



Board of Park Commissioners

Regular Meeting

335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
www.deperewi.gov

Agenda

Thursday, June 19, 2025

6:30 PM

Council Chambers and Virtual

Pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 19.84, Notice is hereby given to the public that a meeting of the **Board of Park Commissioners** of the City of De Pere will be held on **June 19, 2025 at 6:30 PM** in the **COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 2ND FLOOR CITY HALL, 335 S. BROADWAY STREET. DE PERE.**

The Public or Members of the Board of Park Commissioners, which may count toward an official quorum, may attend the meeting either in person in the Council Chambers or telephonically or electronically via video conferencing or other appropriate technological means. Telephonic or electronic access to the meeting is provided below:

Computer/smart phone accessing <https://www.gotomeet.me/DePere>

OR

You can also dial in using your phone.
United States (Toll Free): [1 866 899 4679](tel:18668994679)
United States: [+1 \(312\) 757-3117](tel:+13127573117)
Access Code: 154-883-285

This meeting may also be rebroadcast on TV throughout the week and available on demand at <https://deperewi.portal.civicclerk.com/>.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment on 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
- III. Items
 1. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Board of Park Commissioners Minutes from the May 15, 2025 meeting.
 2. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the 2024-2025 Year End Financial Statements for the De Pere Ice Arena
 3. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve De Pere Youth Hockey Association (DPYH) Donation Proposal of up to \$50,000 for De Pere Ice Center Improvements *
 4. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Creation of a De Pere Ice Arena

Fundraising Committee *

5. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve Pool Facility Attendant Certification Reimbursement *

IV. Discussion Items

1. Discussion on New Park Name in the Waterview Heights Subdivision

V. Staff Updates

1. Staff Update on \$500 Tree Donation from American Transmission Company (ATC)
2. Thank You and Good Luck to Teen Advisor James Lyga

VI. Future Agenda Items

VII. Adjournment

Any person wishing to attend this meeting who, because of disability, requires special accommodations should contact the Clerk's office at 339-4050 by Noon, the previous day so that arrangements can be made.

Board Members	De Pere Youth Hockey
Alderspersons	De Pere Select Soccer
Mayor James Boyd	De Pere Area Chamber of Commerce
Kim Flom, City Manager	Definitely De Pere
Eric Erdman, Assistant City Attorney	Brown County Library – De Pere
Marty Kosobucki	TV & Radio Stations
Carey Danen, City Clerk	De Pere Rapides Youth Soccer
City Hall 1st and 2nd Floor	De Pere Baseball
De Pere Girls Softball	Christopher Thompson, De Pere School Dist.
Connor Mason, Teen Advisor	Jason Lau, WDP School District
James Lyga, Teen Advisor	Don Chilson, Ice Management
American Transmission Company	Cassie Brill De Pere Youth Hockey
	Brandon Bergner De Pere Youth Hockey

***All items marked with an asterisk will be forwarded to the Common Council.**



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

III.1

Request for Board of Park Commissioners
Action

MEETING DATE: June 19, 2025
DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation & Forestry
FROM: Grace Lahtela, Administrative Assistant
SUBJECT: Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Board of Park Commissioners Minutes from the May 15, 2025 meeting.
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff recommends approval of the minutes

ATTACHMENTS:
Draft Minutes 5-15-25



Board of Park Commissioners

Regular Meeting

Minutes

335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
www.deperewi.gov

Thursday, May 15, 2025

6:30 PM

City Hall, Council Chambers 335 S.
Broadway, De Pere, Wisconsin
54115

I. Call to Order

Present: Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy Kunding, James Lyga

Absent: Mike Eserkalm

Excused: Randy Soquet, Connor Mason

Others Present: Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry; Brian Christnovic, Park Superintendent; Kyle Rouce, Forestry Supervisor; Grace Lahtela, Administrative Assistant

II. Public Comment on 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 Chairperson of the Board of Park Commissioners

Aldersperson Chandik Kunding moved to elect Randy Soquet as Chairperson of the Board of Park Commissioners, seconded by Melissa Thiel Collar. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Amy Kunding
SECONDER:	Melissa Thiel Collar
AYES:	Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy Kunding

2. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Vice Chairperson of the Board of Park Commissioners

Aldersperson Defnet Ledvina moved to elect James Kneiszel as Vice Chairperson of the Board of Park Commissioners, seconded by Aldersperson Chandik Kunding. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Shana Ledvina
SECONDER:	Amy Kunding
AYES:	Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy

Kunding

- 3. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Board of Park Commissioners Minutes from the March 27, 2025 meeting.

Melissa Thiel Collar moved to approve the Board of Park Commissioners minutes from the March 27, 2025 meeting, seconded by Elizabeth McMasters. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Melissa Thiel Collar
SECONDER: Elizabeth McMasters
AYES: Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy Kunding

- 4. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve \$7,500 from an Anonymous Donor for Chairs for Community Center Meeting Rooms *

Aldersperson Chandik Kunding moved to accept a \$7,500 donation from an anonymous donor for chairs for the Community Center meeting rooms, seconded by Aldersperson Defnet Ledvina.

James Kneiszel questioned if there were earlier donations for this project. Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry, stated that Paula Rahn, Recreation Superintendent, has been working on donations to purchase the chairs for a while.

Upon vote, the above motion passed unanimously.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Amy Kunding
SECONDER: Shana Ledvina
AYES: Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy Kunding

- 5. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve a Fee Waiver Request from the De Pere Area Chamber of Commerce for the Nelson Family Pavilion for Art in the Park on June 28, 2025 *

This item was referred back to staff at the March 20, 2025 Board of Park Commissioners meeting.

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry, explained that staff spoke to the Legal Department regarding the fee waiver. Eric Erdman, Assistant City Attorney, provided the attached email regarding the fee waiver request. The recommendation from legal is not changing the fee waiver policy, but if the Park Board is interested in changing the fee, or waiving the fee, the suggestion would be to see how the city can become a sponsor of the event. Marty Kosobucki also stated that there is one difference between this event and other special events. With this event, a rain date is being provided free of charge.

If the Park Board is interested, staff could reach out to the Chamber to see about possibly becoming a sponsor of the event, but then staff would recommend removing the free rain date. If the Chamber wants to keep the free rain date, then staff would recommend charging for the park rental.

James Kneiszel questioned if this is a popular weekend. Marty Kosobucki stated that in June and July there are only four dates that the Nelson Family Pavilion is not rented or programmed.

Aldersperson Defnet Ledvina moved to leave the fee waiver policy as is and to deny the fee waiver request for Art in the Park, seconded by Melissa Thiel Collar.

Aldersperson Chandik Kundinger moved to open the meeting at 6:37 pm, seconded by Aldersperson Defnet Ledvina. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Logan Brecklin of the De Pere Area Chamber of Commerce, lead for Art in the Park, stated that the Foundation is an arm of the Chamber of Commerce and is putting on the event. The Foundation is a non-profit organization and any fees that are paid will be taken away from funds that are reinvested into the community or businesses. He stated that the sponsorship could work out as there is still some sponsorship opportunities available.

