Agenda

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Ley Pavilion, 600 N Bennett Rd, Dodgeville, WI

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM.

Non-voting members present: Dylan Wadzinski, David Mortimer, Megan James

Voting members present: Larry Tremelling, Travis Wellington, Melissa Brennum, Danielle Kratcha, Bryan Brom, Stephany Marten, Nancy Anderson

Voting members absent: Matt Staver, Natalie Gregorson

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes from July 30, 2025 meeting.

   Motion to approve by Marten, seconded by Kratcha. Motion carried.

III. REPORTS/UPDATES

2. Recreation Update –

   There were 5 programs that started in September including Basketball Training, Flag Football Camp, Adult Pickleball Lessons, Fall Baseball and Tots in Action. There's still more fall program fun for both adults and children scheduled to begin in October – there's still time to register! I am looking to combine Winter and Spring Activity Registration this year, and am looking to open registration in November for that.

3. Pool and Fundraising Update

   We have raised a total $3411 in pool donations this year, which will be put towards pool shade if approved by commission and council. Last day of pool season was August 30th. We did a dog swim event where we had 11 dogs attend. It was put together last minute, so looking forward to marketing this a bit more next year and getting the word out better.

4. Parks Update

   Mortimer reported they've been working on trimming trees, have some patch up projects they're working on. They've done some drainage work at Harris Park near the red playground to help with drainage issues. Seasonal staff will be done around October time frame and/or weather pending.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

5. Discussion and possible recommendation to Common Council to approve quote from Gerber Leisure to purchase pool shade structure.

   We have received a final quote from Gerber Leisure on purchasing a shade structure. As previously mentioned in one of the last meetings, the fundraising team met with Kyla with Gerber Leisure at Comer Pool to decide the best placement for this particular permanent *shade structure. The goal is to purchase the equipment now in 2025 since this was already part of the approved Capital Projects for this year and Gerber Leisure will store it for us until the install in the spring. We are looking for a motion to approve to take this to City Council for final approval to make this purchase.*

Motion was made by Brennum and seconded by Anderson. Motion carried.

6. Discussion and possible action to remove Horseshoe Pits at Centennial Park.

   Last meeting, we discussed the possibility of removing these due to safety concerns and lack of use. We are looking for a motion for the Parks Department to remove the horseshoe pits at Centennial Park.

   Motion made by Kratcha and seconded by Brennum. Motion carried.

7. Discussion and possible action to remove Sandbox at Centennial Park.

   Last meeting, we discussed the possibility of removing the sandbox as it has become more of a collection of animal discard/feces than a sandbox for children. We are looking for a motion for the Parks Department to remove the sandbox at Centennial Park.

   Motion made by Marten and seconded by Kratcha. Motion carried.

8. Discussion and possible action to approve offering financial assistance program beginning in 2026.

   James is proposing a financial assistance program for district-wide families to assist families in need to be able to still partake in recreational programs and activities in 2026. James made a few slight changes based on last meeting's discussion and am now looking for a motion to approve offering the financial assistance program starting in 2026. In further discussion, the Commission would like to consider allowing it only to City of Dodgeville (taxpayers) rather than school district. Commission members request James seek out the other townships in our school district to see if they 1) offer any sort of financial assistance program for recreational programs already and 2) gauge interest on whether they would be willing to provide funding towards this if we were to offer it out to their township. James will follow up on this and bring updates to October meeting.

9. Discussion and possible action to begin offering Sponsorship Program in 2026.

   James proposed a sponsorship program for added City Parks and Recreation support from local organizations, businesses and individuals. Purpose of this program is to help support our Parks and Recreation Departments as well as gaining exposure for our local businesses and organizations. Based on the discussion from last meeting, James made some edits and is now *looking for a motion to approve the Sponsorship Program for 2026. With further discussion, Commission members would like James to add in a clause to specify at who's expense the cost of the actual sign will be if needs to be replaced from wear and tear, but also if the sign was damaged due to vandalism. The financial assistance program will affect any changes needed for this brochure as well. Also consider changing the word "vendor" to something more "business" or "local organizations and businesses." James will update accordingly and bring to October meeting.*

10. Discussion and possible action to grant permission of Girl Scouts Silver Award organization to hang record board at the Comer Pool.
    There are 3 Girl Scouts who presented their Silver Award project to the fundraising team. Their presentation was included in the agenda packet, but essentially they are seeking approval to provide a records board at the Comer Pool to highlight the success of our swim team and let people know of our swim team. Funding would be done all by the three scouts, and Public Works staff agreed to hang it in the location they were seeking (above the current bench against the exterior of the pool building facing the pool). The fundraising committee agreed it would be a benefit to add to the pool for swim team. We are looking for a motion to approve the Girl Scouts to move forward with their project and begin raising funds for this.
    Motion to approve made by Marten, seconded by Brom. Motion carried.

11. Discussion and possible action to approve Recreation Vision/Mission Statement.
    James reported the Recreation Department does not currently have its own Vision/Mission Statement. As provided on the document in the agenda packet, you may be wondering why are these important and why is she wasting your time with this? As a growing department, and the plan to continue to grow, I feel the vision/mission statements provide clarity in showing the community what we strive for and what our actions are based on. They also provide guidance for staff with our programs and connections. It can be posted on our website, on our social media pages, in the activity guide each season, etc. It can also help when we are revaluating program offerings and keep us on track for working towards our goals or if a particular program or event seems to have its own path.
    In discussion, Commission would like to table this for next meeting.

12. Discussion and possible action for Ley Pavilion.
    This topic has been heavy on our agendas the last several meetings, and James just wanted to reopen this discussion for hopefully a bit more clarity and direction. Based on initial discussion, it was decided priority was to move towards redoing

the floor. Based on the last meeting discussions, it seemed like we are looking to have some more clear images of what the future of Ley Pavilion looks like. We have not yet gotten any renderings or any specifics for future floor plans or reconstruction at this point. We will have to spend money to get these, so I think it makes the most sense for us all to come to a consensus before moving further on that side of things. With that said, when we are considering updates for Ley Pavilion, we need to make sure we are taking the whole picture of the community. Icewolves Hockey does utilize the facility for 6 months out of the year, so they will obviously need to benefit from the changes; however, we need to make sure the other 6 months are referenced specifically to our taxpayers and how we can maximize the use of this community asset. For example, is having locker rooms the biggest priority right now? Does that include benefit to the community just as much to the hockey association? Or is redoing the roof or the flooring more of a priority that will make it a nicer facility to host events, programs, organizations, etc as well as help alleviate some of the hockey set up? The Commission was able to walk around the Pavilion and Kyle with Icewolves was present to walk them through some of their specific challenges with their processes of their season. James and Wadzinski asked the Commission to consider walking around with the mindset of the taxpayer, not just hockey-related. After reconvening, the group came back together and discussed many updates that are needed and it was beneficial to see; however, no real direction was considered. James asked the group to think about this and we will discuss again at the next meeting as to whether the Commission would like to request an amount to Capital Projects for 2026 or if we will take next year to come up with a better plan.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

13. Next meeting will be October 29th, 2025.

This meeting we will be reviewing contracts!

VI. ADJOURN

14. Motion to Adjourn

Motioned by Brom, seconded by Brennum. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.

Any person who has a qualifying disability, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, that requires the meeting or material at the meeting to be in an accessible location or format, must contact the City Clerk at the address listed above or call 930-5228, prior to the meeting so that any necessary arrangements can be made to accommodate each request.