



**TWO
RIVERS**
WISCONSIN

ADVISORY RECREATION BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Koska Room - Community House
1520 17th Street, Two Rivers, WI 54241

MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL

Board Members: Daniel Cortte, Brian Gallagher, Travis Kadow, Erin Lamal, Robert Reed Jr., Jason Scharping, Dorothy Tinkham Delo, Adam Wachowski-Council Rep, Scott Stechmesser-Council Rep

PRESENT

Council Rep Adam Wachowski
Robert Reed
Erin Lamal
Jason Scharping
Travis Kadow
Dorothy Tinkham Delo

ABSENT

Council Rep Scott Stechmesser
Daniel Cortte
Brian Gallagher

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Robert Reed, Seconded by Jason Scharping.

3. CORRESPONDENCE - None

4. COMMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC (Limited to 3 minutes each) - None

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Review of Neshotah Beach food truck policy

The current Food Truck Ordinance does not include fees or specific parking areas. The new policy would include a \$250 fee that would cover May 25 - Sept 7. Food Truck Vendors would need to park in designated areas. Spaces would be reserved on a first come first serve basis.

Motion made by Dorothy Tinkham Delo, Seconded by Travis Kadow to approve the new policy with the added changes to add black out dates for special events booked before May 25, and reconfiguration of parking spaces. The motion passed with the proposed changes.

6. OLD BUSINESS

Mike Mathis will be researching matting to put down for vehicles to drive over the beach area itself out to the Jet ski launch area.

7. OTHER BUSINESS - None

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

A. Program and Event Updates

Senior Center - The Senior Center recently hosted several successful events, including a Health Fair that drew over 300 attendees, an evening Cork & Canvas event, and a Thanksgiving Dinner that served more than 100 people. In addition to these special occasions, the center continues to provide a variety of ongoing activities, such as Trust Car rides and regular meal deliveries, ensuring consistent support for the community.

Recreation Programs – We continue to offer a wide range of high-quality, well-attended youth programs, including softball clinics, dance classes, and a newly introduced youth basketball program. For adults, the center provides engaging activities such as multiple yoga classes and pickleball punch cards. Looking ahead to 2025, our Paddling Programs are progressing with the addition of 17 kayaks, the hosting of an adaptive paddling workshop, and the launch of a series of kayak programs. Additionally, the golf simulator is fully operational and available for rentals, with a recent feature in the HTR showcasing its success.

Special Events - We've already raised over \$15,000 in sponsorships for the 2025 concert series! The lineup includes 6 Bands on the Beach and 14 Concerts in the Park. The Friday Night Live concert series is also in the works, with 10 bands expected to perform. Holiday events are in full swing, featuring the Central Park East Christmas Tree Decorating Contest, Letters to Santa, and preparations for the Cool City Christmas on December 14, offering fun for the entire family.

B. Parks & Facilities Updates

A lot of winterizing has been completed at the parks, including the closure of bathrooms, fish cleaning stations, fountains, and the splash pad. Snow fencing has also been installed at the beach. In preparation for the holiday season, downtown has been decorated, the ice rink installed, and Cool City Christmas preparations are underway. At Paddlers Park, nine new trees were planted, and final touches were made on the golf simulator. Picnic Hill has undergone a cleanup, with tree removal and the installation of 10 new concrete pads for the Disc Golf course. Additionally, the Vietnam Park dugout was torn down due to arson, and the recrowning of Red Field was completed.

C. Planning & Grants Updates

Grants - Several new grants will enhance our community's parks and recreational spaces: a \$100,000 grant from the West Foundation, along with \$20,000 from the Room Tax Commission, will fund the installation of new climbing equipment at Neshotah Park. This will feature Wisconsin's first-ever climbing wall and bamboo forest of its kind! Additionally, a \$25,000 Urban Forestry Grant for 2025 will support forestry education, events, and tree planting and care initiatives. Lastly, a \$3,000 Packers Foundation Grant will help build a new dugout on the gold field at Vietnam Park, in partnership with TRHS construction and art classes.

Planning - The 2025 approved Capital Improvements will focus on several key upgrades across our facilities. These include the replacement of the Neshotah Beach tractor and lawnmowers, as well as the installation of new windows in the Senior Center offices. The gym will receive a new stage curtain and window coverings, while the rotary pavilion will be fitted with new cover fabric. Playground repairs and mulch replenishment will also be completed, along with concrete and wood repairs at the JC shelter. Additionally, warning tracks will be installed at Vietnam fields, and audio/visual equipment improvements will be made to the Behringer Room.

A storage building has been acquired by the City that Parks & Rec has been able to utilize for much needed storage.

*See attached slideshow for details and pictures.

9. ITEMS FOR FUTURE ADVISORY RECREATION BOARD MEETINGS

Additional Recreation Board members needed.

10. NEXT MEETING

January 8, 2025

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Dorothy Tinkham Delo, Seconded by Travis Kadow.



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Advisory Recreation Board

12/11/24

Mike Mathis, Director of Parks and Recreation

Neshotah Beach Food Truck Policy

Current Ordinance Sec. 6-4-9-E

...With authorization of the parks and recreation director, a vendor may sell from parking lots number one and five adjacent to Zlatnik Drive or designated lot at Walsh Field but may only be parked in the same manner and at the same places designated for the parking of motor vehicles.

