

PARKS, FORESTRY & RECREATION COMMITTEE Monday, August 23, 2021 7:00 PM

Meeting will be held in-person. Council Chambers, City Hall 75 N Bonson Street, Platteville, WI

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Citizen Comments
- III. Approval of Minutes: July 19, 2021
- IV. Staff Update
 - a. Broske Center
 - b. Aquatic Center
 - c. Recreation Programs
- V. New Business
 - a. Pool Lifejacket Policy
- VI. Old Business
 - a. Dogs in Municipal Parks
 - b. CIP 2022-2026 draft
- VII. Establish September 20, 2021, meeting date
- VIII. Adjournment

^{**} Masks are required in Municipal Buildings**

PARKS, FORESTRY, & RECREATION COMMITTEE Monday, July 19, 2021, Minutes Common Council Chambers, City Hall

75 N Bonson Street, Platteville, WI 53818

The regular meeting of the Platteville Parks, Forestry, and Recreation Committee of the City of Platteville was called to order by Jason Artz at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Jason Artz, Erin Ihm, Cindy Tang, Suraya Strobl, Brian Whisenant, Victoria Hundhausen
Others in Attendance: Adam Ruechel, Ken Kilian, Elmer Kaiser, Sam Villeneuve, Kelly Jo Hadfield, Kim Zielinski, Matt Zielinski, Morgan Arnold, Christina Burr, Jill Hoffman, and Luke Peters

WELCOME NEW MEMBER: VICTORIA HUNDHAUSEN

CITIZEN COMMENTS

a. Cindy Tang stated that a member of the public had come to her requesting staff to look at the painting and wiring of the City Park gazebo.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Cindy Tang to approve the minutes from April 19, 2021, seconded by Brian Whisenant. Motion carried.

STAFF UPDATE:

- a. Broske Center Update
- b. Aquatic Center
- c. Recreation Programs

NEW BUSINESS

- a. **All Inclusive Parks** Christina Burr and Morgan Arnold presented to the Committee the idea of fundraising and building an inclusive playground within a park in Platteville. Several members of the public were present and spoke in favor of the idea. The Committee was excited about the possibility and were looking forward to helping in the creation of an inclusive playground. There will be a public meeting regarding this project in September.
- b. **Harrison Park Flag** Elmer Kaiser presented a letter to the Committee asking for a flagpole to be installed near the signage of Harrison Park. After discussion Brian Whisenant made a motion to allow staff to explore the costs of adding a flagpole in Harrison Park, seconded by Suraya Strobl. Motion carried.
- c. **Dogs in Municipal Parks** Elmer Kaiser presented a letter to the Committee asking that additional "no dog" signs be added to each corner of Harrison Park. Elmer noted that he has been bitten twice in the past [not in Harrison Park] and that the average lawsuit for a dog bite is \$50,000. Ken Killian live across the street from the park and added that the font on the current signs is too small. After discussion, Cindy Tang made a motion to table the discussion and requested that staff return with information on ordinances from our benchmark cities, seconded by Erin Ihm. Motion carried.
- d. **Mound View Campground Regulations Review** Luke Peters presented an updated list of rules for Mound View Park & Campground, which included the addition of a 14-day limit before campers had to vacate the site for a minimum of one day. There was discussion regarding the length of removal being 24 or 48 hours. Erin Ihm made a motion to table the discussion and requested that staff return with information on length of removal from other campgrounds, seconded by Brian Whisenant. Motion carried.
- e. **CIP Items or Initiatives** Luke Peters asked the Committee for feedback on Capital Improvement Projects they wanted to prioritize for the next 5 years. Upon reviewing the list of initiatives in the Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan the Committee requested that a condensed list be provided, which excluded projects that had been completed since the plan was created. Staff can provide this list for the next meeting.

RESCHEDULE AUGUST 16, 2021, MEETING DATE

The next meeting will take place on August 23, 2021, at City Hall.

Motion to adjourn by Suraya Strobl, seconded by Erin Ihm. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. Minutes by Luke Peters

	THE CITY OF PLATTEVILLE, WISCONSIN COMMITTEE SUMMARY SHEET	
Parks, Forestry &	TITLE:	DATE
Recreation	Staff Update	August 23, 2021
Committee		
Agenda Item:		
IV.		
PREPARED BY: Luke F	Peters, Recreation Director	

Description:

Attachments:

