



**City of Newport  
Park Board Workshop Meeting  
January 26, 2017**

**1. ROLL CALL**

Board Members present – Emily White; Anita Perkins; Heidi Tweeten; Jared Flewellen

Board Members absent – John Graber

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

**2. WINTER FAMILY FUN NIGHT**

The Park Board discussed the Winter Family Fun Night that is taking place on January 28, 2017 at Lions Park at 6:00 p.m. The event will have ice skating, refreshments, a fire, tug-of-war, bowling, etc.

**3. DISCUSSION REGARDING SCHOOL DISTRICT EVENT PROPOSAL**

The Park Board discussed the School District's event proposal as outlined in the January 26, 2017 Park Board workshop packet. The Park Board suggested having this event at Pioneer Park.

**4. PARK BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Park Board discussed the Park Board ordinance and the responsibilities that are outlined in them. Mayor Lund stated that he will be requesting that the City Council change his appointment to the Park Board to be an ex-officio, non-voting member because that is what the Code states. Mayor Lund would like to be ex-officio because he would like to get more out of the Park Board and doesn't feel he can if he's considered a liaison only. Chairperson White noted that the reason for the liaison policy was because in 2005, the Park Board members were ready to walk out because the City Council liaison was overstepping their boundaries. Mayor Lund noted that he would like the Park Board to do more than events such as scheduling the ball fields, park planning, etc. Chairperson White believes the scheduling is a staff responsibility, not a Park Board responsibility. Jared Flewellen noted that in cities that he's worked for in the past, the Mayor and Council provide the Park Board with direction on goals and projects. In the past, the Newport Athletic Association handled the reservations for fields. However, the only member of the Newport Athletic Association wants to hand it over to City staff to handle.

**5. 2017 GOALS AND PRIORITIES**

The Park discussed the 2017 goals and priorities as outlined in the January 26, 2017 Park Board workshop packet. The Park Board discussed amending the following items:

- Removed the interpretive piece at Loveland Park on the goals due to little interest
- Added looking at alternatives for the hedge around Pioneer Park on the goals
- Establishing a budget process for Park Board events
- Removed the native grasses at the pedestrian landings
- Added looking at restoring the prairie in Bailey School Forest
- Newport on the Move will bring forward a proposal to update the warming house at Lions Park, installing fences around trees at Bailey School Forest, and starting a donate box for ice skates for kids
- Added having staff members come in to discuss the process for marketing, budgeting, maintenance, etc. and updating the Parks webpage

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Eisenbeisz  
Assistant to the City Administrator