission; Seconded by Garrett; passed unanimously.
- 9) **New Business:** None
- 10) **Old Business:** None

MOTION to adjourn.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 10, 2012; 6:00 PM; City Hall Council Chambers**

Adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Kristin Behrens*