

CITY OF STURGEON BAY  
JOINT PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE / BOARD MEETING

**AMENDED**

Wednesday, December 1, 2021  
Council Chambers, City Hall, 421 Michigan Street  
5:30 P.M.

A meeting of the Joint Parks and Recreation Committee / Board was called to order at 5:30 P.M. by Chairperson/Ald. Helen Bacon, in Council Chambers, City Hall, 421 Michigan Street.

**Roll Call:** Members present were Ald. Helen Bacon, Ald. Gary Nault, Chris Larsen, Randy Morrow, Marilyn Kleist, George Husby, Jay Renstrom, Director of Municipal Services, Mike Barker and Ald. J. Spencer Gustafson. Also present was City Administrator, Josh VanLieshout and Municipal Services Secretary, Patty Quinn.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** A motion was made by Ald. Nault and seconded by Ms. Kleist to adopt the agenda.

1. Roll call
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Review of Minutes of October 27, 2021
4. Public Comment on Agenda Items
5. Review of Minutes from the Local Arts Board Meeting of November 10, 2021
6. Consideration to approve changes to the Fishing Tournament Rules & Regulations
7. Discussion and comments on City park usage – what have the Committee / Board members noticed and what has been heard
8. Director's report
9. Adjourn

All in favor. Carried.

**Review of Minutes of October 27, 2021:** No comments.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items:** The following spoke during public comment:

Chris Johnson, 8919 Baywoods Rd. – Opposed to Agenda item #6.

Kyle Carpenter, 5165 County Rd. K, New Franken – Opposed to Agenda item #6.

JJ Malvitz, 3040 Stevenson Pier Rd. – Opposed to Agenda item #6.

Chris Kellems, 120 Alabama St. – In favor of Agenda item #6

Brent TeKulve, 217 Main St., Luxemburg – Opposed to Agenda item #6.

**Review of Minutes from the Local Arts Board Meeting of November 10, 2021:** No comments. Ald. Bacon gave brief summary of the progress made on the roadmap/matrix for art acquisition.

**Consideration to approve changes to the Fishing Tournament Rules & Regulations:**

Ald. Nault and Ms. Kleist recused themselves on commenting or voting on this agenda item.

Various members gave their opinions on making changes that addressed topics such as the overall effect of tournaments on the bass population and the health of the fish; tournaments using “weigh on the water” systems versus bringing the fish back to the docks in water wells; the timing of making changes for 2023 and the effect on those now organizing tournaments that have registrations beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022; and balancing out residents versus tourists with usage of the Sawyer Park facilities.

Questions were addressed regarding the old and new rules and regulations for fishing tournaments. Points were discussed as to how the DNR handles certain phases of tournaments and several members thought that bringing in a DNR representative to a future meeting would be of help to the committee/board. Several suggested a slower approach to putting the new rules into place to help tournament organizers adjust.

Mr. Morrow made a motion to table the new rules and regulations for 2022 and have a meeting with tournament organizers to discuss new rules effective 2023. Mr. Morrow retracted this motion shortly after.

Discussion continued that included bringing back this agenda item to the next meeting and possibly meet with tournament organizers and invite a DNR fishing representative to a meeting. Ald. Bacon asked that members go through the new rules and regulations and make notes to bring back to the next meeting.

Mr. Morrow made a new motion to postpone any changes and retain the current rules and regulations for 2022, and to finalize the new rules by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, that would be effective in 2023.

Mr. Husby seconded the motion with ayes from Dir. Barker, Mr. Renstrom, Ald. Gustafson, Mr. Husby, Mr. Morrow and Mr. Larsen. Nay from Ald. Bacon. Carried.

**Discussion and comments on City park usage – what have the Committee/Board members noticed and what has been heard:** Each member spoke on items they felt important for improvements to the City Parks that would ultimately increase usage.

Mr. Husby presented his thoughts on Memorial Field and its future **that included his concerns on the press box steps needing painting as they are slippery when wet, the overall painting of the press box to a different color from white for the safety of the players, and that no money has been set aside for future maintenance and that groups using the field should have to contribute to a fund.** Mr. Renstrom spoke on Otumba and Sunset Parks. Ms. Kleist talked about the Sunset Park shelter. Ald. Gustafson shared thoughts on the Dog Park and Sunset Park. Ald. Bacon commented that more people are getting out and using the parks. Ald. Nault feels that new playground equipment at Otumba will draw more people and he also spoke on small improvements needed at Sawyer Park. Mr. Larsen spoke on maps for the original plan and he would like to see tree planting increased. Mr. Morrow brought up topics such as signage, bridge walkways, parking, tennis and basketball courts, and more garbage cans around the City. Ald. Bacon added comments on the 2022 budget and talked about the Westside water development. Mr. VanLieshout provided some initial thoughts on the Memorial Field modernization and the study currently being completed which will be introduced to this committee/board in more detail at the January meeting.

**Director’s report:** Dir. Barker provided the following during the previous agenda discussion: planned improvements to the Sunset Park shelter; replacing the roof at Memorial Field; construction of a shade structure in the spring for the Dog Park; a kayak launch/ADA access being installed at Bullhead Point; more benches for the railroad spur; the Juniper Street shoreline restoration project; and he talked about County personnel helping the public with education on water weeds and related topics.

**Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 26, 2021 @ 5:30 P.M. – City Hall.**

Motion by Mr. Renstrom and seconded by Ald. Gustafson to adjourn. All in favor. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:41 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Patricia S. Quinn  
Municipal Services Secretary