

CITY OF STURGEON BAY
JOINT PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, February 26, 2020
Council Chambers, City Hall, 421 Michigan Street
5:30 p.m.

1. Roll call
2. Adoption of agenda
3. Public comment on agenda and non-agenda items
4. Approval of minutes from January 22, 2019
5. Presentation: Friends of Sturgeon Bay Athletics on conceptual improvements to athletic facilities
6. Discussion of: Mission Statement
7. Discussion of: Outdoor Rec Plan pages 1-8
8. Discussion of: Renewal of appointments
9. Discussion of: Otumba Park updates
10. Directors Report
11. Future Agenda Items
12. Adjourn

NOTE: DEVIATION FROM THE AGENDA ORDER SHOWN MAY OCCUR

Notice is hereby given that a majority of the Common Council may be present at this meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility. If a quorum of the Common Council does attend, this may constitute a meeting of the Common Council and is noticed as such, although the Common Council will not take any formal action at this meeting.

Notice is hereby given that if a quorum of one of the committees is not present, the committee with a quorum may meet and act upon the agenda subjects.

Posted:
11:00 a.m.
2/21/2020
LK

Park and Recreation Committee/Board Members:
David Hayes, Chair
Helen Bacon
Gary Nault
Mike Barker
Chris Larsen
Randy Morrow
Marilyn Kleist
George Husby
Jay Renstrom

CITY OF STURGEON BAY
JOINT PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, January 22, 2020
Council Chambers, City Hall, 421 Michigan Street
5:30 p.m.

A meeting of the Joint Park and Recreation Committee / Board was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Chairperson Hayes in Council Chambers, City Hall, 421 Michigan Street.

Roll Call: Members present were Ald. Hayes, Ald. Bacon, Marilyn Kleist, Chris Larson, George Husby, Randy Morrow and Jay Renstrom. Ald. Nault was absent. Also present Municipal Services Director Mike Barker, Josh VanLieshout, Marty Olejniczak and Municipal Services Secretary Lynnae Kolden.

Adoption of the Agenda: Moved by Mr. Renstrom to adopt the following agenda, seconded by Ald. Bacon.

1. Roll call
2. Adoption of agenda
3. Public comment on agenda and non-agenda items
4. Approval of minutes from December 4, 2019
5. Consideration of: Acceptance of a Rotary Donation at Little Lake
6. Discussion of: Ballfield ideas from Mike Parent
7. Consideration of: Gravel access trail into Big Hill Park
8. Discussion of: How to proceed on the other sections of the Outdoor Rec Plan, Introductions and Recommendations. Outdoor needs Analysis.
9. Directors Report
10. Future Agenda Items
11. Adjourn

All in Favor. Carried.

Public Comment: George Husby 1111 N. 5th Avenue, Sturgeon Bay. Heidi Kratcha 523 E. Compass Place, Sturgeon Bay. Kirsten Reeths 124 N. 8th Place, Sturgeon Bay.

Approval of Minutes from December 4, 2019: Moved by Ald. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Husby. All in favor. Carried.

Consideration of: Acceptance of a Rotary Donation at Little Lake: Mr. Barker briefed the committee on the expectations on Little Lake after the dredging. The Rotary presented the Little Lake Dock & Fishing Pavilion proposal. Discussion took place on dredging, the highwater levels, and the Rotary proposal. Mr. Renstrom made a motion to accept the Rotary's Little Lake Dock and Fishing Pavilion Proposal. Mr. Morrow seconded. All in Favor. Carried.

Discussion of: Ballfield ideas from Mike Parent: Mr. Parent introduced himself and gave a brief history of his experience with building ballfields. He handed out a potential cost list of everything that could be needed in a ballfield. The list was reviewed by line item and explained that some items could be added later or could be eliminated. Mr. Parent stated he wanted everyone to know the potential costs for a new field. Mr. Husby stated we would also need to add a concession stand & storage area. Discussion took place on the conditions and potential upgrades of the current fields, locations, and space needed. Ald. Hayes, stated that this still depends on the Westside Lofts, and we should have an idea on the funding for the project in April.

