



Agenda Item Report

Meeting Type: Tourism Commission

Meeting Date: October 6, 2025

Item Title: Discuss clearing up the Rotary Park mill pond to make it easier and nicer for kayaking and other recreational uses

Submitted By: David Bennett, Communications & Economic Development Coordinator

Detailed Description of Subject Matter:

In partnership with the Columbus/Fall River Rotary Club, the Tourism Commission helped purchase kayak rental units in Rotary Park. Since September of 2024, there have been 17 rentals generating \$450. The goal of the project was to fulfill a centennial project for Rotary and to create an amenity for visitors to Columbus, WI.

Staff have been monitoring pond conditions at Rotary Park and noticed during the summer, the pond gets overgrown with vegetation near the kayak launch. Originally, Rotary was planning on getting an aerator to clear out the area. However, it seems that has been backburnered for other priorities.

Staff is looking for direction as to whether to pursue this as a project to enhance the kayak launch at Rotary Park during the summer months.

List all Supporting Documentation Attached:

DNR Aerator Regulations

Action Requested of the Tourism Commission:

Discuss and give direction to staff for branding elements for Tourism