



# PARPRO REGION I

HOSTED BY:  
*Marshfield Parks & Recreation Department*  
Wildwood Station Pavilion  
1800 S. Roddis Avenue, Marshfield, WI 54449

## Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 Meeting Minutes

**Members Present:** Chad Duerkop and Carrie Ottum (Eau Claire Parks, Recreation & Forestry), Cedric Lechleimer, Dan Fiorenza, and Karyn Powers (Wausau and Marathon Parks, Recreation & Forestry) Justin Casperson, Ben Steinbach, and Amy Beauchamp (Marshfield Parks and Recreation), Todd Tracler (MSA Professional Services), Steve Peterson (Black River Falls Parks and Recreation), Gary Barnett (Menomonie Parks and Recreation), Chad Schooley (Wood County Parks and Forestry), Sara Hudson (Ashland Parks and Recreation).

1. **Meeting called to order at 10:37am**
  - a. Introductions
2. **Approval of minutes from September 26, 2016 meeting in Black River Falls.** Ben Steinbach made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Chad Schooley second. All present voted aye.
3. **Overview of Marshfield Parks & Recreation Department**

Justin Casperson gave an overview of Marshfield Parks & Recreation Department. Marshfield Parks & Rec. Dept. has 9 full-time employees who oversee and operate the Wildwood Zoo, Hefko Outdoor Pool, 18 parks, 7 ball diamonds, 2 community centers and maintain 16 miles of trails. Potential upcoming projects include a new outdoor pool and maintenance building at the zoo.
4. WPRAR Sections Updates
  - a. **Recreation Section: Sara Hudson**
    - i. 2017 WPRAR Conference call for proposals for speakers/presenters
    - ii. Meeting with Curt Erickson regarding Spring Workshop
    - iii. Submit nominations to Sara for Recreation Section Professional and Young Professional Awards
  - b. **Parks Section: Steve Peterson**
    - i. Discussed potential 2017 WPRAR Conference topics: Storm Water Issues, Housing Development by Parks, Dog Parks & Disc Golf Construction, Sustainable Energy, Ice Age Trail Alliance, Park Tech Apps, Park Designs, and Outdoor Rinks.
  - c. **Aquatic Section: Chad Duerkop**
    - i. Discussed recent aquatics workshops held around the state. Good ideas to incorporate.
    - ii. Speaks for 2017 Spring Workshop finalized.
    - iii. New American Red Cross Lifeguard Curriculum.
  - d. **WPRAR Board of Directors: Carrie Ottum**
    - i. New WPRAR website launched
    - ii. WPRAR looking into rebranding
    - iii. Student Advisor position on hold
    - iv. Job Center –new options
    - v. Ticket program

5. Discussion:

a. **Recreation Management Software**

- i. Eau Claire just launched Max Galaxy in September 2016. Most communities have Active Net or Rec Pro.

b. **Social Media**

- i. Facebook very popular for posting videos, photos, and program/service updates and cancellations. Cedric Lechleimer (intern with Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Rec. & Forestry) is doing research on what social media outlets are most effective.
- ii. Karyn Powers shared some area technical colleges have ambassador programs in which students gain work experience for minimum wage, which could be someone to maintain the social media websites.

c. **Concessions discussion**

- i. Marshfield: User groups run concessions, city pays utilities
- ii. Wausau: They operate 5 sites and have a concessions manager
- iii. Black River Falls-User groups run concessions and contract services at pool
- iv. Menomonie: Contract out services at pool and department makes 18%. Baseball Association oversees concessions at baseball facility. City does major maintenance and pays utilities.
- v. Eau Claire: Oversees 4 sites. Has Concessions Operations Specialist.

d. **Region 1 Administrative Support Annual Meeting**

- i. Interest in One Day Workshop with speaker and roundtable either end of January/February or early October.

e. **Geese Management**

- i. Gary Barnett asked how other communities are managing geese. Eau Claire has parks staff who oil eggs and do round ups. Can be expensive and time consuming.
- ii. Other communities have problems with the public feeding the geese and also high bacteria levels in the water at their public beaches.

6. **2017 Region 1 Meeting Schedule and Locations**

- i. Menomonie Parks & Recreation Department: Wednesday, March 29, 2017
- ii. Wausau & Marathon County Parks, Recreation & Forestry, Wednesday, September 27, 2017

7. **Meeting adjourned at 12:30pm**