



PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 06, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Ridgeway Community Center - Room 101/102 208 Jarvis Street, Ridgeway, WI 53582

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order by Chair Casper at 6:30 pm.

PRESENT: Chair Michele Casper, President Brad Butler, Trustee Cynthia Niehaus, Trustee Julene Garner, Commissioner Melissa Hooks, Commissioner Tara Meckley, Parks & Streets Superintendent Kevin Meckley, Marj Riniker-Administrative Services/Deputy Clerk

CONFIRMATION OF OPEN MEETING

Riniker confirmed this was a properly noticed meeting posted on Jan 2, 2026, at the Ridgeway Community Center and the Village website, with notification sent via email/text to subscribers.

PUBLIC COMMENT

*Members of the public may address the Park and Recreation Commission during this time. Comments are limited to **three (3) minutes** per speaker. The Park and Recreation Commission will **not engage in discussion or take action** on items presented during public comment. However, issues raised may be referred as needed or scheduled for discussion at a future meeting.*

No public comment

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by C Niehaus, seconded by J Garner to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

1. Minutes to be Adopted: Meeting December 2, 2025
2. Adoption of Agenda

OLD BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Holiday events recap -

3. Holiday Events recap

Weather was not good again so split the event. Parade was small - floats were done well. Fireworks were awesome.

Having Santa at Depot was great - should do again. Some ideas were shared for next year.

Auction went well.

Next year C Niehaus said the DV band would like to participate and M Hooks said BV band would as well.

B Butler recommended having a definitive back-up date planned.

Got a lot of nominations from jars and had lots of help getting bags together in short window and it went smoothly

B Butler asked about how it gets distributed evenly and M Casper explained. B Butler suggested maybe extending it as there are lots of people who still need help that might not be nominated. M Casper and C Niehaus made suggestions.

4. Dog memorial update

Dog memorial update - Riniker is still researching and working to find options for creating it. C Niehaus found some online that might work.

NEW BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

5. City of Dodgeville Park & Recreation-Financial Assistance Program

Discussed letter sent

Want M James to come and present it to better explain it. M Riniker is tasked with emailing her to invite to next meeting.

Questioned if Barneveld has similar program to be fair for all kids in Ridgeway

6. Upcoming Holiday events

Send save the dates and create FB events

Easter egg hunt - Good Fri April 3

Movie night summer - need license, TBD

IDC - June 27

Halloween - Sat Oct 31 -

Holiday Helper - Dec 12, backup date Dec 19

B Butler discussed P&R commission ordinance/statutes and responsibilities and shared info on codes and statutes and duties.

M Casper shared history on how it came about after Advancement folded.

Discussion was had by group. Butler suggests group look over ordinance and will discuss as agenda item next month. All concurred.

7. Library/Community Center events

Riniker informed group that there is interest in teaching classes before spring. All agreed there would be no rental charge on the rooms as long as they are not being held for profit.

Also asked for input to get more people to utilize the library. C Niehaus offered suggestions for events.

Group discussed purpose of library and community center events.

Riniker shared there are open spaces to rent - Harry is working on fixing upstairs. C Niehaus recommended updating website page to make site more appealing

One set of lockers removed. Floor is in rough shape under them. Group agrees should try to sell lockers before scrapping.

M Casper inquired as to why library is no longer open on Saturdays. M Riniker stated lack of volunteers.

Need marketing plan - where in budget does that come from.

Discussed rental fees. C Niehaus recommends meeting and redoing them.

Riniker shared concerns over gym floor

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by J Garner, seconded by C Niehaus to adjourn at 8:38 pm. . Motion carried.

DRAFT MINUTES TO BE APPROVED AT THE NEXT PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING.