

CITY OF STURGEON BAY
JOINT PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE / BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, October 26, 2022
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 5:31 P.M. by Chairperson/Ald. Bacon, in Council Chambers, City Hall, 421 Michigan Street.

Roll Call: Members present were Ald. Helen Bacon, Ald. Gary Nault, Randy Morrow, Chris Larson, Debbie Kiedrowski, Tom Hemminger and Director of Municipal Services Mike Barker. Ald. Gustafson and Jay Renstrom were absent.

Adoption of the Agenda: A motion was made by Ald. Nault and seconded by Mr. Larsen to adopt the agenda.

1. Roll Call
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Review of Minutes from September 28, 2022
4. Public Comment on Agenda Items.
5. Discussion of 2023 Aquatic Weed Management Plan with special guest Mary Gansberg of the WI DNR.
6. Consideration of raising boat launch fees.
7. Chair's report.
8. Director's report.
9. Adjourn

All in favor. Carried.

Review of Minutes of August 24, 2022: No recommended changes.

Public Comment on Agenda Items:

Chris Kellems, 120 Alabama St, Sturgeon Bay spoke on agenda item 5 and 6.
Mike Langenhorst, 15 Utopia Circle, Sturgeon Bay spoke on agenda item 5.

Discussion of 2023 Aquatic Weed Management Plan with special guest Mary Gansberg of the WI DNR.

Mike Barker gave background on the current Aquatic Plant Management plan will be updated next year, he plans to release a request for proposal for the project in December and hopes to have the project start date in January or February. He expects the first public information gathering meeting to take place as soon as February or March. Mary Gansberg was invited to the meeting to discuss what a good plan should have and see if she recommended any changes. Mary started off with the current plan is very well written and effective which should provide for easy updating.

Mary discussed the DNR's expectations:

- Protect critical habitat.
- Safety over aesthetics.
- Target nuisance areas over invasive growth.
- Have the plant survey conducted in spring and summer, compare to old plan.

- Have public input meetings prior to the draft plan and after draft is available.
- Include specific write-ups for any added areas such as Lama Wama Lagoon.
- Ultimately it is the City's plan, if we wanted to include clearing out around each dock it is fine, that is the City's decision. She just would not allow the harvesters to operate in less than 3' of water depth.
- Recommends evaluating the plan to ensure it is still effective on an annual basis.
- When asked about typical types of management she said that mechanical harvesting and spraying were the most popular and cost effective.

Conversation amongst the board covered items such as:

- Why it was decided not to work inside the pier head line for the current plan.
- Expanding the mechanical harvesting area.
- Areas where chemical treatment is used.
- Importance of having ample public input meeting during the creation of the new plan, one or more in conjunction with a Parks and Recreation Committee / Board meeting.

Consideration of raising boat launch fees:

Mike Barker discussed the executive summary that he drafted and spoke on what the funds were used for. It was noted that the boat launch fees were used to maintain the facilities and not transferred to other areas. Ald. Nault commented that the fees should be raised and supported the raise. Randy Morrow made a motion to "Approve the fee increase with the daily rate of \$10 in stead of \$8." Tom Hemminger seconded. Discussion on why it would be difficult to justify the additional increase was had; all launches should be the same, and only one facility is staffed which would make it difficult to justify. It was agreed that these facilities are going to face a difficult time in the future to pay for improvements such as parking lot resurfacing, dock replacement, and fish cleaning table replacement. Motion was voted on 2 in favor of, and 5 not in favor of. Motion failed. Ald. Bacon moved to "approve the increase as submitted in the executive summary, adding "to review this again in two years". Motion was voted on 6 in favor of and 1 not in favor of. Motion carried.

Chair's Report: Ald. Bacon spoke about the successful unveiling of the mural on the front of City Hall. She also discussed the Local Arts Board is working on attaining more art for the City.

Director's report: Mike Barker reported on leaf removal from the parks and closing the restrooms for the season.

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, December 21, 2022 @ 5:30 P.M. – City Hall.

Motion to Adjourn: Ald. Nault, seconded by Debbie Kiedrowski to adjourn. All in favor. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Barker
 Director of Municipal Services