

CITY OF WISCONSIN RAPIDS  
*PARKS / RECREATION / BUILDINGS*  
444 West Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-2780, (715) 421-8240

**Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes**

August 9, 2021

A regular meeting of the Wisconsin Rapids Parks & Recreation Commission was held via remote videoconferencing on Monday, August 9, 2021, at 4 p.m. The public was invited to listen to the audio of the meeting. The meeting was also streamed LIVE on the City of Wisconsin Rapids Facebook page.

1. Call to order.

Commissioner Broeren called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

Commissioners present in the City Hall Council Chambers were Mayor Blaser, Craig Broeren, Tom Ekelin, Patrick Gatterman, Tom Rayome, and Lee Thao.Carolynn Martin appeared via videoconference. Dean Veneman and Kris Barteck were excused. Staff present in the Council Chambers were Dawn Desorcy, Jake Klingforth, Tyler Mickelson, and Mary Wolosek. Also attending were Jay Bemke, Nathan Hanson, and Susan Miller.

2. Approve June 28, 2021, meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Thao, seconded by Commissioner Gatterman, to approve the June 28, 2021, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

3. Consider location for Rockin' In Rapids give a rock/take a rock location.

Susan Miller shared an example of the give a rock/take a rock drop off stations that she would like to purchase. Park locations would include Mead Rapids View, Lyon Park and Robinson Park. A motion was made by Mayor Blaser, seconded by Commissioner Thao, to approve placement of give a rock/take a rock locations in parks, working in conjunction with Jake Klingforth. Motion carried.

4. Consider installation of additional disc golf pads at Robinson Park.

Nathan Hanson presented the group's idea for the addition of more tee pads to Robinson Park disc golf area, which would allow for tournaments to take place there (an 18-hole course is needed for this). The hope would be that the City would supply concrete and their club would form and install the concrete. A motion was made by Commissioner Ekelin, seconded by Commissioner Thao, to approve the installation of additional disc golf pads at Robinson Park. Motion carried.

5. Consider approval of an Aquatics Center Dog Day on August 30.

The date for Dog Day will be August 23, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. A motion was made by Mayor Blaser, seconded by Commissioner Gatterman, to approve Dog Day at the Aquatics Center. Motion carried.

6. Update on Teske Grant money remaining and plan for use.

Items that were discussed as possible uses for the Teske Grant money were adding a kangaroo exhibit or making Helen's House usable for the entire year, as this request is often received. It was noted that the Teske Grant money must be used for enclosures or facilities (not maintenance); must be completed by 2026 and a plaque erected. This item will be brought back to a future commission meeting.

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7. Update on Parks & Recreation Commission Ad Hoc Committee.

The ordinance is still being reviewed and updated with the City Attorney; it is a long process.

8. Update on the Aquatics Center (closing for the season on August 22).

The Aquatics Center had a very busy season. Costs will be looked at once the season is complete and all invoices are received. These items will be brought back to the commission.

9. Update on Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan will be distributed to the commission when it is ready.

10. Bills.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rayome, seconded by Commissioner Thao, to approve the bills. Motion carried.

11. Staff reports.

Mary and Jake presented written and verbal reports.

12. Adjourn.

A motion was made by Commissioner Thao, seconded Commissioner Ekelin, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Dawn Desorcy, Recording Secretary