Aldersperson Chandik Kundinger moved to close the meeting at 6:40 pm, seconded by Elizabeth McMasters. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Upon vote, the above motion to leave the fee waiver policy as is and to deny the fee waiver request for Art in the Park passed unanimously. Marty Kosobucki clarified that the rain date should be provided at no charge.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Shana Ledvina
SECONDER:	Melissa Thiel Collar
AYES:	Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy Kundinger

6. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Third Quarter Financial Statements for the De Pere Ice Arena

Melissa Thiel Collar moved to approve the third quarter financial statements for the De Pere Ice Arena, seconded by James Kneiszel. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously, with Elizabeth McMasters abstaining.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Melissa Thiel Collar
SECONDER:	Jim Kneiszel
AYES:	Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Amy Kundinger
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	Elizabeth McMasters

7. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Bid from Bluemels, for \$57,460.00 for Project 25-12 Rainbow Park Playground Surfacing *

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry, explained that Bluemels has received the playground surfacing bids for the last 10–15 years. They are a very good contractor and good to work with. Unfortunately, there are not a lot of businesses that compete with them.

Aldersperson Chandik Kundinger moved to approve the bid from Bluemels for the Rainbow Park playground surfacing project, seconded by Aldersperson Defnet Ledvina. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
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MOVER:	Amy Kunding
SECONDER:	Shana Ledvina
AYES:	Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy Kunding

8. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Name of the New Park in Waterview Heights Subdivision

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry, stated that staff is not aware of any outside reasons to name the park anything other than Waterview Heights Park, but if the Park Board has any suggestions about someone or something that has value that falls into policy, it could be recommended.

James Kneiszel feels a better effort needs to be made to find unique park names. He is not in favor of naming a park after what the developer has named the subdivision, therefore naming the park. With the southern bridge being constructed and further development going on, the naming of parks will likely happen a few additional times and feels it requires further discussion. James Kneiszel verified that there was no reason for the naming to be done immediately, and that it could wait. Marty Kosobucki stated that improvements are being made to the designated park land but agreed that there is time to discuss the naming of the park.

James Kneiszel gave a recommendation for a park name. He stated that prior to the meeting he did a little research and found an individual named Henry J Cady who left his family farm at the age of 15 to fight in the war. This family farm was about half a mile from the new park. He is currently buried in the cemetery close to the park. After he was killed, there was a story that surfaced about him, and it was discovered that about 20% of the soldiers that went to fight the war were under the legal age of 18. He was a member of the De Pere Rifles company. This is an individual that lived very near the park, it is historical in nature, and there shouldn't be anyone offended by it. The naming of a new park gives us the opportunity to work with the Historical Society to see if there is a person that should be honored, and feels the naming of the park should be given more thought.

Marty Kosobucki stated it is up to the Park Board how they want to determine the park name. Marty Kosobucki cautioned going out to the public for suggestions because you will get many responses, and there may be ones suggested that the Park Board does not agree with. Marty Kosobucki stated that he likes the idea of naming the park after the subdivision, partly because it is easier for people to know where the park is located.

Melissa Thiel Collar stated she did not think of a different name for the park, but she lives near the subdivision and Waterview Heights Park made sense. She stated that she recently went through the naming of a new school and there is a lot of thought and reason that goes into naming a facility. Given Jim's recommendation, she suggested that staff look into this individual and do some vetting to see if it would be an appropriate name and bring this information back to the next Park Board meeting.

Aldersperson Chandik Kunding questioned how many parks there are and how many are named after women. Marty Kosobucki stated there are 27 different parks, and he is not sure how all the parks got their names or the history of the parks. Aldersperson Chandik Kunding feels that there are probably some women in De Pere that have done some great things and that a park should be named after a woman.

Elizabeth McMasters questioned if any other parks were named after subdivisions. She stated that she isn't aware of any that are named after subdivisions in De Pere and that most have been named something

different in some way. Elizabeth stated she is aware of how developer contracts happen, which are great for the community, but their families are not the ones that are playing in the parks.

Marty Kosobucki stated that staff could go back and do some research on the current park names, but he would also suggest that the Park Board bring back suggestions to the next meeting.

Elizabeth McMasters moved to refer this item back to staff for further research, seconded by Alderperson Chandik Kunding. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	Referred Back to Staff
MOVER:	Elizabeth McMasters
SECONDER:	Amy Kunding
AYES:	Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy Kunding
NAYS:	None

9. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Southwest Park Master Plan

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry, explained that most of Southwest Park is already developed, but previously the Park Board requested staff to review the park and put together a master plan to develop the area that is left. Staff looked at past survey results of what residents were interested in and current trends to form the attached plan. Staff suggestions are for a miniature disc golf course to be developed around the Gandrud Field. There is not enough room for a full nine-hole course, but 6 holes would probably fit. Staff would also suggest looking at adding a pickleball court, along with a universal basketball court, just south of the main parking lot and adding another auxiliary parking lot. There is also interest in making the soccer fields into game fields, which would require ADA access. Marty Kosobucki explained that there is a black line on the map that goes into the ravine, which represents a future trail. The addition of this trail would allow another small subdivision in De Pere, that does not have a park, easier access to Southwest Park.

James Kneiszel commented that the Parks Department has done a very good job utilizing the area at Southwest Park.

James Lyga, Teen Advisor, questioned if the practice disc golf course would be limited in holes, or would it be a shorter par 2 course. Marty Kosobucki stated the thought would be for it to be similar to Legion Parks but maybe only have 6 or 7 holes.

Alderperson Chandik Kunding moved to approve the Southwest Park Master Plan, seconded by Elizabeth McMasters. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Amy Kunding
SECONDER:	Elizabeth McMasters
AYES:	Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy Kunding

10. Consideration and Possible Action to Redirect Voyageur Dumpster Funds to Purchase a Garbage Picking Unit *

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry, explained that in the 2025 budget there is \$75,000 allocated for installing a dumpster at Voyageur Park. Instead of installing the dumpster, staff

would like to purchase a garbage picking unit that would get installed in the box of a pick-up truck. This unit is half the cost of the dumpster project and if it works as stated, the dumpster would not be needed. Staff is requesting to have the funds allocated to the dumpster project redirected to the purchase of this unit, so it could be purchased now instead of waiting until next year. If this unit does not work as stated, then staff would need to request funding again for the dumpster.

James Lyga, Teen Advisor, questioned if this truck would need to go to the landfill to dump. Marty Kosobucki stated that it would either need to go to the dump or it would need to be dumped at the Municipal Service Center in the rubbish bin and brought to the dump when the rubbish bin is emptied. Current plans would be for it to go directly to the dump.

James Kneiszel moved to redirect the Voyageur Park dumpster funds to purchase a garbage picking unit, seconded by Melissa Thiel Collar. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Kneiszel
SECONDER:	Melissa Thiel Collar
AYES:	Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy Kunding

11. Consideration and Possible Action to Construct a Turnaround on Washington Street at Braisher Park *

Aldersperson Defnet Ledvina moved to approve the project to construct a turnaround on Washington Street at Braisher Park, seconded by Aldersperson Chandik Kunding. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Shana Ledvina
SECONDER:	Amy Kunding
AYES:	Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy Kunding

12. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve WisDOT Temporary Limited Easement at Wells Park for the STH 32 / STH 57 repavement project *

James Kneiszel moved to approve the WisDOT Temporary Limited Easement at Wells Park for the STH 32 / STH 57 re-pavement project, seconded by Elizabeth McMasters. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Kneiszel
SECONDER:	Elizabeth McMasters
AYES:	Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy Kunding

13. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve Nature Center Park Pocket Forest Revitalization Project

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry, stated that there is a representative from the school online and Kyle Rouce, Forestry Supervisor, is at the meeting if you have any questions.

