

**LA PORTE PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
BOARD MINUTES
MAY 21, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by President Mitch Feikes, who also led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Also attending was Mark Schreiber, Ryan Seaburg, JR Francis, Nicole Messacar, Kyle Cashmer, Evan Miller, Gregory Pietsch, Karyl Feikes and Roberta Mumaw.

RECOGNITIONS

None

MINUTES

The minutes from the previous month's meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Nicole Messacar, seconded by Ryan Seaburg.

BILLS AND CLAIMS

Bills and claims in the amount of \$195,584.46 were unanimously approved on a motion by Ryan Seaburg, seconded by Nicole Messacar.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Mark Schreiber informed the board that there was a complaint filed with HUD regarding the use of CBDG funds to replace the Civic Auditorium lift. The City's response to the complaint was sent out last week. The response mainly contained dates that the Civic was used for COVID testing and vaccinations.

NEW BUSINESS

John Rubel with Planned Environmental Associates presented information regarding the draft for the pickleball master plan. On April 22 there was a stakeholder meeting with approximately 20 people attending. The consensus of those in attendance would be to expand the facility at Kesling and add courts at some of the smaller neighborhood parks. Currently Kesling has dedicated courts with Allesee and Rumely Park having the overlays of pickleball on the existing tennis courts. The 4 options presented were::

1. expanding on the existing courts at Kesling for a total of 8 courts
2. 2 courts at Koomler Park
3. 4 courts at Clarke Park
4. 2 courts at Ben Rees

A discussion was held on the different options presented. The consensus of the board would be to expand the pickleball courts at Kesling Park. A final version of the plan will be brought to the board within the next couple of months.

Gregory Pietsch is requesting permission from the board to switch from the use of coke soda guns and coke products to Pepsi soda guns and products. The agreement with Pepsi would be a 3-year agreement. During this 3-year agreement Pepsi will donate \$5000 per year in sponsorship monies to be allocated at the discretion of the Civic. They are also offering to switch the current soda guns to Pepsi at no charge. The soda guns use a product referred as bag in a box with a cost of \$135 per box for coke and \$110 for Pepsi. Once a certain volume with Pepsi is reached (688 gallons) and exceeded they offer a certain amount of product rebates. Pepsi will also donate \$5,000 to Lakefest for 2025. The motion to switch from Coke to

Pepsi products at the Civic Auditorium as made by Nicole Messacar, seconded by JR Francis. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mark Schreiber is requesting permission to place an art statue in Fox Park. The statue will be sponsored by UEA. The UEA has entered into a 2-year agreement with the Lubeznik Center for the Arts to have a statue placed in La Porte within the Urban Enterprise area. The statue to be placed is Evince and is 7ft statue Luke Acktinburg is the artist. (photo and placement attached). This will be installed mid to late June. The statue will require the installation of a 36-inch concrete pad that will be poured by park maintenance staff. The motion to place the statue in the requested area at Fox Park was approved unanimously on a motion by Ryan Seaburg, seconded by Nicole Messacar.

Mark Schreiber is requesting permission to have the kayak storage lockers wrapped with artwork by Duneland Plein Air Painters. The Park Foundation has agreed to pay for this project. The motion to approve the wrapping of the kayak storage lockers was made by Nicole Messacar, seconded by Ryan Seaburg. Mark Schreiber stated the wrap would be 3 different interpretations on how the artist sees Stone Lake Beach. Each side would be different artwork. Nicole Messacar amended the motion to include board approval of the art prior to placement, seconded by Ryan Seaburg. Motion passed unanimously.

Mark Schreiber requested permission for the summer tennis program to hold their hit a thon fundraiser on June 26. The motion to approve the tennis fundraiser was made by Ryan Seaburg, seconded by JR Francis.

Mark Schreiber requested permission to accept the quote (\$19,861) from Pro Drive to make asphalt repairs, sealcoat and stripe the parking lots at Stone Lake Beach and Cummings Lodge. ProDrive will also donate sealcoating the lots at Kiwanis Teledyne and Unity Park, they would like to place their business sign at Kiwanis and Unity once the work is complete. The motion to accept the quote from Pro-Drive for the parking repairs at the requested lots and to also accept the donation of the sealcoating at Kiwanis and Unity Parks, and to allow the placement of their sign at Kiwanis and Unity was made by Nicole Messacar, seconded by JR Francis. Motion passed unanimously.

Gregory Pietsch is requesting permission to waive the fee for the upcoming HealthLinc event to be held at the Civic. This is a back-to-school event that will offer a variety of vaccines and screenings at no cost. They will also be offering miscellaneous The motion to waive the rental fee for the Healthlinc back to school event was unanimously approved on a motion by Nicole Messacar, seconded by Ryan Seaburg.


BOARD MEMBER/DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

The Board welcomed our new Recreation Director Evan Miller.

Mitch Feikes wanted to thank Jim and Kathy Nova for their generous donation of the kayak launch on Pine Lake.

The motion to adjourn was made by Ryan Seaburg, seconded by Nicole Messacar. Motion passed unanimously.


Mitch Feikes, President


Roberta Mumaw, Secretary

Approved: 6-18-25