Consideration of: Gravel access trail into Big Hill Park: Mike Barker stated this recommendation came from the Bike & Ped Committee. That a path would give better access to Big Hill Park. Currently people walk or ride through the grassy area from the sidewalk by Big Hill Regency to the gravel driveway for the water tower. The path would be 5 ft wide and made of gravel, it is something that staff could do for less than \$1000.00 for the supplies. Discussion took place. It was decided to add the path as an action item in the Outdoor Rec Plan for Big Hill Park.

Discussion of: How to proceed on the other sections of the Outdoor Rec Plan, Introductions and Recommendations. Outdoor needs Analysis: Ald. Hayes asked the committee how they would like to review the rest of the Outdoor Rec Plan. Discussion took place on Park definitions, the maps and document layout. It was decided to review pages 4 – 21 at the next meeting.

Directors Report: Mike Barker, stated that he is getting quotes for siding, grill & firepit at Otumba Park. Mike also has a preliminary drawing of a shelter for the dog park and is looking into the cost of the shoreline repair that may be needed.

Future Agenda Items: Review the Outdoor Rec Plan – pages 4 – 21. Otumba Park.

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 @ 5:30 PM - City Hall

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Larsen, seconded by Ald. Bacon. All in favor. Carried.
Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Lynnae Kolden
Municipal Services Secretary

Mission Statement

Enhancing the quality of life for our citizens and visitors through leisure and recreational opportunities in Sturgeon Bay.

Introduction

A. 2nd paragraph - edit last sentence to: Sturgeon Bay has included park and open spaces in the redevelopment of its downtown waterfront, and will strive to increase park and open spaces throughout the city.

4th paragraph - what does this sentence mean "Trees within vegetation can be reintroduced into the City..."

B. 1st paragraph - edit to: "It is this Plan that has ben updated approximately every five years, with the most recent Plan adopted by the Common Council on February 16, 2016."

2nd paragraph - edit to: "...50% financial/grant assistance (or rephrase this sentence it is confusing); "...and various grants from 2021 - 2026"; and "...the state administrator of this federal program."

C. #2. edit to: "...unique natural and cultural resources."

#3 edit to: "...recreation program with providers of recreation, such as schools and assisted living centers to maximize public health benefits."

#4 rephrase this sentence - I'm nor sure what a "period of eligibility" is.

D. Types of Parks - change heading to Recreational and Leisure Activities in our Parks

1st paragraph - edit to: "...with meeting local, daily recreation and leisure needs. The local community needs can best be met by providing various activities and various levels of activity that serve all age and physical ability groups.

New 2nd paragraph - All parks and open spaces within Sturgeon Bay could have multiple activities located at them. What is developed and maintained at each park will be decided from public outreach and a wholistic decision-making process at the Parks and Recreation Board that would be forwarded to the Common Council for approval.

New Categories - titled - Preschool Children Activities; Elementary School Age Children Activities; Organized and Athletic Field Activities; Leisurely Activities for all Ages; Specialized Recreation Activities.

Add the following new paragraphs/subheadings

Preschool Children Activities

These activities still require some level of adult supervision and should be equipped with safe creative play devices such as sand boxes, PVC play equipment, and minimal moving/pinching parts that could cause harm to young children. Activities should also encourage imagination, interaction and creative thinking. Locations and distribution of parks with these activities should be surrounded by residential development, so adult supervisors can walk to and

from frequently. When visiting a park with these activities one should expect to hear the screaming and laughter of children.

Elementary School Age Children Activities

Organized and Athletic Field Activities

Leisure Activities for all Ages

Specialized Recreation Activities

2015 OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF STURGEON BAY

Prepared by:

**The City of Sturgeon Bay Parks and Recreation Department and Community
Development Director**

Adopted by:

The City of Sturgeon Bay Common Council on February 16, 2016

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Mayor
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Sturgeon Bay Common Council

*Kelly Catarozoli
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Rick Wiesner*

*Jerry Stults
Stewart Fett
William Gregory*

Park and Recreation Board

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William Gregory
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Chris Larsen
Randy Morrow*

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City Clerk/Human Resources Director

Stephanie Reinhardt

Finance Director/City Treasurer

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Community Development Director