Kyle Rouce, Forestry Supervisor, explained that 2–3 years ago, staff cleared out the buckthorn, honeysuckle and invasives from the area. At that time, the area was very open and looked good. Currently, there is some grow back occurring, which is common for invasive species. This project includes working with a Certified Chemical Applicator, to apply a herbicide to help with the invasives, as well as planting native plants to help minimize invasive growth.

James Kneiszel questioned if chemicals would be used to treat the area. Kyle Rouce explained that the chemical being used is a cut stump herbicide and there will be a certified chemical applicator there that will do the application. James Kneiszel questioned if there would still be a walking path. Kyle Rouce stated that yes, there will still be a walking path.

Elizabeth McMaster moved to approve the Nature Center Park Forest Revitalization Project, seconded by Alderperson Chandik Kundinger. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Elizabeth McMasters
SECONDER:	Amy Kundinger
AYES:	Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy Kundinger

14. Consideration and Possible Action on Continuation of Memorial Bench Swing Option

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry, explained that we have had a memorial bench program for quite a while, and recently we added the option of a swinging memorial bench. Staff had a request for another swinging bench, and found out the vendor is no longer making the style of swinging bench we have. Staff did find another option; however, it does not look as nice as the previous one. Staff is looking for a recommendation if we should discontinue offering the swinging bench option, or offer the less aesthetically pleasing bench.

Elizabeth McMasters questioned where the plaque would go. Marty Kosobucki explained that on the new bench it would be located on the back of the bench like the other memorial benches, but the old style is located on the top in the frame.

Elizabeth McMasters questioned what the cost difference is between the benches. Brian Christnovich, Park Superintendent, stated that we offer two different stationary memorial benches that are between \$1,300 - \$1,800 depending on the style and the swinging bench is around \$2,100.

James Kneiszel questioned if there is interest in the swinging benches. Brian Christnovich stated yes, we currently have a couple of people interested in one.

Melissa Thiel Collar questioned if staff has a recommendation and if they like the new look. Brian Christnovich stated that he really doesn't like the look of the new bench. He feels that there is not the cosmetic value that was offered on the previous bench. Melisa Thiel Collar questioned if the staff were OK with the new-style bench being in the park. Brian Christnovich stated he could go either way, but nothing available looks like what we currently offer.

Elizabeth McMasters questioned how many customers currently want the swinging bench. Brian Christnovich stated that there are currently two individuals interested in a swinging bench, but prior to this year the most recent one was installed in 2021.

James Kneiszel questioned if staff would continue to look for a different bench that is more comparable

to the existing one. Brian Christnovich stated that he contacted the manufacturer, and they stopped making that style of bench due to COVID and lack of demand. There is a slight possibility that they could offer the bench again.

James Kneiszel questioned what staff is looking for tonight. Marty Kosobuck stated that the Park Board can elect to stay with the current swinging memorial bench design and not offer any until this design, or a similar one, can be located, or decide to change the design of the swinging memorial bench.

Aldersperson Chandik Kundinger questioned if it would be worth the time to see if we ordered a number of the benches if the manufacturer would produce them. Brian Christnovich stated that he has a call into the manufacturer already to see if this is an option. Currently, we have not been able to get an answer from the company. Aldersperson Chandik Kundinger mentioned it might be good to just pause the swinging memorial bench option until we can verify if the current style bench can be purchased.

Marty Kosobucki verified that it appears that the Park Board is interested in staying with the current design swinging bench until we know for certain there is no option of getting that style of bench.

Aldersperson Defnet Ledvina moved to continue with the current style of swinging memorial bench and to not offer a different design, seconded by Aldersperson Chandik Kundinger. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Shana Ledvina
SECONDER:	Amy Kundinger
AYES:	Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy Kundinger

IV. Discussion Items

1. 2024 Forestry Report

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry, stated that there have been some significant changes within the Forestry Department. Kyle Rouce was hired as the Forestry Supervisor and Brian Christnovich was hired as the Park Superintendent and both were previously arborists with the city. Staff wanted to bring the Forestry Report to the meeting to show the progress that is being made. Over the past 15+ years, there has been a 5-year backlog of pruning within the department. With the change in the department structure, and the addition of another arborist to the Forestry Department, this backlog has almost been eliminated. The city is very fortunate to have these two individuals on staff.

Melissa Thiel Collar stated that the Forestry Department pruned her entire neighborhood, and it looks fantastic. She stated that American Boulevard always looks terrible and questioned if there was a plan to remove everything from that median and start over. Brian Christnovich stated that currently there are no plans to do anything on American Boulevard. Staff did go through that area two times last year to prune the trees and remove sucker growth. Brian Christnovich stated that another area of concern is Ridgeway Boulevard. Kyle Rouce stated that he isn't sure who designed or planted American and Ridgeway Boulevard, but it is a poor planting design. The trees should have been a center line planting. The way the trees are offset makes it difficult to maintain. Marty Kosobucki added that both American and Ridgeway Boulevard fall within the Parks Department to maintain; however, if anything is to be done, it would fall within the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Works because it is in the right-of-way.

V. Staff Updates

1. Staff Update on the Fitter and Faster Swim Tour Contract

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry, explained that approval for the program was on the April Park Board Agenda, which was canceled due to lack of quorum. Due to timing constraints, the item needed to go to Common Council prior to this meeting. The implementation of this program was already approved by Common Council, but staff wanted to make the Park Board aware of the availability of this new program.

2. Staff Update on Beer Gardens / Commemorative Cup

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry, explained that staff is excited to offer new commemorative cups at the 2025 Beer Garden. This is just another small thing to make the beer gardens better. The cups will be advertised on social media and will be sold starting at the first beer garden of the season.

3. Staff Update on the Brown County Tourism Grant

Marty Kosobucki, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry, explained that staff has been working with Definitely De Pere for quite some time, trying to secure a Brown County Tourism Grant. Staff is happy to report that Definitely De Pere has been awarded a \$50,000 grant that is to be directed to improvements to the Nelson Family Pavilion. The projects that the grant will be used for is to install fiber to the pavilion; have a set of stairs from the patio to the lower level bowl area; have additional railing sections made out of aluminum, so they can be more easily removed for special events; and install 8-10 acoustical panels in the multipurpose room. All of these projects have started, and will hopefully be done by the end of summer.

VI. Future Agenda Items

None

VII. Adjournment

Aldersperson Defnet Ledvina moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 pm, seconded by James Kneiszel. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Shana Ledvina
SECONDER:	Jim Kneiszel
AYES:	Melissa Thiel Collar, Jim Kneiszel, Shana Ledvina, Elizabeth McMasters, Amy Kunding

Respectfully submitted,
Grace Lahtela



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

III.2

Request for Board of Park Commissioners
Action

MEETING DATE: June 19, 2025
DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation & Forestry
FROM: Marty Kosobucki, Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director
SUBJECT: Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the 2024-2025 Year End Financial Statements for the De Pere Ice Arena
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff recommends approval

ATTACHMENTS:
DePere Ice Arena Financial Report 6-11-25, De Pere Ice Arena Year End Financials June 2024 - May 2025

DePere Ice Arena closed for the season April 23, 2025

Usage for the season stayed very consistent to last season, shutting down just a few days early with the draft being in town for what would have been the final weekend of activities at the Ice Arena.