1. Broske Center Financials

Financ	ial Monthly Report							
	12/31/2021		12/31/2021	12/31/2021				
		Period Actual	YTD Actual	Budget Amount	Variance	% of Budget	Enc Balance	Unenc Balance
LIABILITIES								
140-23356-000-000	BROSKE CENTER: TRUST/DONATIONS	-	3,150.00	-	(3,150.00)	#DIV/0!	6,300.00	3,150.00
140-27192-000-000	BROSKE CENTER: DAMAGE DEPOSITS	-	1,250.00	-	1,250.00	#DIV/0!	-	1,250.00
140-31000-000-000	FUND BALANCE	-	(2,578.41)	-	(2,578.41)	#DIV/0!	-	(2,578.41)
140-23388-000-000	PREPAID EVENT CENTER RENT	-	690.00	-	690.00	#DIV/0!	-	690.00
		#REF!	\$ 2,511.59	#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	#REF!
REVENUES								
140-46740-670-000	BROSKE CENTER: RENTAL	-	2,625.00	-	2,625.00	#DIV/0!	(550.00)	2,075.00
140-46740-671-000	BROSKE CENTER: RENTAL TAXABLE	-	16,019.53	12,500.00	3,519.53	128%	(3,401.38)	118.15
		#REF!	\$ 18,644.53	\$ 12,500.00	#REF!	149%	#REF!	#REF!
EXPENSES								
140-55130-314-000	BROSKE CENTER: UTILITY/REFUSE	-	2,760.41	7,500.00	4,739.59	37%	1,175.73	5,915.32
140-55130-340-000	BROSKE CENTER: OPER SUPPLIES	-	3,652.04	2,000.00	(1,652.04)	183%	1,378.25	(273.79)
140-55130-500-000	BROSKE CENTER: OUTLAY	-	3,600.00	3,000.00	(600.00)	120%	(3,000.00)	(3,600.00)
		\$ -	\$ 10,012.45	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 2,487.55	80%	\$ (446.02)	\$ 2,041.53

2. Broske Center update: August 19, 2021

3. Aquatic Center

4. Recreation Programs

Broske Center Report

08/19/2021



Current Reservations for 2021: 130

Weddings - 19

Gatherings: Family (reunions/Christmas parties/celebration of life) – 40

Gatherings: Businesses / Organizations – 34

Graduation Parties - 12

Community Events - 21

Other/Internal Use - 4

items of note: All Saturdays in June, Aug, Sept & Oct are booked.

Current Reservations for 2022: 24

Weddings: - 11

Gatherings: family (reunions/Christmas parties) – 2

Gatherings: Businesses / Organizations – 1

Graduation Parties - 7

Community Events – 3

Current Reservations for 2023: 5

Community Events – 2

Graduation Parties - 1

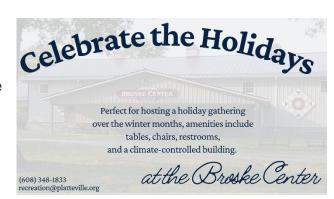
Gatherings: family (reunions/Christmas parties) – 2

Administrative updates:

Staff attended Inspiring Community's Open House on August 10, answered various questions regarding the facility and booked a 2022 wedding.

Have booked 3 weddings for 2022 in the last month. Continued bookings for 2021, specifically weekdays and filling up weekend slot.

Placed a holiday ad in the Fall 53818 newsletter.



Effective Monday, August 23, all individuals inside a City of Platteville Municipal Building will be required to wear a face covering and follow CDC guidelines.

	THE CITY OF PLATTEVILLE, WISCONSIN COMMITTEE SUMMARY SHEET	
Parks, Forestry & Recreation	TITLE: Pool Lifejacket Policy	DATE August 23, 2021
Committee	Tool Energetic Tolley	August 23, 2021
Agenda Item:		
V. a		
PREPARED BY: Luke I	Peters, Recreation Director	

Description:

The current policy of the Platteville Family Aquatic Center is that we do not allow flotation devices of any type to be used, except for individuals with disabilities. This policy is often challenged by patrons, and staff could argue either side of the issue. The main arguments supporting the current rule are as follows:

- They provide a false sense of security and encourage non-swimmers to enter areas beyond their ability.
- Guardians are less attentive when non-swimmers are wearing flotation devices.
- Inflatable devices are easily punctured.
- Wings or floaties often slip off.
- They create a dependency and hinder learning to swim.

The argument for changing the rule is simple. With everything else equal, a properly fitted US Coast Guard Approved life jacket is a backup to guardian and lifeguard coverage. These types of jackets have been proven to save lives in the swimming and boating industry.

Staff would like feedback from the Committee on the current rule. If there is interest in changing the rule staff would work with our current Pool Managers on an updated policy to present to the Committee at the next meeting.

