

Our intention is to have in-person meetings going forward. For the time being, we will hold the City Committee Meetings, Plan Commission, Council and most others at the Community Room at 933 Michigan Avenue. This in-person location will meet the legal requirement for our open meetings.

We will have a virtual option available, but the technology for the hybrid style meeting may not be reliable all of the time.

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Board of Park Commissioners**  
**May 3, 2023 - 6:30 PM**  
**Community Room**  
**933 Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI**

**OR**

**[Zoom Teleconferencing](#)**

**Meeting ID: 864 0602 5764 | Passcode: 222396**

**By Computer: [Join](#)**

**By Phone: +1-312-626-6799 (US Chicago)**

**AGENDA**

- I. Discussion and Possible Action on:
  1. Roll Call.
  2. Approval of April 5, 2023 meeting minutes
  3. To award project #23.025, KASH Playground Resurfacing to Adventure Turf in the not to exceed amount of \$225,975.
  4. Land permission request from the UWSP Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society Waterfowl Project and Student Chapter of Ducks Unlimited to install wildlife nest boxes adjacent the Plover River section of The Green Circle Trail.
  5. Introduction and preapproval consideration of The Plover River Crossing Interpretive Trail Sign Project funded by the Community Foundation of Central Wisconsin being presented by Tori Jennings.
  6. Request from the Stevens Point Softball Association to charge fees for parking at Zenoff Park during the U.S. Senior Open in June being presented by Mike Disher.
  7. Forestry Update presented by Forestry Superintendent, Todd Ernster
  8. Director's Report
    - 20 years of service on park commission - Wayne Sorrenson (4/16/2003 - 4/16/2023)
    - Bandshell project update
    - Emerson Park project update
    - Community Stadium project update in Goerke Park

- Green Circle Trail update

9. Adjournment.

Meeting Rider

Any person who has special needs while attending this meeting or needing agenda materials for this meeting should contact the City Clerk as soon as possible to ensure a reasonable accommodation can be made. The City Clerk can be reached by telephone at (715) 346-1569, TDD # 346-1556 or by mail at 1515 Strongs Ave., Stevens Point, WI 54481.

Copies of ordinances, resolutions, reports and minutes of the committee meetings are on file at the office of the City Clerk for inspection during normal business hours from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00p.m.

**SPECIAL NOTICE**

**Please take notice that a quorum of the Common Council, City Boards/Commissions may attend this meeting.**

## Agenda Notes

### **3. To award project #23.025, KASH Playground Resurfacing to Adventure Turf in the not to exceed amount of \$225,975.**

Please see memo included in the packet. The award amount includes a 15% contingency. This amount is under budget, staff recommends approval.

### **4. Land permission request from the UWSP Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society Waterfowl Project and Student Chapter of Ducks Unlimited to install wildlife nest boxes adjacent the Plover River section of the Green Circle Trail.**

The proposal documents from UWSP are included in the packet. Staff met with the professors and students making the request and talked through the proposal. Much of the area they are requesting is owned by the airport/utilities department. The proposal was shared with that department and they approved of the install.

Staff recommends approving the proposal with the conditions that they are installed and maintained by UWSP and clear identification is labeled on each nest box with contact information.

### **5. Introduction and preapproval consideration of The Plover River Crossing Interpretive Trail sign project funded by the Community Foundation of Central Wisconsin being presented by Tori Jennings.**

Tori Jennings will present a concept she has been working with others on and seek approval. An informational handout is included in the packet.

### **6. Request from the Stevens Point Softball Association to charge fees for parking at Zenoff Park during the U.S. Senior Open in June being presented by Mike Disher.**

The SPSA contacted staff asking for permission to charge for parking at Zenoff Park during the golf tournament this summer. The SPSA is asking to do this and then use the money raised for facility improvements consistent with the City's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. Mike will present their idea and seek approval.

Staff recommends that if this is approved, the money raised be placed in the Zenoff Park reserve fund at the City for the future facility improvements. The money raised will benefit all users of the Zenoff Park complex.

## **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Board of Park Commissioners**

**April 5, 2023 - 6:30 PM**

**Community Room**

**933 Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI**

**OR**

**[Zoom Teleconferencing](#)**

**Meeting ID: 889 7693 1287 | Passcode: 123456**

**By Computer: [Enter Meeting](#)**

**By Phone: +1-312-626-6799 (US Chicago)**

### **I. Discussion and Possible Action on:**

#### **1. Roll Call.**

Present: Freckman, Glodosky, Alder Keymer, McDonald, Okonek, Sorenson, Winn, Zarazua. Przyblyski arrived at 6:45 pm.