One of the Compressors of the 4 is no longer working, as there was an electrical short in that one. I have forwarded information to Marty for replacement; we'll have to do that work prior to opening for the 2025 season. The Short can be caused by years of vibration as they run. Replacement cost for the single Compressor is \$24307.63.

All other mechanical systems fared well through the year with only a few service calls for worn parts and maintenance.

User Groups Continue to ask for more ice time during the heart of the season, so demand remains strong for all the groups at the DePere Ice Arena

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, 920-403-2000 or email at cornerstoneicecenterdon@gmail.com .

De Pere Ice Arena
Balance Sheet
As of May 31, 2025

	<u>May 31, 25</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1015 · Nicolet Bank	35,637.80
Total Checking/Savings	35,637.80
Other Current Assets	
1300 · Prepaid Expenses	5,293.11
Total Other Current Assets	5,293.11
Total Current Assets	40,930.91
Fixed Assets	
1600 · Equipment	89,822.48
1610 · Accumulated Depreciation	-87,535.10
Total Fixed Assets	2,287.38
TOTAL ASSETS	43,218.29
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 · Accounts Payable	3,841.45
Total Accounts Payable	3,841.45
Other Current Liabilities	
2701 · Payable to/(Receivable fr) BCIM	12,525.50
Total Other Current Liabilities	12,525.50
Total Current Liabilities	16,366.95
Total Liabilities	16,366.95
Equity	
3900 · Unrestricted Net Assets	18,036.55
Net Income	8,814.79
Total Equity	26,851.34
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	43,218.29

De Pere Ice Arena
Profit & Loss
 June 2024 through May 2025

	Jun '24 - May 25
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4004 · Figure Skating	72,059.63
4007 · Ice Rental-Private	
4007i · De Pere High School	37,017.15
4007j · DePere Youth Hockey	103,432.53
Total 4007 · Ice Rental-Private	140,449.68
4007a · Non Contracted Ice	16,597.00
4009 · Ice Rental-Summer	1,247.50
4016 · Vending	4,318.44
4110 · Kick-Synch	9,012.00
4111 · Ice Rental-Deacons	9,520.00
Total Income	253,204.25
Gross Profit	253,204.25
Expense	
5000 · Building Expense	
5004 · Service Contracts	8,394.03
5005 · Zamboni	2,362.08
5010 · Repairs and Maintenance	9,842.82
Total 5000 · Building Expense	20,598.93
5001 · Insurance Expense	15,120.00
5300 · Office Expense	
5301 · Bank Service Charges	311.29
5306 · Office Supplies	3,853.15
5308 · Telephone Expense	3,834.22
5300 · Office Expense - Other	181.27
Total 5300 · Office Expense	8,179.93
5400 · Payroll	
5408 Insurance	5,145.29
5401 · FICA Employer	6,977.91
5403 · Medicare Expense	1,474.59
5404 · Regular Earnings	44,611.90
5405 · Salaries	53,799.30
5407 · Payroll Processing Fees	650.00
Total 5400 · Payroll	112,658.99
5600 · Electric	56,446.85
5601 · Water	7,857.08
5602 · Gas	8,865.38
5700 · Vending Expense	3,221.91
6000 · Depreciation Expense	2,625.60
Total Expense	235,574.67
Net Ordinary Income	17,629.58
Other Income/Expense	
Other Expense	
7000 · Split with City of De Pere	8,814.79
Total Other Expense	8,814.79
Net Other Income	-8,814.79
Net Income	8,814.79



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

III.3

Request for Board of Park Commissioners
Action

MEETING DATE: June 19, 2025
DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation & Forestry
FROM: Marty Kosobucki, Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director
SUBJECT: Consideration and Possible Action to Approve De Pere Youth Hockey Association (DPYH) Donation Proposal of up to \$50,000 for De Pere Ice Center Improvements *
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff recommends approval

ATTACHMENTS:
Memo.DPYH, DPYH Donation to DPIA

CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Board of Park Commissioners
From: Marty Kosobucki
Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry
Date: June 19, 2025

RE: Consideration and Possible Action to Approve DPYH Donation Proposal of up to \$50,000 For Rink Improvements.

The De Pere Youth Hockey Association (DPYH) is proposing to donate up to \$50,000 toward rink improvements. Below is a summary of their proposed donation.

- DPYH would donate up to \$25,000 from their organization.
- DPYH would raise up to \$25,000 from outside businesses toward rink improvements.
- City would allow a sign to be posted in the lobby recognizing select donors for a period of one year.
- If for some reason the rink would be abandoned within two years of the improvements, the City would agree to refund the donation back to DPYH.
- The donation would first be used toward upgrading the Dehumidification system and replacement of the rubber flooring.

I have spoke with Don Chilson from Brown County Ice Management and he does not have any concerns with the donor recognition as well as the improvements recommended.

Staff Opinion: We think this is a very generous donation and a clear sign of the support DPYH has for the rink. Considering the discussions that have been on going the last year, I think the contingency request to have their donation refunded is appropriate. If you believe the rink is in jeopardy of being abandoned, then I would probably not look to approve the donation proposal. However, if the ultimate goal is to find a way to have the rink continue, then I think the above proposal is very fair and generous.

De Pere Youth Hockey (DPYH) is proposing the donation of (up to) \$ 50,000 (raised through our organization and additional donations) for the purpose of replacing the rubber flooring at De Pere Ice Arena. Details are as follows:

- **Anticipated Donation Amount:** \$ 50,000
- **Donation Purpose:** Rubber Flooring (any remaining funds will be applied to rink improvements, as approved by DPYH)
- **Contingencies:**
 - The rink's dehumidification system will be repaired to restore normal functionality and will be kept in proper working condition for the duration of the rubber flooring's lifespan to protect it from potential damage.
 - If the City of De Pere terminates ownership of DPIA for any reason within two years from installation, the City of De Pere shall reimburse DPYH for the entirety of the amount donated.
 - All DPYH and additional sponsorship partners will be recognized for their donation via City of De Pere official social media channels. Donors that contribute greater than or equal to \$ 2,500 will have their name displayed on a sign in the rink for a period of 1 year past installation date. DPYH will design the recognition sign consistent with donation amounts.



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

III.4

Request for Board of Park Commissioners
Action

MEETING DATE: June 19, 2025
DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation & Forestry
FROM: Marty Kosobucki, Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director
SUBJECT: Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Creation of a De Pere Ice Arena Fundraising Committee *
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff recommends approval

ATTACHMENTS:

Memo.Fundraising Plan Ice Arena, DPYH Sponsorship Advertising Proposal

CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Board of Park Commissioners
From: Marty Kosobucki
Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry
Date: June 19, 2025

RE: Consideration and Possible Action of Approving the Creation of a De Pere Ice Arena Fundraising Committee

The De Pere Youth Hockey Association is proposing the creation of a fundraising committee aimed and providing much needed financial support to the update and repairs of the Ice Arena. Their proposal is included with your information.

In short, the fundraising plan is to sell yearly advertising banners/boards inside of the ice arena. The net funds raised would be directed toward improvements, repairs, and maintenance of the rink.

I have spoke with Don Chilson of Brown County Ice Management and he is in favor of the fundraising plan.

Staff Opinion: While there are some details to cover, I think the proposal is a necessity for the rink being able to continue and thrive over the next 10-20 years. I would recommend approving the general concept of their proposal and the item be forwarded to our legal department for the creation of an agreement. This agreement would then eventually be forwarded to council for approval.



