

AGENDA  
CITY OF STURGEON BAY  
JOINT PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE / BOARD MEETING  
Wednesday, March 27, 2024  
Council Chambers, City Hall, 421 Michigan Street  
5:00 P.M.

1. Roll Call
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Review of Minutes from January 24, 2024
4. Public Comment on Agenda Items
5. Consideration of Changes to Fishing Tournament Rules in City Parks.
6. Discussion of Big Hill Park stairs along N. 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.
7. Chair's report
8. Directors Report
9. 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

Time:

Date:

By:

Park and Recreation Committee / Board Members:

Helen Bacon, Chair

Gary Nault, Vice Chair

Kirsten Reeths

Randy Morrow

Jay Renstrom

Debbie Kiedrowski

Thomas Hemminger

Shauna Blackledge

Mike Barker

CITY OF STURGEON BAY  
JOINT PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE / BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, January 24, 2024  
Council Chambers, City Hall, 421 Michigan Street  
5:00 P.M.

A meeting of the Joint Parks and Recreation Committee / Board was called to order at 5:00 P.M. by Chairperson/Ald. Bacon in Council Chambers, City Hall, 421 Michigan Street.

**Roll Call:** Members present were Chair/Ald. Helen Bacon, Ald. Kerry Reeths, Ald. Gary Nault, Tom Hemminger, Jay Renstrom, Randy Morrow. Municipal Services Director Mike Barker and board member Debbie Kiedrowski were excused. Also present were City Administrator Josh VanLieshout and Municipal Services Administrative Assistant Colleen DeGrave.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Motion was made by Thomas Hemminger and seconded by Ald. Nault to adopt the following agenda:

1. Roll Call
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Review of Minutes from October 25, 2023
4. Public Comment on Agenda Items
5. Introduction of new board member Shauna Blackledge
6. Discussion of: Bark Park involvement with the users of the Bark Park
7. Discussion of: Big Hill Park stairs along N. 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.
8. Consideration of: Creating an Ad Hoc Committee for Aquatic Plant Management Plan revision
9. Chair's report
10. Adjourn

**Review of Minutes from October 25, 2023**

**Public Comment on Agenda Items:** Chris Kellems, 120 Alabama St. spoke.

**Introduction of new board member Shauna Blackledge.**

**Discussion of: Bark Park involvement with the users of the Bark Park.** Bill Luer spoke about a group of people that use the Bark Park wanting to have fundraisers and take donations for the Bark Park so the donated funds can be used on Bark Park improvements. He stated they would create an LLC or nonprofit. The committee was willing to work with this group and suggested they contact the Community Foundation. Ald. Bacon would like this item placed on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting and to review this park.

**Discussion of: Big Hill Park stairs along N. 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.** Ald. Reeths and City Administrator VanLieshout explained that if these steps were to be replaced and kept as stairs, they would have to be built to code and a ballpark figure from the City Engineer was over \$70,000. It was explained that the other option would be a beautification project there. Mr. VanLieshout stated steps in this location were not a necessity as there are two other entrances to the park and thought it would be appropriate to direct the Municipal Services Director Mike Barker and his staff to landscape there. A few of the committee members want to look at it more closely. The committee decided to place this on the next agenda for more discussion.

**Consideration of: Creating an Ad Hoc Committee for Aquatic Plant Management Plan revision.** Ald. Bacon explained the City's weed spraying process. She explained the DNR has the final say on what can

be sprayed and/or cut. Mr. VanLieshout stated the City creates a plan every five years with a company the City consults with, and then that plan is submitted to the DNR for approval. Creating the Ad Hoc Committee would mean holding approximately two meetings, the first meeting would be to look at the current plan and the second meeting would be to make any changes and map out the areas recommended for treatment. Once that is completed, it would be sent to the DNR for approval and the committee would be dissolved.

Motion by Jay Renstrom, seconded by Randy Morrow, to approve the creation of the Ad Hoc Committee for Aquatic Plant Management Plan revision, consisting of five members. All in favor.