Martin Olejniczak

City Engineer

Chad Shefchik

Municipal Services Director

Robert Bordeau

Municipal Services Assistant

Jennifer Lenius

Cooperating Organizations:

Wisconsin DNR

**City of Sturgeon Bay Park and Recreation's
Mission Statement**

Enhancing the quality of life through leisure opportunities in Sturgeon Bay

INTRODUCTION

A. Importance of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

For over 100 years the City of Sturgeon Bay has been involved with creating and maintaining parks for its citizens. The City has recognized the value that parks have toward the health, beauty and economic vitality of the community. People of every age and standard of living have need for some form of recreation and municipal parks and recreation facilities are able to meet such need. But the benefits of parks go beyond the basic recreation that they provide.

Parks are very effective in building a sense of community. They create shared space and a nucleus for its surrounding neighborhood. Often a neighborhood is defined by (and named after) its local park. Park improvements can benefit the image of an area and are a tangible product of local government action. The creation or improvement of a park is a tool for community revitalization and can lead to a turnaround of a distressed area. Sturgeon Bay has included parks and open space in the redevelopment of its downtown waterfront region.

Parks and other green space also provide economic benefits to the community. Real property values are increased adjacent to parks. The classic example is the incredible values for properties surrounding New York's Central Park, but the relationship holds true for smaller parks in smaller cities as well. People enjoy living near green space and are willing to pay a premium to do so. The increased property values translate to greater municipal tax revenues. The acquisition and improvement of parks can pay for itself through the property tax revenue. Beyond the fiscal benefits, parks assist in economic development by luring new residents. Today's population is increasingly mobile. Retirees and so called "knowledge workers" in the high-tech and service sector industries are attracted to communities with leisure activities, scenic beauty and quality of life. New residents (and retained residents) are then able to funnel money into the local economy.

There are environmental benefits to the provision of parks. Parkland is very useful in protecting environmentally sensitive areas, flood plains and other lands where development is inappropriate. The open space provided by parks can be used for storm water management in order to reduce flooding and improve water quality. Trees within vegetation can be reintroduced into the City (prairie, woods, meadows, flower gardens, etc.). Given the many benefits of parks, it is appropriate that the City plan for its parks and outdoor recreation facilities.

B. Park Planning

Sturgeon Bay has been involved with park and recreation planning for many years. The City's Comprehensive Plan of 1969 included a recreation element. Subsequent updates to the Comprehensive Plan have always had recreation components. Other City and County publications have focused on park and recreation issues for Sturgeon

Bay through the years. The first comprehensive outdoor recreation plan, the Outdoor Recreation Plan for the City of Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin was adopted in 1987. It is this plan that has been continually updated approximately in five year intervals, with the previous update adopted by Common Council on January 4, 2011.

With the adoption of this updated Outdoor Recreation Plan, the City will extend its eligibility to participate in the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LAWCON) and various grants for a five year period 2015-2020. This program provided 50% grant assistance to municipalities for recreation acquisition, development and planning. Only those projects which are specifically identified in the plan may be considered for grant assistance by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the state administrator of this federal aid program. The City has received grant assistance from this program on several occasions.

C. Objectives of Plan

In general, this plan presents an inventory of existing recreation facilities, provides recreation planning criteria and conducts a needs analysis for Sturgeon Bay. The plan contains specific recommendations for individual parks as well as general development recommendations. Finally, it has information on implementation of the plan.

The objectives of this plan are as follows:

- 1. Provide a basic document identifying and detailing a coordinated outdoor recreation program to meet the needs and demands of Sturgeon Bay residents and visitors.*
- 2. Establish a rational basis for the provision of public recreation facilities based on appropriate standards, equivalent distribution in the City, established demand and the protection of unique natural features.*
- 3. Coordinate the City's recreation program with those of providers of recreation, such as the schools to maximize public benefits.*
- 4. Provide the City of Sturgeon Bay with a period of eligibility for state and federal cost sharing assistance.*

D. Types of Parks

In contrast to county, state and federal agencies, which have quite varied and extensive recreation and resource protection responsibilities, communities are most often concerned with meeting local, daily recreation needs. These local community needs can best be met by providing a variety of parks which serve all age groups of the population. The following selected definitions of parks are those considered most appropriate.