De Pere Youth Hockey

De Pere Ice Arena Sponsorship Advertising Proposal

Need

The De Pere Ice Arena Facility Condition Assessment—performed in 2024—has showcased the various large repairs, replacements, updates, and maintenance that De Pere Ice Arena (DPIA) needs to continue operating and serve the community. These repairs, updates, and maintenance will require funding now and on an ongoing basis in the future.

Solution

In 2024 De Pere Youth Hockey (DPYH) started the initiative to gather DPIA User Groups to support and fund rink improvements, such as the installation of new rubber flooring: however, we believe that there is a great opportunity for DPIA to earn additional funding through sponsorship advertising. Using other rinks in the State of Wisconsin for inspiration, we believe that we can create significant funding for the ice rink by selling advertising space within the rink, including rink dasher boards, wall boards above the player benches, locker room door wraps, lobby sponsorship, restroom door flyers, etc.

Potential Revenue Estimate

In an initial estimate—with advertising fees defined by benchmarking with area rinks—we believe that the rink has the potential to earn around \$60,000 a year, as shown in the chart below.

Type	Count	Advertising Fee	Per Year
3 x 8 Dasher	27	\$1,500.00	\$40,500.00
3 x 4 Wall	10	\$500.00	\$5,000.00
1.5 x 4 Wall	14	\$300.00	\$4,200.00
1.5 x 2 Wall	10	\$200.00	\$2,000.00
Locker room door wrap	4	\$2,000.00	\$8,000.00
8 x 10 Restroom advertising	3	\$400.00	\$1,200.00
			\$60,900.00



Projected and Recently Earned Revenue

While we believe in the potential to generate \$ 60,000 a year in revenue, we realize that it will take time to achieve this number, and have the following goals:

- **Year 1: 33% of total, \$20,000**
- **Year 2: 50% of total, \$30,500**

As reported on the 3/21/2024 Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison financial document for DPIA, the following revenue was generated:

- Jun 23 - May 24: **\$487.5**
- Jun 22 - May 23: **\$750**

Envisioning the Future

The images below depict the future of DPIA with sponsorship advertising space (wall boards).



Operational Plan

As the primary user of DPIA, DPYH proposes that DPYH take over the sale, production, and management of advertising sponsorship at the rink. This includes the selling of advertising space, production of advertising materials, management of renewals, coordination with Brown

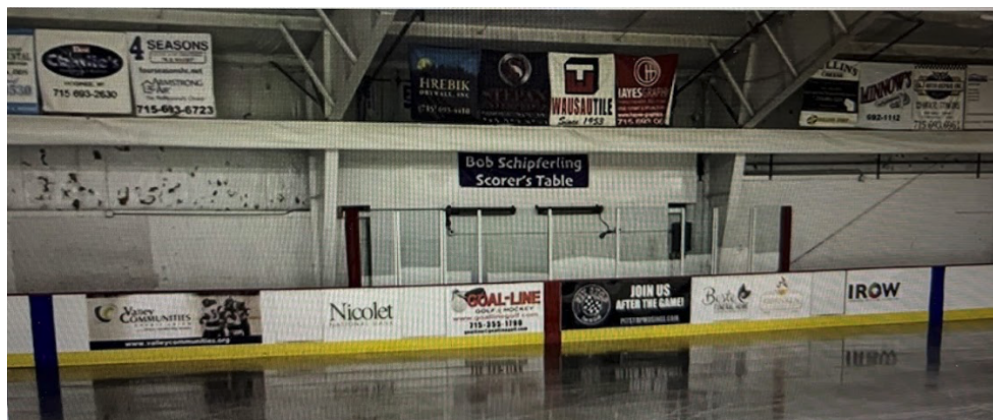


County Ice Management for installation, and financial management. DPYH would like to note the following:

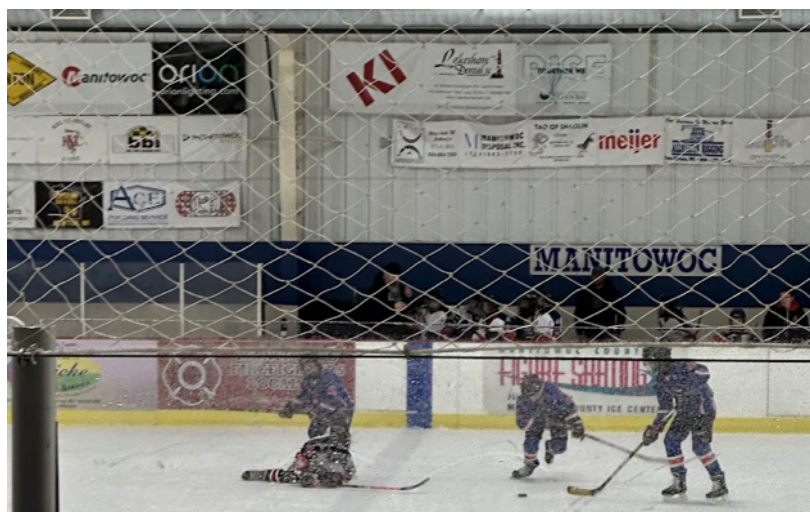
1. DPYH will create a DPIA Sponsorship Committee to facilitate this activity.
2. DPYH will create and manage a separate checking account for the management of these funds: the funds in this account will solely be used for De Pere Ice Area maintenance and improvements.
3. DPYH will facilitate the involvement of other DPIA User Groups in sponsorship advertising sales.
4. While DPYH will manage the funds, the DPIA User Group Committee will prioritize the needs of DPIA, and the funds will be used accordingly.
5. Financial reporting of fund usage will be provided to the City of De Pere and Brown County Ice Management.
6. Additional financial details to be defined.

Additional Rink Examples

Sun Prairie



Manitowoc





City of De Pere, Wisconsin

III.5

Request for Board of Park Commissioners
Action

MEETING DATE: June 19, 2025
DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation & Forestry
FROM: Chelsea Moberg, Recreation Supervisor
SUBJECT: Consideration and Possible Action to Approve Pool Facility Attendant Certification Reimbursement *
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff recommends approval

ATTACHMENTS:

Park Board Memo - Pool Facility Attendant Certification Reimbursement

CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Board of Park Commissioners
From: Chelsea Moberg
Date: June 12th, 2025
RE: Consideration and Possible Action to Approve Pool Facility Attendant Certification Reimbursement

Staff recommend updating staff reimbursement policy to include reimbursing Pool Facility Attendants for required certifications of their positions. All other staff working at the pools receive reimbursement for their required certifications, but our Pool Facility Attendants do not. Specifically, we'd be reimbursing for their Food Handler Certificates (every 3 years) and CPR certificates (every 2 years).

The requirements for reimbursement would mirror the existing system for Lifeguards. This requires them to complete preseason orientation and start their first official week of work before we process reimbursement.

Immediate Expected Financial Impact

This was planned for in the 2025 budget and should not cause unplanned expenses. We expect the cost of reimbursement to be less than \$500 in total for this season. A total of \$610 was budgeted for these certification reimbursements for this year.

If we are fully staffed approximately 21 seasonal employees are Pool Facility Attendants. Of those roughly 7-8 would be up for Food Handler certification, and 10-12 would be up for CPR certification each year. Most of our staff complete their CPR certification in house reducing the cost significantly. Cost of certifications are variable, but typically Food Handler certification is \$15. CPR certification ranges from \$36 to \$100 depending on a variety of factors.