Neshotah Beach Food Truck Policy

Suggested Policy

- Vendors must apply for an \$250 permit from the Parks and Recreation Department.
- The permit must be prominently displayed so that it is visible to city staff and the police department whenever the vendor is within the designated vending area.
- The permit will be required from May 25th to September 7th in 2025.
- Vendors must stay within the designated space within lot one.
- Space is first come first serve for permit holders.
- Additional space is available at the Walsh Field parking lot. A permit is not required at Walsh Field. Vendors must park in the same manner designated for motor vehicles.
- Questions: Diagonal parking? Must park like a car? One or two at a time?

Neshotah Beach Food Truck Policy



Senior Center October

October

- TRUST Car Rides: 358
- Meals Delivered: 1,483
- Volunteers: 477 individuals worked 1,305
- Senior Center Health Fair: 300+ people in attendance
- Cork and Canvas: Hosted first painting lesson night with 18 people in attendance

November

- TRUST Car Rides: 347
- Meals Delivered: 1,265
- Volunteer Hours: 1,199



Thanksgiving
100 people served.
108 volunteer hours.

2025 Concert Planning

Bands on the Beach

The Cougars - 7/6

The Electric Cars - 7/13

Spicy Tie Band - 8/3

Conscious Pilot - 8/17

Wet Possum - 8/24

Hurricane Gumbo - 8/30

Concerts in the Park

Jazz in the Park – 5/27

Tony Rocker – 6/5

Special Events and Recreation Programs

- 21 girls participated in the November 3rd - 8th grade softball clinic.
- December softball clinic also has 21 girls' participants.
- 21 punch cards for pickleball.
- 46 kids signed up for Youth Basketball program starting December 5th.
- Slow Flow Yoga Class started November 4th with 20 participants.
- Herald Times Reporter article being written about the golf simulator. Reservations are picking up.
- Took advantage of Black Friday and Cyber Monday to purchase additional equipment for our youth sports including catching equipment for our Peanuts and Ponytail teams, girls batting helmets, new pylons for our flag football program, baseball/softball rackets for hitting fly balls.

Special Events and Recreation Programs

- 30 kids participated in the 1st session of dance running from September 16 to December 17th.
- Central Park East Christmas Tree Decorating Contest
 - 30 Trees donated by Sprang's Trees and Wreaths
 - Tree stands built and donated by Lowes
 - 27 trees were registered for and decorated
- 10 participants in our Letter to Santa program.
- We have raised \$15,000 in sponsorships so far for 2025 concerts.
- Created, organized, and completed Candyland map (Candy Cane Hunt) for Cool City Christmas with Downtown businesses and created all marketing materials





2025 Paddling Programs

- Fleet of 17 kayaks and adaptive paddling gear bought in 2024
- Launch series of educational kayaking programs and sunset paddles (schedule TBD)
- Host American Canoe Association Adaptive Paddling Workshop for 10 participants
- Expand and improve Paddle Palooza
- Develop connections to draw paddling conference to Two Rivers



October Parks Updates

- All park restrooms are closed for the winter.
- Snow fencing was installed at the beach.
- The fish station closed, and the docks were removed.
- Planted nine trees at Paddlers Park.
- Recrowning of red field at Vietnam Park complete.
- Annual playground inspections started.
- Completed finishing touches on golf simulator installation.
- Central Park East fountains closed for winter.
- Central Park West splash pad closed for winter.
- Installation of new pickleball court lines in the gym.



November Parks Updates

- Decorated downtown and Central Park
- Installed ice rink and bagged straw bales
- Trail Maintenance Rails/Wash outs
- Tore down dugout at Vietnam Park
- Organized and cleaned Davis St. building
- Clean of Walsh Field Tree Line
- Brush clean-up and tree removal at Picnic Hill
- Poured concrete pads for Disc Golf (10)
- Set-up Central Park East Christmas trees
- Leaf clean up Central Park / Vietnam



2025 Approved City Borrowing Capital Improvements

- Replace Neshotah Beach tractor
- Replace lawnmowers
- Window replacements in Senior Center offices
- Install warning tracks at Vietnam fields
- Replace stage and window curtains in gym
- Neshotah Park Stewardship grant project 50/50 split
- Behringer Room audio/visual improvements
- Replace Rotary Pavilion fabric
- Small playground repairs and mulch
- JC Shelter concrete and wood repairs

New climbing
equipment coming
to Neshotah Park in
2025!

Thank you to the
West Foundation for
the generous
\$100,000 grant and
the Room Tax
Commission
contributing \$20,000.



2025 Urban Forestry Grant



- Notified of \$25,000 grant for 2025
- Plant trees at Koenig Elementary and develop walking forestry field trips for students.
- Remove ash trees and plant new trees at the library.
- Host tree planting event at the library on Arbor Day and support winter educational sessions.
- Cover the cost of a youth apprentice with a focus on forestry.
- Continue removals and pruning in neighborhoods.

Packers Foundation Grant

- \$3,000 to build dugouts on our gold field at Vietnam Park.
- We will partner with the high school construction and art classes to design, build, and paint the dugouts.
- We anticipate construction taking place in early spring 2025.



Storage Building

