



**City of Newport  
Park Board Meeting  
October 27, 2016**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

Board Members present – Emily White; Anita Perkins; Heidi Tweeten; John Graber

Board Members absent – Paul Hansen

Also present –Matt Yokiell, Executive Director; Dan Lund, Council Liaison

**3. APPROVAL OF PARK BOARD MINUTES**

**A. Park Board Minutes of September 22, 2016 Regular Meeting**

**Motion by Perkins, seconded by Graber, to approve the September 22, 2016 minutes as presented. With 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, the motion carried.**

**4. SUMMARY OF 2016 GOALS**

The Park Board discussed the 2016 goals. Updates are as follows:

- **Adopt-a-Park volunteer recruiting** - This is an ongoing effort. The Park Board will ask Renee to advertise in the spring newsletter.
- **Interpretive piece at Loveland Park** - This will be removed from the goals.
- **Garlic mustard pull at Bailey School Forest** - Susan Lindoo would like to continue this in May 2017.
- **Loveland Park invasive survey** - Susan Lindoo is continuing to work on this.
- **Community tree trek** - Heidi has worked with a couple individuals to create a list of species in Bailey School Forest and the signs. This will continue in 2017.
- **Solar panels** - These are in place and will be removed from the goals.

Heidi Tweeten asked if the City could turn the ice skating rink at Loveland Park into a dog park. She noted that the City would need to install a double gate and that she looked into insurance rates for the City as well. The Park Board asked Executive Director Yokiell to look into this and bring back proposals to them for consideration.

**Motion by Tweeten, seconded by Graber, to direct staff to explore the idea of turning the ice skating rink at Loveland Park into a summer dog park. With 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, the motion carried.**

**5. BUCKTHORN REMOVAL DAY**

Buckthorn Removal day is on Saturday, October 27th at Bailey School Forest from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. There is a large group from Lake Middle School. Refreshments will be provided.

**6. WINTER FAMILY FUN NIGHT**

Winter Family Fun Night will be on Saturday, January 28, 2017 at Lions Park from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. There will be a fire ring, cookies and hot chocolate, games, and music. Chairperson White will ask Renee to place it in the newsletter and contact the local papers and cable commission.

## 7. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT-

**Chairperson White** - A couple of us were just at the Grove Street Overlook where Newport on the Move had a celebration for the flood markers and placed toppers on them. They have the 10 highest floods in Newport. On one side they show the year and on another side, they show the elevation. The markers are covered in mosaics. It looks beautiful down there. Pauline Schottmuller had spent a lot of time on the overlook in the summer. Newport on the Move also finished libraries on a stick. They are at Loveland, Busy Beaver Park, Pioneer Park, Lions Park, and the Library.

## 8. BOARD REPORTS

**A. Anita Perkins** - Nothing to report.

**B. Heidi Tweeten** - When new homes are built or something, there is money that comes in that is designated for park purposes and I think we should keep a tally of that and see where the money goes.

**Councilman Lund** - It goes into the Park Fund and those numbers are in our monthly budget documents. There is a lot of sentiment on the City Council that it would be more helpful to have more requests coming from the Park Board and your priorities. We could do a better job communicating to the budgets and what we expect to be able to spend. That is money that comes in. I think it's a minor part of the Parks budget.

**Heidi Tweeten** - I would love to see that on the agenda. Maybe we can talk about that each month. I don't know how to spend the parks money.

**Chairperson White** - In the past, we did have a prioritized list of things that we wanted to see done in the parks. We haven't done that in a couple years. We could put together a list next year for the City Council to review. Let's all think of things for that list. We could do a workshop in early 2017.

**Heidi Tweeten** - I would like to see us discuss what was spent from the Parks fund monthly.

**Councilman Lund** - I'm not sure, I think the accountant could do that. From my perspective, a priority list is good but you don't want to bring it to the Council until you decide that you have a budget and want to do it.

**Chairperson White** - Maybe we could ask Renee to look up that old list.

**C. Paul Hansen** - Not present to report.

**D. John Graber** - Nothing to report.

## 9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**Executive Director Yokiel** - We did get the right-of-way permit for the community garden's new location at 4th Avenue and 15th Street. I'll try and give you updates on big purchases for the parks moving forward.

**Heidi Tweeten** - I can stop in the front office too and see how we can get that monthly budget.

**Chairperson White** - The picnic tables look great.

**Councilman Lund** - One thing I mentioned earlier in the year is that at some point, we'll need a field reservation policy for the ball fields. Up until this point, it's been informal but I think it's a good goal to create a formal policy as usage increases. Woodbury doesn't have enough fields and there's some talk with working with them on using our fields.

**Heidi Tweeten** - Who at Woodbury handles that?

**Councilman Lund** - We have a copy of their policy and politically charged. I think ours could be less complicated. This is a big issue for most communities and I think Newport is unusual in that we don't have a policy. I don't think it should be a first come, first serve policy.

**Anita Perkins** - Are you thinking that it would be our job to fill in the spots?

**Councilman Lund** - Maybe, depending on the policy you come up with.

**Heidi Tweeten** - Is there someone who wants to take that under their wing?

**Antia Perkins** - It doesn't sound like we should be doing that.

**Councilman Lund** - Maybe it would be good to look at Woodbury's policy first and go through that at a workshop. It's not an immediate need.

**Chairperson White** - I added it to our list.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Graber, seconded by Tweeten, to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. With 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, the motion carried.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emily White, Chairperson

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Eisenbeisz  
Assistant to the City Administrator