



Board of Park Commissioners

Regular Meeting

335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
<https://www.deperewi.gov/>

Final Minutes

Thursday, March 17, 2022

6:30 PM

Council Chambers and Virtual

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Board Member Ryan Jennings

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Melissa Thiel Collar	Board Member	Present	
Ryan Jennings	Board Member	Present	
Jim Kneiszel	Board Member	Present	
Amy Chandik Kunding	Aldersperson	Present	
Shana Defnet Ledvina	Aldersperson	Present	
Dean Raasch	Aldersperson	Present	
Randy Soquet	Board Member	Excused	
Hundamo Lovell	Teen Advisor	Excused	
Christopher Soquet	Teen Advisor	Excused	

Others Present:

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry

Don Melichar, Park Superintendent/City Forester

Grace Lahtela, Administrative Assistant

II. Public comment upon matters not on the agenda. Comments made during the public comment period shall pertain only to matters under the jurisdiction of the Board of Park Commissioners. §6-3(f) DPMC

None

III. Items

1. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Board of Park Commissioners Minutes from the February 17, 2022 meeting.

Aldersperson Raasch moved to approve the Board of Park Commissioners minutes from the February 17, 2022, meeting, seconded by James Kneiszel. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dean Raasch, Aldersperson
SECONDER:	Jim Kneiszel, Board Member
AYES:	Thiel Collar, Jennings, Kneiszel, Kunding, Defnet Ledvina, Raasch
EXCUSED:	Randy Soquet

2. Consideration and Possible Action on Request from Property Owner at 478/480 N. Good Hope Road to have Trees Removed from Right of Way.

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry explained that the property owners are here at the meeting tonight and are requesting trees to be removed from the terrace of a duplex they recently purchased. The owners would like the two trees removed due to the sidewalk heaving and for expansion of the driveway. The property

owners worked with the City Forester to have the two trees removed, but the trees do not meet city policy requirements for removal, so the request was denied.

Alderson Raasch moved to open the meeting at 6:35 pm, seconded by Alderson Defnet Ledvina. Upon vote, the motion passed.

Timothy Jonet explained that he purchased the duplex last year and this duplex is one of the last properties on the stretch of road that is still not updated. The driveway is very narrow, so he has been working with Dennis in Building Inspection to see what is required to widen the driveway and make it larger. One of the requested trees will be near the new driveway, and the sidewalk is starting to heave by both trees. Mr. Jonet also explained that since the letter to the board was written, he spoke with the Engineering Department and the road is scheduled to be reconstructed in 2025. With the reconstruction, the water and sewer lines will probably be replaced. These utility services run very close to the south tree, which will probably require the tree to be removed at the time of reconstruction. The north tree is larger and appears to have more of a sidewalk heaving issue. Also, the terrace is elevated between the sidewalk and the road which causes icing on the sidewalk in the winter.

Alderson Raasch moved to close the meeting at 6:42 pm, seconded by James Kneiszel. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Alderson Chandik Kunding questioned what the replacement cycle was for sidewalks.

Alderson Raasch stated that he is also on the Board of Public Works which covers sidewalk replacements, and the cycle is 8 years.

Alderson Chandik Kunding questioned if the tree is removed with the street reconstruction, would it be replaced.

Don Melichar, City Forester explained that if trees are removed for a construction project, they could be replaced with project costs, if space exists and if the homeowner wants a new tree.

Melissa Theil Collar questioned if new sidewalks and driveway were installed, would there be any impact to the trees, or would they be weakened.

Don Melichar explained that there would be some impact to the tree roots with any construction around the tree, but just because you disturb the root system doesn't mean the tree will die.

James Kneiszel moved to follow the recommendation from the city Forester and keep the trees, seconded by Alderson Defnet Ledvina.

Discussion followed.

James Kneiszel commented that there have been so many trees lost from emerald ash borer, and many more will be removed, he feels the trees should be left up if there is nothing wrong with them.

Alderson Defnet Ledvina stated she is not comfortable with removing trees that are not dead and allowing homeowners to remove living terrace trees.

Alderson Raasch feels the best thing to do is to leave them and when the road construction comes through remove the trees then, if necessary. He supports city staff and agrees the trees should be left.

Ryan Jennings commented that he had an area of sidewalk that heaved due to tree roots. A contractor cut the root system back when the sidewalk was replaced, and the tree is now healthy.

Upon vote, the motion passed with a 5-1 vote, with Melissa Thiel Collar voting Nay.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [5 TO 1]
MOVER:	Jim Kneiszel, Board Member
SECONDER:	Shana Defnet Ledvina, Alderperson
AYES:	Jennings, Kneiszel, Kunding, Defnet Ledvina, Raasch
NAYS:	Melissa Thiel Collar
EXCUSED:	Randy Soquet

3. Consideration & Possible Action to Approve a \$500 Donation from De Pere Optimist Club for Easter Egg Hunt.*

Alderperson Defnet Ledvina move to accept a \$500 donation from the De Pere Optimist Club for the Easter Egg Hunt, seconded by Alderperson Chandik Kunding. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Shana Defnet Ledvina, Alderperson
SECONDER:	Amy Chandik Kunding, Alderperson
AYES:	Thiel Collar, Jennings, Kneiszel, Kunding, Defnet Ledvina, Raasch
EXCUSED:	Randy Soquet

4. Consideration & Possible Action to Accept a \$500 Donation from Optimist Club for Summer Camp T-shirts.*

Alderperson Raasch moved to accept a \$500 donation from the Optimist Club for Summer Camp t-shirts, seconded by Alderperson Chandik Kunding. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dean Raasch, Alderperson
SECONDER:	Amy Chandik Kunding, Alderperson
AYES:	Thiel Collar, Jennings, Kneiszel, Kunding, Defnet Ledvina, Raasch
EXCUSED:	Randy Soquet

5. Consideration & Possible Action to Select a Beer Distributor for the 2022 Beer Gardens.

Alderperson Raasch moved to approve Dean Distributing for the beer distributor for the 2022 beer gardens, seconded by Ryan Jennings.
Discussion followed.