Attachments: Article from the Chicago Tribune

Testing the waters on life jackets in swimming pools

Ashlee and Frankie Hackl, ages 6 and 3, arrived at Barefoot Bay Family Aquatic Center in Mundelein this month wearing new life jackets — but were asked to remove them before they were allowed in the water.

The Mundelein Park and Recreation District bars most patrons from wearing life jackets. Flotation devices can provide a false sense of security, discourage parents from watching their kids and make it harder for lifeguards to do their jobs, said Margaret Resnick, the Mundelein district's director.

Those reasons didn't sit well with Ashlee and Frankie's father, who said he bought the vests to give him peace of mind and his children a sense of security when they practiced swimming.

"We just want to be extra safe, and they feel really secure with them on," Judd Hackl said. "The explanations were really unsatisfactory."

There is no hard-and-fast rule in the aquatics industry about whether life jackets should be allowed at public pools, and experts say there are good reasons to limit the use of flotation devices. That leads to widely varying rules among park districts and municipalities, Tribune reporting found.

Of the 17 park district policies reviewed by the Tribune, Mundelein had the most restrictive rules on flotation devices. There, only people with a doctor's note saying they need the device as an accommodation for a physical disability or other condition are allowed to wear a life jacket.

On the other end of the spectrum is the Fox Valley Park District in Aurora, which requires that children under 4 feet tall wear a life jacket if they're not swimming next to an adult.

More park districts take a middling approach, neither requiring nor banning the devices. In the Naperville Park District, patrons can check out a Coast Guard-approved life jacket for free. In the Chicago Park District, pools don't provide flotation devices, though patrons are allowed to bring their own Coast Guard-approved jackets. Other districts — including Schaumburg and St. Charles — ask that a parent or other adult be within arm's distance of anyone wearing a life jacket.

Life jackets, also called personal flotation devices or PFDs, are often required when boating and are widely accepted as helpful in keeping people afloat in open water. But their merits in community pools are less clear.

The American Red Cross, which trains lifeguards and establishes water safety standards, does not have a policy on how and if PFDs should be used in pools. Neither does the National Recreation and Park Association. Not even the Personal Flotation Device Manufacturers Association, a Chicago-based trade group for life jacket companies, takes a stance. The organization is focused on boating policy.

Even in park districts where Coast Guard-approved life jackets are allowed, officials issue several cautions. One is that PFDs must fit properly. If a life jacket is too loose or otherwise ill-fitting, it could embolden a swimmer to enter deep water but leave him unprotected. There's also a concern that life jackets make some parents more lax in supervising their children.

Perhaps most of all, park officials say wearing life jackets shouldn't be a substitute for learning to swim.

"It's not that we're discouraging (life jackets)," said Eric Fischer, aquatics manager for the Chicago Park District. "We're more in business to teach water acclimation and water safety and teaching people how to be comfortable in the water and how to swim."

With those goals in mind, Chicago long banned life jackets from its pools. But when a patron with special needs complained in 2009, the district shifted course and allowed all swimmers to bring their own PFDs. Before they can get in the water, however, a lifeguard must inspect the jacket to make sure it fits properly and is Coast Guard-approved. Resnick, the director of Mundelein's parks, said her district continues to examine research on life jackets. For now, she said she believes the pool is safest without PFDs, which she said can be bulky and block a guard's view of the bottom of the pool. Being able to see the pool floor is critical, she said, as quards scan for potential drowning victims.

"If you just have one child with one, the bottom of the pool is visible," Resnick said. "If you have four or five kids (wearing life jackets) clustered together, it would be very difficult for the guard to see the bottom of the pool depending on where the guard is positioned."

Mundelein's policy has its proponents. Bill Beckner, research manager for the National Recreation and Park Association, said he was wary of young people wearing PFDs during his days as a pool manager.

"If I was running a pool, which I've done lots of, I would not let kids in during the open swim if they needed to have a device in order to be in the water," Beckner said. "I would consider that an indication that they didn't have the ability to reduce their risk enough to be in the water with everyone else."

But Judd Hackl, whose kids weren't allowed to wear their life jackets in Mundelein, disagrees. As long as he continues supervising his children, he doesn't understand why they aren't allowed to wear flotation devices.

"I'm not asking them to provide them free of charge," he said, "I'm just asking them to let my kids wear the life vests I bring in if they're Coast Guard-approved. It's like a seat belt. It's like a bike helmet. Why take that away from me?"

	THE CITY OF PLATTEVILLE, WISCONSIN	
	COMMITTEE SUMMARY SHEET	
Parks, Forestry &	TITLE:	DATE
Recreation	Dogs in Municipal Parks	August 23, 2021
Committee		
Agenda Item:		
VI.a		
PREPARED BY: Luke P	eters, Recreation Director	

Description:

Do we want to maintain the existing ordinance prohibiting dogs in our parks, with the exception of the Dog Park, Mound View Park, and on certain trails?