Play Lots or Tot Lots

Play lots or tot lots are frequently in high density neighborhoods or as part of a neighborhood in a small community. In either case, they substitute for the backyard as an area of supervision and play for small children. Play lots should be within short walking distance of home, generally no more than 1/8 mile. These areas can and should be equipped with safe and creative play devices, such as sand boxes, rubber tire and PVC play equipment.

Neighborhood Parks

A neighborhood park provides open space for passive recreation for all ages within a neighborhood, particularly for the elderly and mothers with young children. Neighborhood parks generally range from one to seven acres. Ideally, these parks should be located no more than 1/2 mile from home and, if possible, associated with a natural feature. Access to these recreation areas should be safe and easy, avoiding major thoroughfares and any other obstacles. Site development should include walkways, benches, landscaping shelter and a play lot for younger children.

Neighborhood Playgrounds

Neighborhood playgrounds serve approximately the same areas as neighborhood parks, but they provide school age children with playground and play field equipment. Frequently, these playgrounds are associated with an elementary school or a neighborhood park. Where associated with the latter, residents are afforded both passive and active outdoor recreation opportunities. The size of a neighborhood playground can vary, but these areas are generally larger than neighborhood parks to accommodate ballfields, basketball courts, open play fields, skating rinks in the winter, playground equipment and tennis courts.

Athletic Play Fields

The athletic play field provides active recreation space for older children, adolescents and adults. These areas frequently include lighted ballfields and athletic fields and are sites of organized activities. Because of the acreage demands of such activities, play fields are generally between ten and twenty acres, with twelve acres as a desirable minimum. Play fields have a tendency to be used by adults from throughout the community and from outlying regions as well.

Community Parks

The community park is generally a large park under municipal jurisdiction, which provides a variety of outdoor recreation facilities for residents. Community parks vary considerably in size and development, frequently containing a number of the following facilities: swimming facilities, picnic areas, shelter houses, play fields and equipment, tennis courts, restrooms, nature study areas, hiking trails, zoo facilities, boating

facilities, bandstands and winter related facilities. Community parks serve people of all ages. Community parks may also serve neighborhood park functions for a surrounding residential area.

Specialized Recreation Areas

These are areas which are limited in recreation value, limited as to who wishes to use them, or are undeveloped for recreation. Examples of these specialized recreation areas include conservancy areas, flood plains, historic sites, ski hills and golf courses. While these areas perform important functions and should be considered as part of the City's Outdoor Recreation system, they often are not included in calculations of current recreational areas.

INVENTORY OF OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

An inventory of all existing outdoor recreation/open space areas and facilities within the City of Sturgeon Bay was conducted. This inventory includes municipal and other public and quasi-public recreation properties and facilities.

A brief description of each recreation area including its location, size, facilities and function are presented below and summarized in **Table 1**. The locations of these areas are identified on the map shown in **Map 1**.

A. Municipal Facilities

1. Bay View Park

Bay View Park is located on the waterfront, northwest of Madison Avenue. It consists of a small green area with a gazebo, along with an adjoining earthen berm jutting approximately 850 feet into the bay. The berm is known as the old railroad spur since it supported a railroad bridge across Sturgeon Bay. There are waterfront walkways through and adjacent to Bay View Park that both lead to the end of the railroad spur and connect the foot of Michigan Street Bridge westward to Otumba Park. The total size of these waterfront parcels is 3.7 acres, but 1 acre is used for a municipal parking lot, most of which is reserved for use by an adjoining marina. Bay View Park is a great place to relax and view the waters of Sturgeon Bay, the shipbuilding industry, the historic bridge, and the adjoining recreational boating activity. The park functions as a neighborhood park and special recreation area. The walkways are handicapped accessible with ramped fishing decks and viewing area along the railroad spur.

2. Bullhead Point

Bullhead Point is located in the extreme northwest corner of the City along North Duluth Avenue. It contains 1.3 acres of which 1 acre is within the City limits and 0.3 acre is within the Town of Nasewaupée. It consists of an unimproved earthen breakwater that was historically used for off-loading quarry stone. The property offers great views and fishing opportunities. There are three shipwrecks