



**TWO
RIVERS**
WISCONSIN

ADVISORY RECREATION BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Koska Room - Community House
1520 17th Street, Two Rivers, WI 54241

MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Council Rep Scott Stechmesser, Robert Reed, Jason Scharping, Travis Kadow, Tom Lawler, Jennifer Watry

ABSENT: Council Rep Adam Wachowski, Erin Lamal, Daniel Cortte

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Jennifer Watry, Seconded by Jason Scharping.

3. CORRESPONDENCE - None

4. COMMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC (Limited to 3 minutes each)

John Gomez thanked the Parks crew for promptly removing a tree as he had requested.

Kathy Dahlke suggested adding more specificity to questionnaires by tailoring the language to be clearer and including a comment section for additional feedback.

Dean Hrvila shared details about the upcoming Memorial Day Bell Ceremony scheduled for May 25 at 8:30 a.m., with setup beginning at 8:00 a.m. in Central Park East, and concluding at the cemetery.

Bruce Kreuger questioned why donations and sponsorships could not be pursued for a new concession stand.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Neshotah Beach Pavilion/Concession Stand Project Update

i. Review Q&A publication -The Board reviewed the published Q&A document and had no concerns.

ii. Review funding status - The Board reviewed the funding chart included in the attachments. It was clarified that \$255,318 was included in the approved 2026 City budget, not \$510,636. As a result, at least 50% of the project must be funded through outside sources. Committed Room Tax funds currently place the project at a projected 75% outside funding. It was noted that without additional grants or sponsorships, the project cannot proceed at the proposed scope.

iii. Review scope of project - The Board reviewed the current and proposed floor plans, which aim to bring the building up to code, improve functionality, and add additional bathrooms. Suggestions included relocating refrigeration closer to the order window, reducing the number of sinks in the men's restroom area, and adding an option to wall off a portion of the space as a "warming kitchen" so it could be used either as part of the concession stand or as an option for rental use.

iv. Share upcoming public survey about project - Information regarding an upcoming public survey related to a pilot paid parking program was shared. The survey was distributed to local nonprofit organizations, schools, and on Facebook to gauge interest from outside volunteer organizations rather than relying on City staffing alone.

b. 2025 / 2026 Capital Projects

Board reviewed a detailed list of 2025 capital projects yet to be completed and upcoming 2026 capital projects. The project list is included as an attachment.

6. OLD BUSINESS - None

7. OTHER BUSINESS - None

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

a. Program and Event Updates - The Director reported that 2025 concluded with approximately 30,000 attendees at Park & Recreation special events and 2,000 participants in youth and adult programs. Staff is currently working on the 2025 Annual Report, and the Senior Center Annual Report has been submitted to the Board. A revenue chart included in the attachments shows an upward trend in rentals and picnic shelter revenue, with cemetery revenue holding steady. Save-the-date information was also shared for upcoming concert series, including Bands on the Beach, Concerts in the Park, Friday Night Concerts, as well as new events: Winter Hangout on January 30 (sponsored by Cher-Make) and the Zombie Zoom 5K on October 31.

b. Parks and Facilities Updates - The Director reported that the first plot has been sold in the new "Paws in Time" Pet Cemetery. Fundraising efforts for Perpetual Care Flowers and the Community Band will be added to a future City Council agenda to establish an investment fund with the Lakeshore Community Foundation.

c. Planning and Grants Updates - The Director provided an update on ongoing planning initiatives and grant-related activities along with the Capital Projects detailed in the attached report.

9. ITEMS FOR FUTURE ADVISORY RECREATION BOARD MEETINGS - None

10. NEXT MEETING - February 11, 2026

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Travis Kadow, Seconded by Tom Lawler.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hooper, Parks & Recreation Office Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura Hooper", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.