



FOX CROSSING PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

April 9, 2025

Park Commissioners Present: Jim Beson, Jordyn Kurer, Kathy Sylvester, Suneer Patel (Virtually), Chris McCoy

Excused: Jean Wollerman, Steve Otto

Staff Present: Director Amanda Geiser

Others in Attendance: Rocky Schafer, Josh Acker, Sean Breitzman, Steve Shelley

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The Commission meeting was held at the Municipal Complex, 2000 Municipal Dr., Neenah, and was called to order by Commissioner Beson 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 March 12, 2025, regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Sylvester motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Kurer. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

- None

DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION

- A. Earl Street Soccer Complex:** Director Geiser provided an update on the status of the Earl Street soccer complex land lease. The current lessee, WI United FC, is no longer in a position to program and maintain the property and would like to end the lease agreement that has been in place since 1998. Staff is currently working with the Village's attorney to go through the process of ending the lease. Upon WI United's exit, the storage/restroom facility and remaining property will officially be turned over to the Village of Fox Crossing. Director Geiser discussed that this was a recent, unexpected development, and asked the Park Commission for feedback on what they'd like to see done with the facility. The Village will now have another 10 acres of property to maintain. Commissioners indicated they would like to see it remain a youth sports complex.

Members from the Neenah Soccer Club (NSC) were in attendance and expressed interest in using the facility, hoping for a long-term arrangement. Sean Breitzman gave a brief background on the club and discussed how this facility would be a good way to keep youth soccer going in the Fox Crossing, Neenah, and Menasha communities. They would like to see the game grow and extend their programming reach. They feel this facility would help them do so.

Director Geiser noted that due to this being a new development, the process of moving forward with a new plan will take some time. Staff's recommendation would be to allow NSC to use the facility this year, with a short-term agreement, until the Village can go through the process of soliciting proposals from all groups who may be interested in leasing the facility. It was noted that ultimately, the Park Commission and Village Board will make a determination on which user-group is most capable of maintaining the property, and which group will provide the most benefit to our community. It was the consensus of the Park Commission that staff should work with NSC on a short-term agreement. Commissioners also noted if NSC is committed to investing time and effort into the facility, they should be given additional consideration when the Village chooses a long-term lessee.

- B. Schildt Park Redevelopment:** Director Geiser provided an initial draft of the redevelopment plan for Schildt Park. The development will take place in coordination with a new stormwater pond that will be constructed in 2026. Initial plans call for pickleball courts, an archery range, walking trails, and an extension of the existing parking lot. Staff is currently working with McMahon for both the stormwater plans and park development. Director Geiser will bring a revised plan back to the May meeting for review.

REPORTS

- A. Park Report:** Accepted as written.
- B. Recreation Report:** Accepted as written.
- C. Director Report:** Accepted as given.
- D. Commission Reports:**
 - **Commissioner Beson:** Stated that he will work with Foreman Tauscher and assist to remove a couple of ash trees at Gant Park. He also reported that the volunteer group will be starting soon and will work at the Rydell Conservancy and O'Hauser Park.
 - **Commissioner McCoy:** Mentioned that he took a walk at Palisades Park recently and surprisingly observed people playing tennis, not pickleball. He thought that was interesting as it seems pickleball is primarily what people want to play these days.
 - **Commissioner Kurer:** No report.
 - **Commissioner Sylvester:** No report.
 - **Commissioner Patel:** No report.
 - **Commissioner Wollerman :** Excused.
 - **Commissioner Otto:** Excused.

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Financial Assistance Request:** *Commissioner Kurer made a motion to approve the Financial Assistance Application as submitted. Commissioner Sylvester seconded the motion.*

The Commission granted \$57.50 worth of Financial Assistance to the applicant which will cover costs associated to the enrollment of one child into the YEL Chess Camp.

The motion was put to a vote and all were in favor, motion carried unanimously.

- B. Disc Golf Extended Hours:** *Commissioner Sylvester made a motion to approve the temporary change of operating hours at the O'Hauser Disc Golf Course which will allow the course to be open from 6A until 11PM through September 30, 2025. Commissioner McCoy seconded the motion.*

Director Geiser brought back a request made by disc golfers to extend the course hours through the end of September. The extended hours would allow golfers to play glow golf. Last year was a trial year for the extended hours and neither staff nor the Police Department received any complaints. Staff is in favor of allowing the extension again in 2025.

The motion was put to a vote and all were in favor, motion carried unanimously.

- C. Dissolution of Land Use - Wisconsin United Football Club:** *Commissioner McCoy made a motion to approve WI United Football Club's 2025-2026 Wittmann Park Land Use Agreement. Commissioner Kurer seconded the motion.*

Referencing the discussion that took place earlier in the meeting, Director Geiser noted that WI United no longer has a need to use the fields at Wittmann Park. By dissolving the current land use agreement, the Parks and Recreation Office will now be able to freely schedule the fields.

The motion was put to a vote and all were in favor, motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE


- None

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sylvester mentioned, seconded by Commissioner Kurer, to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 7:02PM. Motion carried unanimously.

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2025, at the Municipal Complex, 2000 Municipal Drive, Neenah, at 6:00PM.

Sincerely,



Jim Beson

Chairperson - Village of Fox Crossing Park Commission