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry explained that the theme for the beer gardens is local microbrews. The proposals from Kay and Dean are close, but Kay does carry most of the local microbrews. The nearest one that Dean carries is from Appleton, and that is the only local microbrewery that they have. Staff recommendation is to go with Kay Distributing because they carry most of the local breweries.

James Kneiszel questioned if it is possible to work directly with the breweries.

Marty Kosobucki explained that when we started the events, we tried to work directly with the breweries, but there are legal issues around it.

Alderperson Defnet Ledvina stated she likes the idea of the four local breweries that Kay has and would be in favor of Kay Distributing.

Ryan Jennings also stated that he is in favor of the local breweries.

James Kneiszel question if it is possible to work with both distributors.

Marty Kosobucki stated that it would be hard seeing that there are only three events.

James Kneiszel stated that with Kay being a De Pere business, he would recommend supporting Kay.

Alderson Raasch amended his original motion to approve Kay Distributing for the beer distributor for the 2022 beer gardens, Ryan Jennings agreed to the amendment.

Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dean Raasch, Alderson
SECONDER:	Ryan Jennings, Board Member
AYES:	Thiel Collar, Jennings, Kneiszel, Kunder, Defnet Ledvina, Raasch
EXCUSED:	Randy Soquet

6. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve 2022 WDNR Grant Application for Refurbishments to Perkofski Boat Docks.*

Alderson Raasch moved to approve a 2022 WDNR grant application for refurbishments to the Perkofski boat docks, seconded by James Kneiszel. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dean Raasch, Alderson
SECONDER:	Jim Kneiszel, Board Member
AYES:	Thiel Collar, Jennings, Kneiszel, Kunder, Defnet Ledvina, Raasch
EXCUSED:	Randy Soquet

7. Consideration & Possible Action to Approve Changes to Adult Basketball League Program.*

Amy Chandik Kunder moved to approve staff recommendation of option 4 for changes to the adult basketball league, seconded by Ryan Jennings.

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry explained that the changes listed as staff recommendation of Option 4 is to revise the adult basketball leagues to provide four officiated leagues and three un-officiated leagues; the new wage for officials will be \$40 for non-WIAA officials and \$45 for WIAA certified officials per game; and there would not be a team fee for the un-officiated league and there would be a \$550 team fee for the officiated league.

Upon vote, the above motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Amy Chandik Kunder, Alderson
SECONDER:	Ryan Jennings, Board Member
AYES:	Thiel Collar, Jennings, Kneiszel, Kunder, Defnet Ledvina, Raasch
EXCUSED:	Randy Soquet

8. 2021 Donation Listing.

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry explained that a donation summary is prepared every year to the Park Board and the summary for 2021 is provided. Ryan Jennings stated his appreciation for all the donations.

Melissa Thiel Collar questioned how the holiday light display at Voyageur Park did.

Marty Kosobucki stated that the event was a huge success and staff has started making plans for next year.

Marty Kosobucki stated that we are very fortunate in the amount of donations that we receive, and the impact these donations have on the community.

RESULT:	DISCUSSED
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9. Financial Statement for the De Pere Ice Center.

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry explained that the financials are to be provided quarterly. The last page of the financials is the breakdown of the surcharges that have been received from Brown County Ice Management. These surcharges were initiated to repay the chiller system repair bill. Once this is repaid, these funds will go into the Ice Arena Fund. From the summary provided, there were a lot of repairs that were done by Ice Management in the last year, but there are still many other repairs that need to be done.

Alderperson Defnet Ledvina questioned if the surcharge will continue to go up.

Marty Kosobucki explained that with the current policy, the surcharge is to remain at \$30 per hour.

Alderperson Raasch commented that the Ice Arena is getting to a point at either looking at replacing it or getting rid of it.

Marty Kosobucki stated that the biggest problem with the Ice Center is that the heating system in the floor is broke and they cannot locate where the leak is. The floor heating system is needed to keep the frost out of the ground, so the ice and building do not heave. With the system broken, the ice needs to be removed from the building every year, which makes the facility a part time rink. Previous estimates for replacing the heating system can in around \$1 million.

Marty Kosobucki stated he will have another discussion with Don Chilson about long term planning for the facility.

RESULT:	DISCUSSED
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IV. Staff Updates

None

V. Future Agenda Items

Alderperson Raasch requested staff investigate the cost of supplying softballs for the softball league. He has been informed that the City of De Pere's league is the most expensive league in the area and is the only league around that does not provide the softballs for the league.

Alderperson Defnet Ledvina questioned if the Jerry Hasenberg Jr. Memorial Fund has been established.

Marty Kosobucki explained that the one-year anniversary of Jerry's death is coming up on April 1st. The memorial tree fund is set to be advertised the last week of March to coincide with Spring tree planting and the anniversary of his accident.

VI. Adjournment

Melissa Thiel Collar moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm, seconded by Alderperson Defnet Ledvina. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Grace Lahtela