



# FOX CROSSING PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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## PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

March 8, 2023

**Park Commissioners Present:** Jim Beson, Jordyn Kurer, Chris McCoy, Jason Patzwald, Jean Wollerman

**Staff Present:** Director Amanda Geiser, Village Manager Jeff Sturgell

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The Commission meeting was held at the Municipal Complex, 2000 Municipal Dr., Neenah, and was called to order by Commissioner Patzwald at 6:00PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll call was taken.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND DISCUSSION OF EXPENDITURES

The Park Commission dispenses with the reading of, and adopts, the February 8, 2023, regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Beson motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Otto. Motion carried.

### PUBLIC FORUM

- None

### DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION

**A. BIRD Scooter Program:** Director Geiser indicated that BIRD has requested to sign an agreement again in 2023. After an initial discussion with Village Manager Sturgell, it was decided that it would be best get feedback from the Park Commission once again before bringing this to the Village Board for approval. In Menasha, there is a hope that Fox Crossing will expand the use zone for BIRD, allowing greater regional availability, and less confusing zones on the east side of the village and in Menasha. Director Geiser mentioned there was not a lot of data specifically related to trips in Fox Crossing from the 2022 program because Fox Crossing was merely a passageway connecting the cities of Neenah and Menasha on the Loop the Lake Trail. Data available from BIRD indicates there were over 4,000 unique riders and over 40,000 miles travelled in Neenah and Menasha in the pilot program last year. While use was allowed through Fritse Park and the Loop the Lake Trail, Director Geiser noted that the office did not receive any complaints in 2022. Staff is open to the idea of expanding the use area for another trial year.

Commissioners then shared their feedback.

- Commissioner Beson noted he was originally against the program and sided with Trustee Englebert, but he can now see the program expanding. He noted he was just in Texas and there were scooters all over. He has no objections to expanding. He also asked about what revenue options are available and indicated any revenue received should be dedicated to trail maintenance.
- Commissioner Patzwald is in favor of expanding it to the majority of the trails on another one year trial. He thought doing this would give us better data that would be tracked through BIRD. He also mentioned that we possibly only open it up to trails on the west side of the village, but expand it on the east side to allow users to freely pass through Menasha and Fox Crossing without any boundary restrictions.
- Commissioner McCoy is open to having them in all areas of the village. He questioned if we have any injury data from the other communities.
- Commissioner Kurer thinks it's beneficial to allow the scooters. She suggested it might be a good idea to gather community feedback at some point.
- Commissioner Otto is in favor of expanding the program this year but would like to limit the scooters to only be allowed on trails, and kept off of the streets.
- Commissioner Wollerman does not have any objections to opening it up to all trails.

- B. Reciprocity Report:** Director Geiser reviewed the 2022 reciprocity numbers between Fox Crossing and Menasha. In terms of recreation programs, more Fox Crossing residents participated in Menasha programs and saw a greater cost savings from the agreement. This can mostly be attributed to programs that Fox Crossing is not currently in a position to offer (gymnastics, swim lessons, and full-day summer camps). On the facility rental side, many more Menasha residents rented Fox Crossing facilities than vice versa. Overall, the agreement remains beneficial for both municipalities.
- C. Earth Week Clean-Up:** Director Geiser discussed the new Earth Week Clean-Up event scheduled for Wednesday, April 19. Clean-up events will take place at five of our community parks: Schildt, O’Hauser, Fritsch, Palisades, and Wittmann. Director Geiser indicated she’d like the Commission to help lead the clean-ups due to limited staff. The site leader would need to hand out bags, gloves and a thank you treat at the completion of the clean-up. Commissioner Wollerman volunteered to lead Schildt Park. Commissioner Beson volunteered to lead Fritsch Park. Commissioner McCoy volunteered to lead Palisades Park. Commissioner Otto volunteered to lead O’Hauser Park. Director Geiser will lead Wittmann Park.

## REPORTS

- A. Park Report:** Accepted as written.
- B. Recreation Report:** Accepted as written.
- C. Director Report:** Accepted as given.
- D. Commission Reports:**
- **Commissioner Beson:** No report
  - **Commissioner Otto:** No report
  - **Commissioner Patzwald:** Asked when the Butte des Morts Park playground equipment will be installed. Director Geiser noted it was on schedule to be installed in June.
  - **Commissioner Sylvester:** ~~No report~~ **ABSENT**
  - **Commissioner Kurer:** No report
  - **Commissioner McCoy:** No report
  - **Commissioner Wollerman:** No report

## NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Woodland Prairie Park Land Use Agreement:** Commissioner Beson made a motion to approve the Agricultural Land Use Agreement with Joseph Mueller. Commissioner Otto seconded. All agreed; motion approved.

## CORRESPONDANCE:

- None

## ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Otto motioned, seconded by Commissioner Patzwald, to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 6:50PM. Motion carries unanimously.

***The next Commission meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2023, at the Municipal Complex, 2000 Municipal Drive, Neenah, at 6:00PM.***

Sincerely,



Jason Patzwald  
Chairperson - Village of Fox Crossing Park Commission