Absent: Alder Shorr

Also Present: Director Kremer, Superintendent Halvorsen, Programs and Facilities Supervisor Anne Hylla, Steven McKay, Ross Rettler, Rebecca Ramirez, Amanda Heineck

#### **2. Approval of December 7, 2022 meeting minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes as written by Okonek, second by McDonald; motion passed 9-0.

#### **3. Presentation of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan by Rettler Corporation.**

No Action Taken

#### **4. Approval of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan for the City of Stevens Point.**

Motion to approve the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan with the inclusion of the comments from the park commission this evening by Winn, second by Glodsky; motion passed 10-0.

#### **5. To award the second phase of the Emerson Park redevelopment project #23-10 to Earth, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$200,775.**

Motion to award the contract for Emerson Park redevelopment to Earth, Inc in the not to exceed amount of \$200,775 made by Freckman, second by Przyblyski; motion passed 10-0.

#### **6. To award the KB Willett Ice Arena building addition & Goerke Park improvement project #22-18 to Altmann Construction Company Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$2,866,500.**

Motion to award the KB Willett building addition and Goerke Park improvement project to Altmann Construction Company Inc. in the not to exceed amount of \$2,866,500

made by Okonek, second by Alder Keymer; motion passed 10-0.

**7. Request to serve alcoholic beverages during roller derby bouts on May 20, June 3, July 15 and August 12 by Mid-State Roller Derby.**

Motion by Glodosky to approve the serving of alcoholic beverages at the KB Willett on May 20, June 3, July 15 and August 12 as presented, second by Winn; motion passed 10-0.

**8. Winter season division reports presented by Anne Hylla (facilities and recreation) and Scott Halvorsen (parks).**

No action taken

**9. Director's Report**

- 1. Zamboni**
- 2. Pfiffner Pioneer Park bandshell project update**
- 3. KB Willett Ice Arena roof project update**
- 4. New full-time team members hired by the department (Emily Morris-Larsen and Ben Kirmse)**
- 5. Plover River Crossing project update**

**10. Adjournment.**

Motion to adjourn made by Okonek; second by Glodosky; motion passed 10-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.



**Mead Park - KASH Playground - Resurfacing Project - Contract "A" - Bid Summary**  
**City of Stevens Point Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department**  
**Project No. 23.025**  
**Bid Opening Date: April 26, 2023 - 2:00 P.M.**

| Company                                                  | Bid Bond/10% | Addendas | Qualifications | Contract "A"<br>Park Redevelopment<br>Base Bid | Contract "A"<br>Voluntary Alternatives | Total        |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------|----------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------|
| Adventure Turf                                           | x            | N/A      | x              | \$196,500.00                                   | \$0.00                                 | \$196,500.00 |
| MEAK Playground Surfacing LLC                            | x            | N/A      | x              | \$227,298.00                                   | \$0.00                                 | \$227,298.00 |
| Perfect Turf LLC                                         | x            | N/A      | x              | \$234,800.00                                   | \$0.00                                 | \$234,800.00 |
| PlayPower LT Farmington, Inc. / Northland Recreation LLC | x            | N/A      | x              | \$244,360.00                                   | \$0.00                                 | \$244,360.00 |



## BID RECOMMENDATION

**PROJECT:** Mead Park – Kash Playground – Resurfacing Project

**FROM:** Rettler Corporation, Ross Rettler  
**TO:** City of Stevens Point Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department, Dan Kremer  
**DATE:** April 27, 2023  
**RE:** Bid Results - Contract 'A' - Mead Park - Kash Playground - Resurfacing Project

Mr. Kremer;

The City of Stevens Point Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department, Mead Park, Kash Playground Resurfacing Project bids for Contract "A" were opened on April 26th, 2023.

Bids for Contract "A", as part of the Kash Playground Resurfacing Project were received from four (4) contractors. Bids were received from Adventure Turf LLC, MEAK Playground Surfacing LLC, Perfect Turf LLC, and PlayPower LT Farmington, Inc./Northland Recreation LLC.

**Qualifying Bids, for Contract 'A' - Mead Park - Kash Playground - Resurfacing Project  
Base Bid are as follows:**

|                                                        |              |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Adventure Turf LLC                                     | \$196,500.00 |
| MEAK Playground Surfacing LLC                          | \$227,298.00 |
| Perfect Turf LLC                                       | \$234,800.00 |
| PlayPower LT Farmington, Inc./Northland Recreation LLC | \$244,360.00 |

Adventure Turf LLC is the recommended, qualified low bidder for the Contract "A", Base Bid in the amount of \$196,500.00. It is recommended that a 15% contingency be maintained on this project. The recommended contractor has exhibited successful completion of similar past projects.

