

**PARK & REC. COMMITTEE** WEDNESDAY, October 11th, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.  
OCONTO CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1. The Park and Rec. meeting was called to order by Chairman Sue Anderson @ 6:02 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Sue Anderson, Bob LeBreck, Theresa LeMay, Diane Motiff, and Lori Stenstrup  
ALSO Present: Director of Park, Rec., and Forestry John Bostedt, Andy Stellmacher and daughter Remme
3. **Stenstrup issued approval of Agenda; Motiff called second. (5 Ayes)**
4. **Approval of Park & Rec. Meeting Minutes from September 27th, 2023 was placed in motion by Stenstrup with a LeMay second. (5 Ayes)**
5. Public Input: Stellmacher requested permission to start writing Grants for Holtwood grounds/repair needs on the baseball diamonds due to runoff. Note his handouts regarding the fields and cost to be covered by Grants. Paperwork included estimates on 4 diamonds. He described the equipment needed to do the repair. He is also seeking to do something for girls baseball of the future, with parent help. The procedure would be 1st come, 1st serve use diamonds. Boys games are running well. This will be added to the Nov. agenda.
6. Correspondence: Live Harbor Cam Views– Sept. 15 - Oct. 10 = 5,412
7. **Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the Following:**
  - a.) Parks & Recreation
    - i. *Bird City* –(still in need of a director) Bostedt has seen that the Bluebird monitoring paperwork was sent to the State.
    - ii. *Copper Culture Museum*– This season Bostedt reported 1,355 visitors who signed the book: representing 31 States; 7 Countries including Scotland, Israel, Australia, Canada, and Switzerland; numerous compliments have been given to our Guides.
    - iii. *2023 Pavilion Rentals* – (102)
    - iv. *Boy Scout Eagle Project* – 2 – park lending libraries: unfortunately they are not fine-tuned

outdoor-treated-wood-weather-finished products, however Bostedt saw that they were properly placed. **Accepting the Eagle Scout project by motion were LeBreck and LeMay. (M/C)** Completed paperwork is waiting for postal arrival.

v. *Prioritizing park projects* – From the list of the Park and Rec. Committee handout, action now waits until spring. However, City Park remains the priority. We learned that 2 children’s toy boxes are to be located there. We are anticipating Grant assistance for playground equipment.

vi. ***Parks & Recreation 2024 Budget*** will be held Nov.1st for approval.

b.) Aageson Pool property remains on hold purpose-ing for the buildings.

c.) Holtwood Campground

i. *Seasonal Sites 2024* Bostedt reports that there are 4 open for sure.

ii. *2023 Monthly Campsites* – (27)(1 month or longer)

iii. *Manager’s Monthly Report*, handed out @ the meeting, indicated positive and better than anticipated results.

iv. *2023 Campground Reservations/2024 Campground Reservations* at present 12 for this weekend.

v. *Guidelines for Winter Wonderland*– Director Bostedt met with the leadership of the present committee: he volleyed the expectations including that displays should remain 5 - 7’ off the road due to plowing. Stenstrup will create a hard copy rough draft of *Guidelines for Winter Wonderland* including Bostedt’s instructions to the Winter Wonderland committee leadership. These will be viewed by the Park and Rec. Committee @ their Nov. meeting, honed, and thereafter kept on file by Bostedt and the City of Oconto for further *Winter Wonderland* activity/requests. (Future changes to the Guidelines may be made on a yearly basis.) As to public questions about the event, the City will direct

concerns to Winter Wonderland leadership (3 cell phones). Boucher/OCEDC will pass on past directives to the new leadership.

- vi. *Campground prices for 2024* BOTH vi. and viii. AWAIT COUNCIL BUDGET ACCEPTANCE held Nov. 1st for approval.
- vii. ***Campground 2024 Budget*** See above.

d.) City Park/City Park Campground

- i. *2023 Reservations* – (1 on books as reserved) LeMay noted that a group of retirees have been picnicking on the grounds.
- ii. *Playground equipment* continues to be a work-in-progress as Director J. Bostedt awaits a return call.

e.) Holtwood Sporting Complex There remain countless compliments on the grounds and total operation of them.

8. **Parks Update:** ALL are seen as seasonally acceptable. Buddy benches (via Ms. Young collecting tabs) have been placed @ the following: \*. Bostedt added that the cemeteries are being winterized.

- a.) City Docks – Theresa LeMay
- b.) City Park & Campground – Diane Motiff \*
- c.) Copper Culture – Lori Stenstrup
- d.) Freedom Park – All
- e.) Holtwood Park – Sue Anderson Bostedt noted that the rocking horse is awaiting a spring repair. \*
- f.) Sharp Park – Bob LeBreck \*
- g.) Bond Park – Diane Motiff \*

9. **Park Special Events: Update** at the meeting we learned that:

- a.) Winter Wonderland (established pre-cut tree cost, and angle tree or display cost) The following dates are determined: Nov. 24, 2023 - Jan 14, 2024; Lighting Ceremony Nov. 24th @ 5 p.m.
- b.) There also will be a “Battle of the Baubles” tree decorating contest wherein prizes will be awarded/applications @ The Shop on Main, Candy Shop, and Facebook.

- c.) The Second Annual Oconto County Historical Society Antiques & Collectibles Sale: Sat. Nov 4 2023 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. @ the Beyer Home and Carriage. Museum (915 Park Avenue/Oconto, WI) NOTE: [www.ocontoareachamber.com](http://www.ocontoareachamber.com)
- d.) OCONTO: 4 stores with a Main St. Grand Opening, Thursday - Saturday, Oct. 19 -22

10. **Next Meeting Date/Time:** Wednesday, November 8 @ 6 p.m.

11. Agenda Items:

- a.) Holtwood Fields Project AND girls baseball
- b.) Winter Wonderland Guidelines

12. **Motiff summoned adjournment @ 7:13 p.m. Stenstrup witnessed second. (M/C)**

Minutes submitted by  
Susan K. Seidl