



OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

MEETING OF THE PARK BOARD MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2025, AT 5:00 PM

COMMUNITY CENTER MEETING ROOM, 1050 N. ORANGE ST., RICHLAND CENTER, WI 53581

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by President Elliott, and a quorum was present; the meeting had been properly noticed.

ROLL CALL: Park Board members: Pat Elliott, Kathryn Lewandowski, Allicia Woodhouse, Brad Wegner, Larry Hallett, Mark Chambers, City Council, Chad Cosgrove, County Board. Jodi Mieden, Recreation Director.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Lewandowski to waive the reading of the minutes of the last meeting(s) in lieu of printed copies and approve the same, 2nd by Wegner. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

2. Consider approval of a rental fee waiver or discount for Nascar Fans United G.R.A.C.E. team's fundraiser event. The group is a 501(c)3 so it is approved at a 25% discount. Since alcohol will be served, a deposit will be required. Motion to approve by Hallett, 2nd by Chambers. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion about permanent restrooms at North Park.

Mark Jelinek came to represent RCYBS and RARYS/MAYSA to inquire about the possibility of a more permanent solution for restrooms at North Park, if possible, due to its proximity to the floodplain, and to bring it before Public Works to start the process moving forward. The Board is interested in moving forward to Public Works.

4. Discussion about future collaboration regarding maintenance on the Pine River.

Marty Richards gave a brief history of the commitment made by the Friends of the Pine LLC, as well as Mark McCauley & Crew of Pine River Paddle & Tube LLC over the past 10 years. Over time and COVID years, people started to buy their own boats, causing the rental part of the business to falter. He was able to continue being a ferry service to river users but cannot sustain it going forward. This presents a big problem considering the Pine River is one of our top tourism attractions and lots of tourism dollars go to promoting it. All agreed City staff should not be responsible for the river clearing. Tourism offered a \$2k grant this year to fund the task to keep the river passable. The 501c3 group Friends of the Pine will apply for the grant and create an RFP to get bids for clearing/cleaning, eliminating liability to the City. Future collaboration between Richland Center Parks Department, Richland County Parks Commission, Friends of the Pine LLC, and Greater Richland Tourism will be required to accomplish the goal.

5. Consider renewal of 2025 Recreation Program Policy.

Mieden presented a proposed policy including new verbiage for Officially Sanctioned Recreation Sports Club: Organized physical activity groups (non-team sport/open gyms) to cover groups like Sunrise Basketball. Motion to approve the 2025 policy by Chambers, 2nd by Cosgrove. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Discussion about the Draft 2026-2031 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

The discussion was tabled until the next meeting. Mieden will provide current County and State plan for reference.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: *Approval of payment of the monthly bills.*

Motion by Wegner to approve December Bills. 2nd by Chambers. Motion carried unanimously.

MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT

Revenues for December 23-January 26, 2023 vs 2024, were provided, as well as the approved 2025 budget

WSRC REPORT: Four Diamond Jo Casino trips with WARCO Bus Company in 2025. April 10, June 12, August 14, and October 2. The bus is \$1,325 = \$35/person. The casino gives \$15 lunch/\$10 free play/person. Registering for New Orleans and New Hampshire trips, profit \$20.00/person. Brewers Game July 12 = \$100/person, includes food for the tail-gate party. Chess on Wednesday mornings needs more players. Gentle Chair Yoga with Lara on Wednesday mornings has gained several more people and is a great way to exercise and be social.

RECREATION REPORT: Jena is busy creating the Spring/Summer Activity Guide to be sent to print April 1st. We are scheduling new adult classes with Ladd's Country Collectibles for January and February. Only 5 teams replied to play in the Sunday night Men's Basketball league this year and league play started last night. Renee Gabrielse & Dan Littel donated a ping pong table that will be stored in the Rec storage room for people to play. The remote-control group is coming in two times each week. We will be hosting another Sunday Funday Square Dance on February 16th that should be fun. Mark Chambers has filed non-candidacy papers for D2 Wards 4/5/6, Rachel Schultz has filed candidacy papers. I used up 2 weeks' vacation to sunny Florida with my family. Public Works News: The new Lead backed out and they have posted the job online to generate more possible applicants.

PARK BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT: Elliott will be attending the meeting with Richland County Parks Commission, Friends of the Pine LLC, and Greater Richland Tourism to begin discussions on the Pine River.

REPORTS, REQUESTS, CONCERNS: nothing to report

SET NEXT MEETING DATE: 4th Monday of the Month. February 24th, 2025, at 5:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to Adjourn by Hallett. 2nd by Chambers. Motion carried unanimously.