Option 1:

Yes, maintain the current policy of not allowing dogs in the parks.

If "Option 1":

Staff would recommend the purchase of portable signs that move where we are seeing the most issues. Future permanent rules signs could be added into all parks, which would include the current rules regarding dogs.

Option 2:

No, change the policy to allow dogs within the parks, with some regulations that could include:

All dogs within the City of Platteville must have a current dog license issued by the City.
All dogs within parks must be on a leash no more than 6 feet long and always held by a person.
All dog(s) handlers are required to bring bags or scoops and pickup waste when in the park.
No dog may damage park property or interfere with other park users.
No dogs are not permitted:
 within the Platteville Family Aquatic Center or Park.
 within 20 feet of a playground.
 within sports fields and facilities including baseball/softball diamonds, soccer fields, tennis
courts, pickleball courts, basketball courts, etc.
 within special events, except where the sponsor has specifically requested to allow dogs within
the nark

If "Option 2":

Staff would recommend signage focus on the exceptions, such as any dog free parks. Staff would add permanent signs for dog free parks and portable signs that move where we are seeing the most issues, such as around playgrounds.

Benchmark City Survey:

Allow on leash pets in parks:

Baraboo (but does have dog free parks)
Burlington*

Fort Atkinson
Galena
Lancaster
Menomonee Falls
River Falls
Stevens Point
Tomah*
Whitewater

Do not allow pets in parks:

Monroe Portage Richland Center

^{*} Staff did not actually speak with them but found the information on their website.

CITY OF PLATTEVILLE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2022-2026 PARKS & RECREATION

		2022		2023		2024		2025		2026		Total
EST. BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-				
FUNDING SOURCES												
CAPITAL PROJECTS LEVY	\$	87,000.00	\$	87,500.00	\$	62,500.00	\$	57,500.00	\$	67,500.00	\$	362,000.00
GENERAL FUND LEVY											\$	-
BOND PROCEEDS											\$	-
GRANTS											\$	-
INVESTMENT INCOME											\$	-
OTHER SOURCE	\$	94,500.00		780,000.00							\$	874,500.00
TOTAL SOURCES	<u>\$</u>	181,500.00	\$	867,500.00	\$	62,500.00	\$	57,500.00	\$	67,500.00	\$	1,236,500.00
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS	<u>\$</u>	181,500.00	<u>\$</u>	867,500.00	\$	62,500.00	<u>\$</u>	57,500.00	<u>\$</u>	67,500.00		
USES BY PROGRAM/PROJECT												
Parks Mowers	\$	32,500.00	\$	32,500.00	\$	32,500.00	\$	32,500.00	\$	32,500.00	\$	162,500.00
Parks Utility Vehicle					\$	30,000.00					\$	30,000.00
Woodward Field Shade Canopies	\$	15,000.00									\$	15,000.00
Rookie Fields	\$	25,000.00									\$	25,000.00
Legion Park Small Parking Lot	\$	109,000.00									\$	109,000.00
Security Cameras			\$	10,000.00							\$	10,000.00
Harrison Park Playground							\$	25,000.00			\$	25,000.00
Inclusive Playground			\$	750,000.00							\$	750,000.00
Silo Shelter			\$	30,000.00							\$	30,000.00
Pickup Truck			\$	35,000.00					\$	35,000.00	\$	70,000.00
Pool Hot Water Heater			\$	10,000.00							\$	10,000.00
											\$	-
											\$	-
											\$	-
											\$	-
											\$	-
TOTAL USES BY PROJECT	\$	181,500.00	\$	867,500.00	\$	62,500.00	\$	57,500.00	\$	67,500.00	<u>\$</u> \$	1,236,500.00
	\$		\$		<u>+</u>		<u>+</u>	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	<u>+</u>			,,

Implementation & Funding

IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation plans connect actions to defined initiatives, budgets, and priorities. The most successful plans reach outside the local government to engage partners in the public, private, and non-profit sectors in implementation. Through the Capital Planning Process, the identified initiatives will be proposed for each year for the next five years. The following chart contains all initiatives that have a cost for each park. The initiative, the cost, and the priority are provided. These priorities are not set in stone; one project might happen sooner than planned, and others might happen later than planned. This is a guide for park planning.