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

IV.1

Request for Board of Park Commissioners
Action

MEETING DATE: June 19, 2025
DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation & Forestry
FROM: Marty Kosobucki, Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director
SUBJECT: Discussion on New Park Name in the Waterview Heights Subdivision
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion

ATTACHMENTS:

Memo.Naming of Park, City Naming Breakdown - Jan 2024

CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Board of Park Commissioners
From: Marty Kosobucki
Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry
Date: June 19, 2025
RE: Naming of New Park

To aid in your discussion of our new park in Waterview Heights Subdivision, I am providing you would some information and suggestions.

- Included in your packet is a historic review of our parks and the origin of their name. This will help you in seeing and understanding the philosophy the City has created of naming parks over the last 30-40 years.
- I would ask that you come to the Park Board with a few potential names of parks that you feel strongly about and can offer for consideration.
- Depending on how many ideas/options we have for consideration, we will improvise our tactics in coming to a resolution. If we end up having a lot of choices, we will likely try to reduce down to 3 or 5 and then revisit the issue at the next meeting. If we do not have a large list of options, we might be able to navigate through the options and select one.
- Ultimately it is your decision, but I would recommend staying away from the following themes or thoughts on names.
 - o Named after a person that is currently living.
 - o Name after street the park is on. (the park unfortunately borders two streets).
 - o I would suggest not naming the park after an individual that has not had an impact in the area of parks, recreation and/or forestry.
- Potential Names – below is a list of names that have either been offered to me prior to the meeting.
 - o Henry Cady – Offered by Jim Kneisel. A youth that enlisted in the Civil War and presumed to live in the City of De Pere.
 - o Sunrise Park – the position and elevation of the park will provide for very aesthetic views of the sun rising.
 - o Themed Name – Randy Souquet suggested that we provide a forestry theme and then follow this theme within the park. For instance, Maple Park could be used and we plant all Maple Trees within the park.
 - o Dorothy Berendson – offered by Joe Nicks (City Resident). She served in the Army Nurse Corp, was a pilot and also a member of the “Ninety Nines”. Chief Flight nurse for Army Air Corp Squadron, helped evacuate patients from France following D-Day.

DE PERE[®]



CITY OF DE PERE

NAMING & DEDICATION **BREAKDOWN FOR** **FACILITIES, PARKS, AND AMENITIES**

Research compiled by Andrew Pantzlaff, Communications & Marketing Manager
Last updated January 2024

SECTION 1:

AREAS WITH MEANINGFUL / SPECIALITY NAMES

NOTE: This section is strictly for spaces officially named for people/groups, not just “dedicated” or in “memory” of them via recognition plaques. Also, obviously many local streets have been named in our history to honor people, events, or groups, but that is not included in this project to streamline this overview.

It's possible that other facilities, parks, and amenities not mentioned here were taken down or sold, have been lost to history, or simply were unknowingly missed in this research. What is presented here are known facilities and amenities that exist in the year of this study's completion (2023). Also, for all information that is presented, reasonable efforts were made to ensure accuracy, but it is possible that human error may contribute to incorrect information. **This document should therefore be used as a general reference, and not a collection of definitive facts.*

City Facilities, Parks, or Amenities Named After [Individuals](#)

- **Braisher Park:** Park Commissioners recommend "G. E. Braisher Park" be the name of a new City park during a 1961 meeting. A few years later, an official dedication ceremony was held to honor "Dad" Braisher, a local icon who coached teams in De Pere to four championships, earned spots in multiple Wisconsin sports hall of fames, and also served as equipment manager of the Green Bay Packers for two decades, including during the legendary Lombardi era.
- **Carney Park:** Carney Park was officially named on June 8, 1967, when the Board of Park Commissioners recommended it be named after Laurence Carney, whom they wanted to recognize for his many years of service on the Board of Park Commissioners (at this identical time, the City also opened and named Willems Park after fellow park board member Laurence Willems, for similar reasons).
- **Claude Allouez Bridge:** Claude Allouez was a French explorer of North America, whose missionary work took place in present-day De Pere in the 1670s (De Pere would later see modern development stir in the mid-1800s and become a unified City in 1890). De Pere has had multiple bridges during its history, none with a known namesake, until the "Claude Allouez Bridge" was given as an official name for a new bridge in 1933. When this bridge was replaced more than 70 years later, there was debate on whether to retain the existing name or give the next bridge its own moniker. Ultimately, City leadership carried the Claude Allouez name forward to the new bridge, which opened in 2007.
- **Kelly Danen Park:** Originally named Little League Park when opened in the early 1960s, it was later renamed Kelly Danen Park after one of the fathers who helped organize little league in De Pere and was active in the area with youth baseball. He was also an alderperson (West side, 4th district) for 8 years in the 1960's. Some news references to the park call it Kelly Danen Little League Park, but it seems more commonly referred to as just Kelly Danen Park.
- **Jim Martin Park:** Named in the early 1990s after the late James E. Martin, who was active in De Pere youth and recreational activities. Martin helped organize and coach the De Pere Legion baseball team and organized the De Pere Little Leagues and Babe Ruth Leagues, as well as officiated many basketball and football games. He also helped organize several other local groups and events.
- **Michael J. Walsh Plaza:** Named after Mike Walsh, the longest-serving mayor in City history. Walsh served as mayor for 24 years, and also served on park board prior to his time as mayor, giving him nearly 40 years of public service throughout the community.
- **Nelson Family Pavilion:** Named after David and Rita Nelson. David was born in Kaukauna and Rita in Janesville, but the couple lived in De Pere for a period of time. David managed companies that published newspapers in Appleton and Green Bay and Rita was a schoolteacher. A large donation from the David L. and Rita E. Nelson Family Fund kickstarted a pavilion project in Voyageur Park. The pavilion/performance venue opens in 2024.
- **Perkofski Boat Launch:** In 2005, De Pere completed an improvement project at the Brown County Fairgrounds and renamed the site the Perkofski Boat Launch. The site's name was said to be in recognition of the efforts of Jerry Perkofski, the current parks director at the time, and his work in securing grant funding for the project.

- **Rose Smits Flower Bed:** Named after Rose Smits, longtime Beautification Committee member, who spearheaded many efforts to improve the aesthetics of the City. Located in Voyageur Park, near the Riverwalk entrance. Built in 2023. *Unsure if this one should go in this section of “officially named” places, or if this is better suited in a later section for “Dedicated/Sponsored” spaces.
- **Wells Park:** When A.G. Wells donated a plot of land to the City near the Fox River in the early 1900s, it was at first named Riverview Park. After Mr. Wells' eventual passing, the City offered a belated honor in his memory, officially renaming the space in 1933 to A.G. Wells Park. With the passage of time, the park’s name was seemingly shortened to simply Wells Park at some point.
- **Willems Park:** In 1967, the Board of Park Commissioners recommend that a new park on the corner of Driftwood and South 7th Street be named Willems Park for Laurence Willems, in recognition of his years of service on the Board of Park Commissioners (at this identical time, the city also opened and named Carney Park after fellow park board member Laurence Carney, for similar reasons).
- **Wilson Park:** Council voted in 1924 to name a new westside park "Woodrow Wilson Park" after a recommendation from the park board. President Wilson term was relatively recent at the time of the park's formation, serving as president from 1913-1921. Like many local parks, its name over time has simplified to just a last name, now known simply as "Wilson Park."

