

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
Park and Recreation Commission Members
FROM: Bill Waller, City Administrator
DATE: April 19, 2023
RE: Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2023

The La Crescent Park and Recreation Commission met at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, April 17, 2023, in the City Council Chambers at the La Crescent City Hall. The following members were present: Jon Steffes, Paul McLellan, Maseray Bangura, Patti Martell, Marge Loch-Wouters, and Diana Adamski. Commission member Sarah Wetterlin was not in attendance. Also in attendance were Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner, Chris Fortsch, Betsy Knowles, and Bill Waller.

1. It was the consensus of the Commission to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2023 Park and Recreation Commission meeting as presented.
2. The Commission reviewed an agreement with MSA to complete an ADA access audit and transition plan for the City's park and recreation facilities. Carter Arndt from MSA was in attendance at the meeting via Zoom to review the agreement. It was the consensus of the Park and Recreation Commission to recommend to the City Council that the agreement with MSA be approved to complete the ADA access audit and transition plan.
3. Summer Recreation Director Jon Steffes reviewed the programming for the upcoming 2023 summer recreation season, and discussed staffing levels for various programs. Discussion followed regarding limiting the initial sign-up for recreation programming to residents of ISD # 300 School District. It was agreed that the initial sign-up for each 2023 summer recreation programming session would be limited to residents of ISD #300, and that non-residents would be allowed to sign up for summer recreation programming at only the second sign-up date initially, and thereafter at the completion of the sign-up period for residents of ISD #300.
4. The Commission was updated on the Wieser Park Improvement Project, including the construction of the new park pavilion. Discussion followed regarding the rental fee for the new park pavilion and a reservation form. It was agreed that staff would prepare a draft reservation form that would be included on the agenda for the May Park & Recreation Commission meeting.
5. The Commission reviewed and discussed a draft of a new City ordinance for Parks, Playgrounds and Public Grounds. It was recommended that language be added to the ordinance prohibiting the sale of liquor without the appropriate liquor license and approval by the La Crescent City Council. It was agreed that the ordinance would be revised and added to the agenda for the May Park & Recreation Commission meeting for further review and discussion.

6. The Commission discussed trail maintenance and the recommendation from a meeting of community volunteers and staff to recommend that trail maintenance activities be coordinated by the City's Sustainability Coordinator, and that a work plan and time frame for each activity would be prepared and submitted to the City's Natural Resource Advisory Group for concurrence prior to the work being completed.
7. The Commission reviewed the Eagle Scout project to construct a dog park adjacent to South 7th Street.
8. Information was presented regarding the City's Safe Routes to School grant application that was awarded a \$223,280 grant from the Minnesota Department of Transportation for a 2027 improvement project.
9. Information was presented regarding the fourth phase of the Wagon Wheel Trail Improvement Project which is the construction of a Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge over the west channel of the Mississippi River that is planned for construction in 2026.
10. The Commission was informed of the Natural Resource Advisory Groups volunteer day to pull garlic mustard at Vetsch Park that is planned for April 22, 2023.
11. Information was presented regarding data generated from the counter on the Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge that records bicyclist usage on a monthly and daily basis, and on the Bicycling around Minnesota event planned for La Crescent in August of 2023.
12. It was agreed that the next Park & Recreation Commission meeting would be May 15, 2023.
13. There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:20 pm.