

MINUTES OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday July 9th, 2025 @ 5:30 P.M.

Oconto City Hall- Council Chambers

1. The July 9th meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Reifsteck.
2. Roll Call: Diane Motiff, Kim Reifsteck, Casey Sowle; EXCUSED Sue Anderson & Violet Hornik; ALSO PRESENT: Cordula Van den Heuvel/City of Oconto Purple Martin organizer and hostess, and Council member Dee Donlevy
3. **Motiff motioned for approval of Agenda; Sowle called second. (3 Ayes)**
4. **Approval of Minutes from 06/11/2025 was submitted by Motiff with a Sowle second. (3 Ayes)**
5. **Public Input:** Purple Martin hostess Van den Heuvel gave a conclusion of the event of which members of Parks and Rec. were already complimenting and thanking Cordula. Approximately 250 (of that 80 children) were in attendance; \$238 was raised; food of Park and Rec. raised the same amount. The Association of Purple Martin, vendors, presenters, and citizens were most pleased. Cordula had planned to relocate the gourd complex to the Harbor but it had already been established by the Martins as of the event. So instead, she plans on looking for funds and donations for another gourd complex (The one @ City Park was donated.) and added polyurethane gourd homes of the future: she will write a grant. These birds have no natural habitat as man has destroyed it, states Van den Heuvel. There are a record # of birds this year, about 100 extra young. Friday there will be banding @ City Docks and City Park from 10 a.m. - noon - 3 p.m.: Reifsteck will see that P.R. exists. The Committee graciously thanked Cordula for her production work and Sowle for prepping the City Park complex. Randal/Oconto City Bird Coordinator was present and will be in charge of all in the future.
6. **Correspondence:** Donation- Oconto Women's Club donated Movies in the Park \$200; and for the fence \$125 paint work
7. **Discussion/Action/Recommendation on the Following:**
Updates on all Parks- Director Jeremy Wusterbarth gave a printed report.
8. **Parks Update:**
 - a. City Docks – Diane Motiff stated to the positive.
 - b. City Park & Campground – Casey Sowle Although discussed in Public Input, Sowle will continue to take watch on the park, make a list of repairs–like the smaller slide, seek signage for public responsibility of umbrella closure and life jacket return. He too is looking @ the plastic domes & windows on the equipment and seeking to see them buffed out; and new borders around the mulch. The teeter totters need replacement so measurements will be taken. Motiff once again emphasized the need for ADA swings. It was noted that the water had come up but again recessed. Donlevy suggested we keep a long term improvement list to activate as of 2026. Motiff suggested the fireworks be held there.
 - c. Copper Culture – Violet Hornik
 - d. Freedom Park – All
 - e. Holtwood Park – Sue Anderson Motiff stated that we need a fund to improve the roads in the Campground.
 - f. Sharp Park – Kim Reifsteck
 - g. Bond Park – Diane Motiff
9. **Approval of Accounts Payable from June 5, 2025 to July 1, 2025 in the amount of: Parks \$5,363.00, Holtwood Campground \$16,228.07 was placed in motion by Sowle and seconded by Motiff. (M/C)**
10. Revenue & Expenditures Guidelines from 2025 & Revenue and Expenditure Histories were viewed and found to be acceptable. A discussion of the new ICE system with purchased bags sought more updates.
11. **Next Meeting Date/Time: Wednesday, August 6 @ 5:30 p.m.**

Agenda Items: City Park repair list; Bird signs and other signage; Holtwood softball Association Tournament 7/18, 19, 20; ICE bags cost; 2026 Long Term Improvement List.

11. Follow-Up List:

12. Motiff summoned adjournment @ 6:38 p.m. Sowle witnessed the second. (M/C)

Minutes submitted by

Susan K. Seidl