

PARPRO  
Meeting Minutes  
Eau Claire Parks and Recreation Department  
Hobbs Ice Center  
Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – 10:30am

**Members Present:** Justin Casperson, Ben Steinbach (Marshfield), Chad Schooley (Wood County), Debra Goldbach, Erin Turner (Altoona), Gary Barnett (Menomonie), Kale Proksch (School District of Menomonie), Dan Wick, Tyler Ketterhagen, Marcus Aumann (Onalaska), Steven Peterson (Black River Falls), David Wierzba (MSA), Bob Stephens, Dan Fiorenza, Andy Sims, Karyn Powers (Marathon/Wausau), Bill Faherty (CBS<sup>2</sup>), Carrie Ottum, Chad Duerkop, Dawn Comte (Eau Claire)

**I. Introductions**

**II. Approval of minutes from April 22, 2015 meeting in Onalaska.** Ben Steinbach made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Dan Wick second. All present voting aye.

**III. WPRA Section Updates**

**Recreation Section:** Sara Hudson sent email correspondence: Registration for Spring Workshop is available. This year's event will have a joint tour with the Park section of the Leach Amphitheater and Riverwalk in Oshkosh. Hotel rooms are blocked off under the WPRA until February 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Parks Section:** Ben Steinbach reported and previewed the Park track at the upcoming Spring workshop. Reminder that all section award nominations are due by May 1.

**Aquatic Section:** Chad Duerkop reported May 20<sup>th</sup> is the date for the upcoming Aquatic Seminar being hosted in Sun Prairie. Further details will be coming out.

**Legislative:** Chad Schooley didn't have any pending issues to share. Reviewed the LWCF 3-year spending bill.

**WPRA Board of Directors:** Chad Schooley encouraged individuals to become involved in WPRA as much as possible. Looking for PARPRO nominees to serve on the board starting in 2017. Discussed the different projects that the board is working on this year.

**IV. Round Table Discussion Topics**

**Unemployment Law Change:** No real concerns expressed with the new requirements of job searches for workers seeking unemployment compensation.

**Recreation Software:** Discussion on Eau Claire and Onalaska displeasure with Active net, and switching to Max Solutions.

**Seasonal Hiring problems:** Many of us are in the same boat having difficulties recruiting seasonal workers. Discussion of flex scheduling, working with high school or technical school for recruiting/curriculum. Some offer payment for certification costs associated with aquatics.

**Discussion on Pay Scales and Structures**

**Increasing participation at PARPRO meetings:** Items discussed for increasing attendance were: always holding in a central location (Eau Claire, Onalaska, LaCrosse), having more speakers come to the meetings, hold Round table discussions with topics shown in the

agenda, and have agenda come out early. Possibly have training or tours of host city facilities. Possibly have CEU's tied to training/sessions.

**Summer Meals Program:** Discussed which communities offered it and who ran the program (P&R Department, School, Boys and Girls Club, etc.)

**V. Discuss 2016 Meeting locations and dates**

March 23, 2016 Onalaska will host, and will be combined with a Service, Equipment and Products Trade show at the Omni Center.

September 28, 2016 Black River Falls to host and provide tour of brand new Lunda Center

**VI. Lunch Provided by Eau Claire Staff**

**VII. Tour of Hobbs Ice Center**