

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024 – 6:33 P.M.
CITY HALL, MEETING ROOM 2A – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1. Meeting was called to order by President Adam St. Marie at 6:30 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Present: President Adam St. Marie, Secretary Ann Esarco, David Quickel, Peggy Schneider, Dana Furlo, Julie Mulligan, Alderperson Cindy Yager

Absent (Excused): Mayor Todd Krause
3. **Comments from the public limited to 5 minutes**
 - a. **Mark Sesselman – plaque and memorial tree in park new skate board – donated October 2023.** During June and August, the plaque disappeared. Mark is asking for permission to replace using his own funds. He will be certain to adhere to all regulations.
4. **Discussion of Avian Committee Minutes:** Update provided by Cindy Yager. Lake Geneva approved as a Bird City – High Flyers for the current year. Tourism committee approved funds for Birding Pack backs. Some Pack Backs will be available at local hotels. Purple Martin houses received new equipment to help keep the houses in good order.
5. **Discussion of Tree Board Minutes:** Update provided by Peggy Schneider. Reporting that vandalism is a concern. Parade of Trees at the museum. Also discussing BID work with Christmas lights downtown.
6. **Discussion of Board of Park Commissioners minutes from October 15 & October 29, 2024:** Motion to approve by Adam St. Marie, second by Dave Quickel. Approved unanimously.
7. **Discussion/Recommendation regarding requesting that the BID develop a plan for approval concerning downtown Christmas lights:** In the past Christmas lights were left on the trees during the off season, but the lighting was harming the trees when left on year around. Changed to affixing to buildings. Affixing to buildings is not deemed to be the best solution. Would like the lights to be on the trees, but with proactive plans to protect and replace the trees as necessary.

New plan for lights on trees, plan was to take off lights every two years to allow for growth of trees. However, not all lights were regularly removed. Seeking support by Park Board to outline all buildings in lights, in place of direct lighting on the trees.

Motion by Adam St. Marie, second Ann Esarco: BID to consult with Park Board with regard to Christmas lighting plan by November 2025 for holiday season 2025.

Discussion on prize award for “the best Christmas X” – tourism committee could perhaps fund a larger award to help gather interest.
8. **Discussion/Recommendation regarding replacement of a vandalized memorial plaque for Mark Sesselman:** Motion by Adam St. Marie, second Peggy Schneider – to accept Mr. Sesselman’s offer to replace the plaque as mentioned in public comments.
9. **Update on Resurfacing of Basketball and Tennis Courts at Maple Park, Dunn Field, and Veterans Park:** RFP from DPW included in packet. Interested in this project being completed in spring 2025. Project moving forward.
10. **Discussion/Review and possible recommendations on topics at Veterans Park**

YMCA received \$300K from Tourism Committee to better the ball fields at Veterans Park.

Vision and Playground Equipment – Veterans Park - Meeting with playground equipment companies for ideas and pricing. Kompan would like ideas and/or themes of what we may be looking for. Stay with Veterans’ idea, Sporting idea. Discussed Paul Molitor and the idea of sports theme. Can we combine sports theme with military theme? Need overall vision for Veterans Park.

What about a second or better kitchen area?

Nautical theme for seminar?

Capital Improvement Projects 2027 – DPW has \$1.3 million budget line for park improvements.

11. Next meeting date & time

- a. Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 6:30pm**

12. Motion to adjourn at 7:17pm by Schneider and Furlo. Approved.

Prepared by Secretary Esarco 11/19/2024

Emails to: President St. Marie and CityClerk@cityoflakegeneva.gov