Park Priorities:

	PARKS	ID	INITIATIVE	COST		HIGH	MEDIUM		LOW	
		1	Repave Basketball Courts	\$	30,000	\$ 15,000	\$	15,000		
		2	Handicap Accessible Swing	\$	1,500	\$ 1,500				
C1	Smith Park	3	Trees	\$	1,000	\$ 1,000	\$	1,000	\$	1,000
CI	SHILLIFALK	4	Signage	\$	1,000	\$ 1,000				
		5	Stone Wheel	\$	500		\$	500		
		6	Shelters	\$	1,500	\$ 1,500				
	Platteville	7	Signage	\$	1,500	\$ 1,500				
C2	Family Aquatic	8	Landscaping	\$	2,500		\$	2,500		
	Center	9	Water Heater	\$	10,000	\$ 10,000				
		10	Event Center	\$	650,000	\$ 650,000				
	Legion Field	11	Silo Shelter	\$	30,000		\$	30,000		
		12	Landscaping	\$	25,000		\$	25,000		
		13		\$	1,500	\$ 1,500				
		14	Ice Rink Lights	\$	1,500	\$ 1,500				
С3		15	Batting Cages	\$	15,000		\$	15,000		
CJ		16	Outfield Fencing	\$	5,000		\$	5,000		
		17	Rookie Fields	\$	7,500		\$	7,500		
		18	Backstops	\$	2,500		\$	2,500		
		19	Dairy Days' Garage Roof	\$	5,000	\$ 5,000				
		20	Farm Themed Playground	\$	250,000				\$	250,000
		21	Western Parking Lot	\$	80,000		\$	80,000		
		22	Paint Shelter	\$	500	\$ 500				
	Mound View	23	Expand Campground	\$	10,000		\$	10,000		
C4	Park &	24	Water & Electric	\$	10,000		\$	10,000		
	Campground	25	Trail Signage	\$	500	\$ 500				
		26	Naturalization	\$	15,000		\$	15,000		

Park Priorities: continued

		27	Signage	\$	1,000	\$ 1,000		
N1	Westview Park		Pickleball Courts	\$	100,000	-		\$ 100,000
NIO	Valley View	29	Signage	\$	500	\$ 500		
N2	Park	30	Repave Basketball Court	\$	15,000		\$ 15,000	
			Signage	\$	500	\$ 500		
		32	Playground Replacement	\$	20,000		\$ 20,000	
N3	Harrison Park	33	Move Bench	\$	300		\$ 300	
		34	Naturalize Turf Grass	\$	10,000		\$ 10,000	
		35	Single Track Trail	\$	500		\$ 500	
		36	Entryway	\$	1,000	\$ 1,000		
N4	Highland Park	37	Playground Surface	\$	500	\$ 500		
		38	Wetland	\$	500		\$ 500	
		39	Signage	\$	2,000		\$ 2,000	
		40	Limestone Rocks	\$	2,500		\$ 2,500	
S1	City Dork	41	Gardens	\$	2,000		\$ 2,000	
21	City Park	42	Main Street Connection	\$	100,000			\$ 100,000
		43	Picnic Areas	\$	3,000		\$ 3,000	
		44	Security Cameras	\$	5,000		\$ 5,000	
S3	Sherman Park	45	Vicksburg Monument	\$	1,000	\$ 1,000		
		46	Signage	\$	500	\$ 500		
S5	Skate Park	47	Skate Obstacles	\$	1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
		48	Picnic Area	\$	500		\$ 500	
S7	Swiss Valley	49	Naturalization	\$	10,000	\$ 10,000		
3/	Park (Dog Park)	50	Community Orchard	\$	2,500		\$ 2,500	
S8	Prairie View	51	Soccer Fields	\$	15,000	\$ 15,000		
50	(undeveloped)							
			Signage	\$	1,000	\$ 1,000		
M1	Indian Park		Interpretive Signage	\$	2,000	\$ 2,000		
		54	Water Feature	\$	15,000			\$ 15,000
		55	Signage	\$	500	\$ 500		
M2	Jenor Tower		Retaining Wall	\$	10,000	\$ 10,000		
	Park	57	Lighting	\$	1,000		\$ 1,000	
			Sensory Garden	\$	7,500		\$ 7,500	
CS1	Knoll Wood		Naturalization	\$	-			\$ -
	Park	60	Single Track Trail	\$	500	\$ 500		
CF 1	OE Grey	61	Property Acquisition	\$	60,000			\$ 60,000
L1	Rountree Trail	62	Trail Connection	\$	100,000			\$ 100,000
	Modifice Hall	63	Trail Improvements / Connection	\$	250,000			\$ 250,000
				\$1	,900,800	\$ 735,500	\$ 292,300	\$ 877,000