NOTE: There are inconsistencies in how parks that were named after individuals have evolved, with 2 retaining the full name moniker (Jim Martin Park, Kelly Danen Park), while many others have been reduced to just last name over time, for unknown reasons (examples: Carney, Willems, Wells, Wilson, and Braisher parks).

City Facilities, Parks, or Amenities Named After Groups

- **Kiwanis Park:** Named Kiwanis Park in 1998 by the park board, after the De Pere Kiwanis Club agreed to adopt the park and assist with future improvements.
- **Legion Park:** Named for the American Legion, presumably named sometime in the early 1920s.
- **Lions Trailside Park:** Unclear, but presumably named at some point for the De Pere Lions service organization, as mentions of them raising money to help sponsor the park date back to at least 2009.
- **Optimist Park:** The "Cook Street Park" area was given the official name of Optimist Park in 1990 when the De Pere Optimist Club made a 10-year commitment for improvements to the park, totaling \$2,500 per year.
- **Rotary Park:** Unclear, but presumably this was named after the De Pere Rotary Club, possibly around 2003.
- **VFW Park:** Named for Veterans of Foreign Wars, with the namesake dating back at least to the 1940s.

City Facilities, Parks, or Amenities Named for Other Reasons

- **Bicentennial Park:** Opened in 1976 as part of nationwide bicentennial celebrations and named for this reason. Technically named "Bicentennial Memorial Park" at its inception, but later shortened to just Bicentennial Park, for unknown reasons.
- **Patriot Park:** The name for this park was chosen while it was under construction in a then-new "Bicentennial estates subdivision" in the late 1970s. Presumably a tie-in to bicentennial patriotism of the time, with street names in that area also given similar treatment (76th Pl, Revere Trail, Patrick Henry Ave, Patriot Way). ***Since this is near Patriot Way, it could arguably be recategorized as named after "Location / Street," but kept within this section because of assumption it follows patriotic theme of entire subdivision.
- **Rainbow Park:** Name submitted by neighborhood residents (and approved by park board) at the time of construction/opening.
- **The Preserve:** No verified background info for the name, but it's safe to presume the name is an indication of the goal of preservation and appreciation of natural beauty at the location.
- **Voyageur Park:** In the lead-up to construction back in 1979, over 160 names were suggested by the community for the riverside park project. The contest was conducted by the park board. The name "First Rapids Park" was submitted to the City Council by a nine-member committee. The council ultimately declined to use that name, and opted instead for another for "Voyageur Park," which was a suggestion from the Garden Club Des Peres.

City Facilities, Parks, or Amenities Named After Locations or Streets*

*In some cases, the street name or former school site the park gets its moniker from may have local or historical significance, but that is not included or known in this research (this applies to Bomier, James, Rusk, Samantha, Wilcox, Lawton, etc).

- **Bomier Boat Launch:** Located close to Bomier Street.
- **Brown County Fairgrounds:** Originally the Fox River Driving Park, but beginning around 1909, the City leased the grounds to the Brown County Fair Association and over time, as horse and other races dwindled, it appears the "Driving Park" name faded in favor of its more prominently-known "Brown County Fair" use.
- **East River Trail:** Trail along East River that extends through De Pere and several neighboring communities.
- **East Side Nature Park:** On east side of City. Originally a space where school education opportunities were more tied-in and abundant (a female teacher spearheaded its creation). It was technically named the "Rapides Des Peres Nature Center" during opening in late 1970s. This small plot with a gazebo near Dickinson School and tiny wooded area has become simplified to "East Side Nature Park" during the current era, for unknown reasons.
- **Fox Point Boat Launch:** Unclear, but presumably because of being entry point to Fox River. The property was formally owned by the Fox River Lumber Company.
- **James Street Parkway:** Located at the end of James Street, by Fox River (benches/docks by hotel).
- **Lawton Park:** The first schoolhouse in West De Pere was Lawtontown School. Built in 1865, a two-story wooden frame building at the corner of Fort Howard Ave and North Sixth St. Today, Lawton Park is located at that site, and presumably its name retains a nod to its roots in "Lawtontown." In 1916, possibly during early development of this as a recreation/leisure site, a suggestion was made to name it "Perrot Park." This moniker would have been in honor of Nicholas Perrot, a governor general of the Northwest under the French regime, who visited here in the late 1600s. No further information is available, but "Perrot Park" either never materialized as a name for what is now Lawton Park, or was not retained. In present day, there is a Perrot Square (parking lot) on the east side, but it's unclear when this designation was made and if it's related to this same Perrot Park suggestion.
- **Riverwalk & Wildlife Pier:** Located along Fox River.
 - Does have individual elements dedicated to people/donors (covered in later section of this document)
- **Rusk Park:** Located near Rusk Street.
- **Samantha Park:** Located near Samantha Street.
- **Southwest Park:** Located in the southwest region of the City.
- **Wilcox Park:** Named officially for its location on Wilcox Court (but there is a dedication stone onsite stating the park is in memory of Willis Saul, who donated 18 lots to the City for the park).

SECTION 2:

**AREAS NOT OFFICIALLY NAMED,
BUT HAVE DEDICATION/SPONSORSHIP PLAQUES**

+

OTHER NAMES & NOTES

NOTE: Most of this section covers spaces and features in the City that have recognition plaques, but the actual name of the facility or space retains a generic/other name.

Spaces not formally “named” after a person or group, but have Dedication / In Memorandum / Sponsorship Plaques

Beautification / Scenic Area notes

- **De Pere Riverwalk:** While the name of this entire project itself does not have any specific dedication/sponsorship, many components of this area have indirect naming/sponsorship recognitions. These are mostly through plaques or dedication bricks in various areas, presumably recognizing those who donated to the project. Some of these include:
 - **Eagle Ledge:** Martha and Norbert Kersten
 - **Lock View Bridge:** Harold and Arleen Vanden Heuvel
 - **Pelican Lookout:** Cloud Family Foundation
 - **Sturgeon Point:** Leone and Ted Brozyna
 - **Sunset Point:** Sharon and Dick Resch
 - **Walleye Deck:** Fox River Fiber
- **Flower Beds:** Voyageur Park has a flower bed (near the park sign) dedicated in memory of Lavern Mancosky. It also has Rose Smits Flower Bed (mentioned in a previous section). Presumably, there may be other flower beds in the City with dedication plaques, but that was not explored in this project.
- **Memorial Benches & Memorial Trees:** It goes without saying but many benches, trees and similar small-scale features in De Pere are “dedicated” on City-owned property to various individuals or groups, generally in memorandum. However, because of the significant volume of these items, these were not included in this research to streamline this project.
- **Walsh Plaza individual amenities:** Entire plaza is named after former Mayor Michael Walsh (see previous section). Individual amenities within the plaza have various dedication notes, including:
 - **Water Wall:** Supported by Konrad & Jesse Jossart / Dedicated to employees of Jossart Brothers, Inc
 - **Wind Wall/Benches:** Tom Keidatz, from the Stoehr & Wochinske Families

Park amenities / features notes

- **Dog Park individual amenities:** The Dog Park itself has no special name, but a few individual amenities have dedication notes/plaques, including:
 - **Resch Trail:** Named with sign by trail entry (presumably for park funding/donations).
 - **Shelter:** Dedication to John Barnstorff / Animal Hospital of De Pere (presumably for park funding/donations).
- **Wilcox Park:** As noted earlier in this document, the official name of Wilcox Park is likely derived from its location on Wilcox Court, but there is a dedication stone onsite stating the park is in memory of Willis Saul, who donated 18 lots to the City for the park.

