



Park and Recreation Board Meeting Agenda Item

Meeting Date:	August 19, 2026
Agenda Item:	Discussion and Possible Action on Request for partner designation by Touch A Paw Cat Shelter
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Kevin Boehm, kboehm@whitewater-wi.gov , 262-473-0122

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

On July 8, 2026, I received a letter from Touched By A Paw requesting to become a partner organization with the City of Whitewater Parks Department. Touched By A Paw is a nonprofit 501(c)(3), no-kill, volunteer-run cat rescue and shelter.

The request did not identify what specific programs, activities, or facilities the organization intends to use the partnership for. Currently, the City's **Facility Rental and Reservation Policy** is the only Parks and Recreation document that addresses partnership organizations.

Staff is bringing this request to the Park Board for discussion and direction regarding whether Touched By A Paw should be recognized as a partner organization and, if so, how that designation should apply under the existing policy.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

Facility Rental and Reservation Policy was updated 7/8/2024.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

None unless the organization intends to rent City facilities. If approved as a partner organization, the City could waive up to 100% of applicable facility rental fees.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff has no recommendation and is seeking direction from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board as to whether Touched By A Paw is eligible for partner organization designation and, if approved, what level of discount should apply as identified in the Facility Rental and Reservation Policy.

Page 2 of the Facility Rental and Reservation Policy states:

“Note: To be added or considered as a partner organization, please submit a letter of request to the Parks & Recreation Director. Decisions will be based on charitable contributions to the community and/or services provided to youth in our local community and made by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board at their next scheduled meeting.”

Based on the policy, the Advisory Board should consider the organization's charitable contribution to the community and/or services provided to local youth when determining eligibility for partner designation and any applicable facility rental discount.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

1. Request from Touched by a Paw.