

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members  
Park and Recreation Commission Members  
FROM: Bill Waller, City Administrator  
DATE: September 27, 2023  
RE: Meeting Minutes  
September 20, 2023

The La Crescent Park and Recreation Commission met at 5:30 p.m., on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, in the Wieser Park Pavilion at Wieser Park. 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, Jason Ludwigson, and Bill Waller.

1. It was the consensus of the Commission to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2023 Park and Recreation Commission meeting as presented.
2. The Commission was updated on the status of the dog park project. Work was stopped at the location adjacent to South 7<sup>th</sup> Street, and the City Council requested that the Park & Recreation Commission evaluate another potential site and bring back a recommendation to a future City Council meeting. The Commission was informed that a map was being prepared of a location adjacent to Stoney Point Road and North 1<sup>st</sup> Street, and that adjacent land owners be provided notice of the October 30, 2023 Park & Recreation Commission meeting at which time the project would be reviewed and consideration given to a new location for the dog park.
3. The Commission reviewed the Wieser Park Improvement Project, including the new pavilion, the new pickle ball courts, and the new parking lot and corresponding stormwater improvements. Administrative Assistant Chris Fortsch provided information at the meeting on the number of reservations for the new park pavilion.
4. Summer Recreation Director Jon Steffes reviewed the 2023 summer recreation programming and discussed the upcoming 2024 summer recreation season. Discussion followed regarding the challenge to find and retain staff for all of the summer recreation programming offered by the City.
5. The Commission reviewed the updated draft of a City ordinance for Parks, Playgrounds, and Public Grounds. The Commission is recommending that the ordinance be presented to the City Council for review and adoption.
6. Sustainability Coordinator Jason Ludwigson reviewed with the Commission the solar projects that are being worked on at various park facilities.
7. The Commission reviewed information on the Blue Lake canoe/kayak access, proposed improvements by Winona County at Apple Blossom Overlook Park, and the fourth phase of the Wagon Wheel Improvement project.
8. The next Park & Recreation Commission meeting will be October 30, 2023. The meeting will be held at the Wieser Park Pavilion.

9. There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 pm.