Parking Lots notes

- **Parking lots:** This research did not examine why certain City parking lots have specific names. Just like City parks, some may be named for historical reasons or after specific individuals, while others may be named because of their location. Regardless, a list of parking lots that seem to have official names, for one reason or another, include:
 - **Broadway Lot**
 - **Hicks Square River Lot**
 - **Marquette Square**
 - **Mission Square**

- Nicolet Square
- Perrot South Square
- Perrot Square
- William Street Lot

There may be other City parking lots with naming conventions. This was all that was found at a quick glance.

Conference Rooms / Lobbies / Atrium notes

- **City Hall**
 - **Atrium/Lobby:** No name
 - **Conference Rooms:** Riverview (named for window views of Fox River), Nicolet (named for City history—Nicolet was former name of City’s west side, before consolidating into De Pere), Police Conference Room (functional name), and Administrative Conference Room (functional name)
- **De Pere Community Center:** While the name of the building itself does not have any specific dedication/sponsorship; many components of this building have indirect naming/sponsorship recognitions. These are mostly via plaques or dedication bricks in various areas, presumably recognizing those who donated to the project. Some of these include:
 - **Atrium/Lobby:** Plaque in memory of Roland M. Murphy.
 - **Furnishing in Card Room:** Tom and Gen Linsdau
 - **Game Room:** David L. and Rita. Nelson
 - **Gift Display Area:** Brenan Buick-Isuza
 - **Health Room:** Previa Clinic.
 - **Hickory Room:** Kiwanis Club of De Pere
 - **Maple Room:** C.A. Lawton Company Engineered Castings
 - **Oak Room:** Cuene Family Foundation
 - **Pine Room:** Wisconsin Public Service
 - **Spruce Room:** Walter R. Cloud
 - **Tables & Lounge Furniture:** Dickut Family, Walmart, Brown County Women’s Club, De Pere Area Men’s Club, Cotter Funeral Homes & Crematory
 - **Veranda (balcony):** Cotter Funeral Home, Jim and Elaine Cotter, Mike and JoAnn Cotter

Various other dedication bricks are located in the outdoor entrance area, front lobby, and possibly other areas.
- **Municipal Service Center:**
 - **Atrium/Lobby:** No name
 - **Conference Rooms:** Large Conference Room (generically named by size) and Small Conference Room (generically named by size).

Public Art notes

- **Public Art:** Obviously, art is generally christened with names by the creators of the art piece. The known names of City-funded public art are listed here, for reference:
 - **Murals:**
 - **Cityscape:** By Natalie Halverson
 - **Dove of Peace:** By Danny Lemke
 - **Homage to the Fox:** By James Barany
 - **Interlaced:** By Funny Livdotter & Emilie Rygfelt Wilander (from Sweden)
 - **Masks of Comedy & Tragedy:** by Andrew Linskens

- **Power of Creativity:** by Carli Ihde
- *Unknown: Centennial mural and the paintings on utility boxes throughout City.*
- **Sculptures**
 - **Falling Stairs:** By Stephen Haas.
 - **Nebulous:** By Kent Hutchinson, Casey Early-Krueger, and Samantha Toonen
 - **Papermouth:** By Steven Haas
 - **Transformation of Daphne:** By David Windey

Not included: Any private murals/statues not created with public funding were not included in this study.

Misc notes

- **Other known dedications/sponsorships:**
 - **Jerry Hasenberg Jr:** There is a Memorial Tree Fund named after Jerry, as well as a picnic table outdoors at the Municipal Service Center. Jerry was a valued City employee who passed away in a tragic workplace accident in 2021.

SECTION 3:

AREAS WITHOUT KNOWN MEANINGFUL / SPECIAL NAMES

NOTE: Obviously, many of the following are not appropriate for special naming and are simply called by their functional name (City Hall, Police Station, as an example). Nonetheless, all known non-named City parks, amenities, and buildings are listed here to provide a general overview.

Other City Facilities, Parks, or Amenities **Not Currently Given Special Naming***

- Alley behind Cobblestone
- Art Alley (sometimes referred to as Nicolet Art Alley, so this may/may not apply to this section)
- Baseball/Softball diamonds/fields (various in parks)
- Basketball courts (various in parks)
- City Hall
- Clock (downtown)
- Community Center
- Concession stands
- Conference rooms / building lobbies
- Compost Facility
- Disc Golf Course (within Legion Park, which is named for the American Legion)
- Dog Park (Park itself. Some individual trails and amenities have sponsors/dedications)
- Docks (specific docks in various parks, *the boat launches themselves have names)
- Fire Station No. 1
- Fire Station No. 2
- Football fields (various in parks)
- Footbridge in The Preserve
- Flower beds (various in parks, excluding Rose Smits at Voyageur)
- Garages, Sheds, & Storage Spaces (various)
- Green Spaces (various in parks)
- Ice Arena
- Ice rinks (outdoor, seasonal, various in parks)
- Kayak launch(es)
- Municipal Service Center
- Parking lots (see previous section)
- Pickleball Courts (various in parks)
- Playgrounds within parks
- Police Station
- Pools (currently just named VFW Aquatic Facility and Legion Pool to echo name of hosting park)
- Pool diving board
- Pool lily pad crossing
- Pool slides
- Pool rock climbing area
- Roundabouts
- Roundabout shrubbery/planting areas
- Rubbish Site
- Scoreboards
- Scorekeeper sheds/houses (by ball diamonds)
- Shelters (outdoor, 7 total in 5 parks)
- Shelters (indoor, 3 total in 3 parks -- *not counting Nelson Family Pavilion)
- Sledding hills
- Soccer fields (various in parks)
- Tennis Courts (various in parks)
- Urban Orchards

- Volleyball Courts (various in parks)
- Voyageur Park's trail

**It's possible that some of these have dedications/names that this study could not identify.*



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

V.1

Request for Board of Park Commissioners
Action

MEETING DATE: June 19, 2025
DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation & Forestry
FROM: Kyle Rouce, City Forester
SUBJECT: Staff Update on \$500 Tree Donation from American Transmission Company (ATC)
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff recommends accepting the donation

ATTACHMENTS:

Memo for Park Board Tree Donation from ATC

CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Board of Park Commissioners
From: Kyle Rouce – Forestry Supervisor
Date: June 19, 2025

RE: **Staff Update on Tree Donation from American Transmission Company (ATC).**

The De Pere Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department received a donation of \$500 from American Transmission Company to be used to plant trees in our parks for Arbor Day.

As part of ATC's effort to support our local communities they offered to donate \$500 to support Arbor Day tree plantings. For Arbor Day we planted trees at multiple sites around the city.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Donation Information:

From: American Transmission Company (ATC)
To: De Pere Forestry Department
For: Arbor Day Tree Plantings
Amount: \$500



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

V.2

Request for Board of Park Commissioners
Action

MEETING DATE: June 19, 2025
DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation & Forestry
FROM: Marty Kosobucki, Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director
SUBJECT: Thank You and Good Luck to Teen Advisor James Lyga
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Presented

ATTACHMENTS:
None