**Chair's Report:** Ald. Bacon spoke about the work she has done along with Municipal Services Director Mike Barker and the President of the Ice Age Trail, to make improvements in the city. Updating the Ice Age Trail maps and placing a kiosk at Cherry Blossom Park were two of those improvements.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Ald. Nault and seconded by Shauna Blackledge. All in favor. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen DeGrave  
Municipal Services Administrative Assistant

**City of Sturgeon Bay**  
**Use of City Parks for Fishing Tournaments**

**These regulations have been established to secure open and safe access to the waters of this state at City Parks.**

**Purpose:**

The City recognizes the desirability of fishing tournaments and their impact on the City's economy and notoriety. The City also recognizes the increased use of its park facilities caused by these tournaments in terms of limiting other park users' access to the waters via the City Parks by creating congestion, exclusive use of large areas of Park property, crowding at parking and launch facilities, and other impacts on the use of the City Parks during tournaments. To plan for, address, and mediate these impacts, the City needs prior notice and an opportunity to prepare for the Tournaments, and some general rules regarding the use of Park Property by tournament participants in addition to those normally applied to the use of City Parks when the Park is not subject to high volumes of users. The City recognizes that it does not have the authority to regulate fishing practices on the waters of the state and issues these rules to address the use of its Park property to complement and enhance access to the waters by all City Park users.

**Definition:**

Fishing Tournament. Any event in which caught fish are scored, weighed, tabulated or calculated on site, and/or a prize of any kind (monetary, merchandise, or recognition by plaque or trophy) is given to a person or persons, and use of the facility requires any arrangements above and beyond the normal function of the facility (tent construction, heightened use of parking facilities, extra electricity, high number of boat launchings, etc.) shall be considered a fishing contest or tournament that will require the issuance of a City Park Permit before the tournament commences. The City Park Permit is issued independently of any required DNR permit. Tournaments or outings with twenty (20) or more boats expected to be registered must receive a City Park Permit from the City. All contests or tournaments held at any City facility shall abide by rules set by the Park and Recreation Department of the City of Sturgeon Bay.

**Park Permit Required.**

1. Individuals or groups wishing to hold a fishing tournament at a facility owned by the City of Sturgeon Bay must first be issued a permit from the DNR (if required by DNR rules) and follow all DNR regulations (DNR Service Center phone # (920) 746-2860). Those wishing to hold tournaments that do not require DNR licensure shall nonetheless be required to obtain a City Park Permit as provided by these rules.
2. All individuals or groups wishing to hold a fishing tournament at a facility owned by the City of Sturgeon Bay must receive the proper permits from the City of Sturgeon Bay, submit required insurance and indemnification, and pay all associated fees. Tournament officials must contact the City's Director of Municipal Services at least thirty (30) days prior to the tournament. Tournaments affecting the normal operations of the City Park facility as determined by the Director may require approval by the Park & Recreation Committee.
3. Tournament officials are required to do a walk-through of tournament activities with the Director of Municipal Services or his designee during normal working hours (Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) a minimum of 24 hours prior to the tournament.

4. The responsible contact person for the tournament must be identified to the Director of Municipal Services prior to the tournament during normal working hours.
5. A map or sketch of the layout of the tournament activities must be provided to the Park & Recreation Department prior to the required walk-through.
6. Any changes to pre-tournament arrangements or the map must be approved by the Director of Municipal Services during normal working hours and prior to the start of the tournament.
7. The issuance of the permit may be subject to reasonable conditions to minimize the tournament's impact on the Park with the goal of mitigating any hinderance to the public's use of the Park facilities, including the launch site.

**General Rules:**

1. City Park property shall not be used as a weigh-in site. While launching from City Park property shall be allowed for permitted tournaments, the congestion and increased volume of use of the Park property by tournament participants for weigh-ins shall not be permitted.
2. No permits for any tournament will be issued for the July 4th weekend (3 days), the weekend after the 4th of July holiday weekend, the last weekend in July, and the first weekend in August.
3. Parking for trucks and trailers shall be at the southernmost portion of the parking lot to reduce congestion in the main parking area.
4. If the tournament has more than 100 boats registered or expected to register and is to be held during a weekend, the tournament director may be required to arrange for off-site parking or consider allowing boats to launch from other boat ramps.
5. Co-anglers shall park two vehicles per parking spot to reduce the number of spaces used or should park off-site.

The Park & Recreation Committee has authority to suspend or modify any of the above rules and regulations.