

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
Park and Recreation Commission Members
FROM: Bill Waller, City Administrator
DATE: February 7, 2024
RE: Meeting Minutes
February 5, 2024

The La Crescent Park and Recreation Commission met at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, February 5, 2024, in the Wieser Park Pavilion at Wieser Park. The following members were present: Jon Steffes, Paul McLellan, Maseray Bangura, Patti Martell, Marge Loch-Wouters, Diana Adamski and Sarah Wetterlin. Also in attendance were Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner, Chris Fortsch, Tyler Benish, and Bill Waller.

1. It was the consensus of the Commission to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2023 Park and Recreation Commission meeting as presented.
2. The Commission discussed the proposed dog park project, and reviewed the draft of a site plan for a dog park located adjacent to Chestnut Street. Discussion followed from members of the Commission, and input and comments were received from individuals that attended the meeting. Representatives from the DeLacy Family Foundation were in attendance at the meeting, and asked several questions regarding the Chestnut Street plan and the earlier plan located adjacent to Stoney Point Road. Foundation representatives indicated that if the City selects the Chestnut Street location as the site for the dog park, the Foundation would need to re-evaluate the Foundation's financial commitment to the project. Following further discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to recommend to the City Council that the dog park be located at the Chestnut Street site.
3. An update was provided on the 2024 summer recreation season. The Commission was informed that due to the availability of lifeguards, the school parties that are normally held when the aquatic center opens may need to be cancelled, and that the opening of the aquatic center may also be pushed back by a few days. The availability of lifeguards will also prohibit evening swim lessons, and will require that the aquatic center close at 5:00pm on weekends. The Commission discussed the hourly rate of pay for lifeguards, and is recommending that the City increase the rate of pay for lifeguards and reimburse lifeguards at the end of the season for the costs associated with obtaining and maintaining their certification as a lifeguard.
4. The next Park & Recreation Commission meeting will be March 18, 2024. The meeting will be held at the Wieser Park Pavilion.
5. There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:43 pm.

