

Parks Consensus Meeting
6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Monday, April 27, 2009
Oshkosh Public Library

League approved a study to update the local Parks and Recreation position at the 2007 and 2008 annual meetings. A parks committee was formed to review the position. The committee visited and evaluated all city and area parks, researched various issues, hosted two Food for Thought lunch programs with the city arborist and the city's storm water utility engineer, and met with local planning and park staff.

Following are the consensus questions. Supporting information can be found on our Web site and also will be forwarded for those who have email, and mailed to those without email. Please print out and review the information and come to the meeting prepared to update the position for adoption at the annual meeting.

Consensus Questions

The consensus is divided into two sections.

Part I. Existing Position. Review each statement of the existing position. Should the statement (1) remain as is (2) be revised, or (3) be eliminated?

Part II. New Issues. These topics are partially or not covered by our existing position. Review each statement. (1) Do you agree with it? (2) Are there other issues to be addressed?

Existing Parks and Recreation Position*

The Oshkosh Area League of Women Voters supports adequate park and recreational facilities to meet local and areawide needs.

- A. Promote provisions for parks wherever new areas are subdivided.
- B. Encourage alternate methods of financing park acquisition.
- C. Support protection of park areas from encroachment.
- D. Support acquisition of new park land; emphasis on preserving and restoring natural features of acquired and existing parks; implementation of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.
- E. Encourage inclusion of hiking and biking trails in parks; development of a recreational trail plan.
- F. Support continuation of the Parks Advisory Board.
- G. Encourage development of marine facilities to accommodate many types of craft.

New Issues

- 1. Support adequate funding for park maintenance, improvements and acquisition.
- 2. Promote cooperative park-related activities among the city, school district, county and towns and encourage regional facilities and town parks where feasible.
- 3. Ensure environmentally sound maintenance and management practices.
- 4. Support an aggressive urban reforestation program.
- 5. Maintain attractive and clear signage where appropriate.
- 6. Support a comprehensive events policy that considers neighborhood needs.
- 7. Support equitable distribution and maintenance of facilities in all parks.
- 8. Ensure availability of adequate information about park and recreation facilities.
- 9. Support timely updating and implementation of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.
- 10. Support interdepartmental cooperative planning between Parks, Community Development and Public Works where their missions overlap (e.g. tree planting, parks acquisition, storm water pollution reduction)
- 11. Promote public access to the waterfront wherever possible.