Please contact us if you have questions concerning the bid results and recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ross Rettler', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ross Rettler, PLA, ASLA  
Partner

## **University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP) Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society and Ducks Unlimited Green Circle Trail Waterfowl Project**

Jacob Tepsa, Adam Nyhus, Grace Wieland, Casey Baye, Will Smith, Brayden Mueller, Emily Michalzik

Advisor: Ben Sedinger, PhD

02/13/2023

### **Introduction**

Since 2002, the UWSP Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society (TWS) Waterfowl Project has collected data on approximately 130 nest boxes in the George W. Mead State Wildlife Area. Additionally, the UWSP Student Chapter of Ducks Unlimited (DU) has contributed to data collection from nest boxes found in Schmeeckle Reserve. Integrated long-term data collection such as this is unique and provides insightful information on wood duck demographics in the Midwest. In the past, student researchers have examined various factors and relationships associated with these nest boxes. Important cavity-nesting species, such as wood ducks (*Aix sponsa*) and hooded mergansers (*Lophodytes cucullatus*), rely on nest boxes for reproduction, especially where natural cavities are not available.

Understanding the factors that influence nest box use and nest success are integral to understanding the local and natural environment of the Green Circle Trail (GCT) and how this affects the waterfowl population in the surrounding community. This research and data can be used by land managers and state/federal scientists to further understand the influence that nest boxes have on local populations and better support communities with waterfowl populations of concern in the future. In an effort to evaluate these factors, we propose a study examining the differences in breeding ecology of cavity nesting waterfowl.

One of the main objectives of this project will be to provide student training opportunities. With the close proximity of the GCT to the UWSP campus, it will allow more convenience for students to conduct research on a property that they can access by foot or bike. Students will be able to further develop their waterfowl identification, data collection and navigation skills. Students involved with this project will be able to check nest boxes and band waterfowl, this is especially important in the natural resources field where hands-on experience is critical to success.

The purpose of this proposal is to present a partnership between the UWSP Chapters of The Wildlife Society Waterfowl Project and Ducks Unlimited, and the Green Circle Trail. This opportunity would provide local data that will be compared to state and regional midwest data. In addition, this relationship benefits students, recreational trail users, and the many public citizens interested in natural resource conservation. The addition of nest boxes will provide more breeding habitat opportunities for the area's cavity nesting waterfowl. Overall, we hope to contribute to wildlife conservation and appreciation through this partnership.

## **Objectives**

Starting in early 2023, the TWS Waterfowl Project and DU will build 20 new wooden duck boxes to place around the GCT. The early stage of this project will entail placing these 20 boxes 50-100m apart on the Plover River Trail 2 (refer to the GCT Proposal Maps document for reference). Within the Plover River Trail 2, we will place 10 boxes both standing live and dead oak trees approx. 1.8 meters high in the Winter of 2023, and place 10 boxes on poles with predator guards in the Spring of 2023. Each box will be labeled for reference and its location will be saved on a map. We tentatively plan for this project to have 20 boxes on each trail similarly to the Plover River Trail 2 (River Pines Trail, Paper Mill Trail, Iverson Park Trail, and Plover River Trail) within the GCT in the coming years. Additionally, within the winter of 2023, we will check the 15 pre-existing Schmeeckle Reserve duck boxes that compose of 3 runs. Then, within the summer of 2023, we will candle duck eggs in Schmeeckle Reserve. We will use the data gained from Schmeeckle as well as data from the GCT to compile into local data in order to compare it to regional midwest data.

We plan to get student organization members involved through scheduled workshops and surveys announced during our weekly meetings and by email. Bi-monthly or weekly box checks will occur from April-June and will include banding incubating females following protocols aligned approved with a federal banding permit (#24201) and UWSP IACUC (#2019.10.19). Student organization members will sign up on an excel sheet after filling out the necessary hold harmless forms. This project also provides involvement opportunities for Eagle Scouts, Green Wing youths, and high school varsity chapters of Ducks Unlimited. With their involvement, we hope to spark an interest in conservation and wildlife research. Their involvement would also help with building nest boxes as well as monitoring and surveying. The research would be conducted annually during late February/early March. This is a critical timeline to ensure they are ready for the spring migration of wood ducks up through the Mississippi flyway. A potential nest box-building workshop could be hosted every January/February to construct 20 nest boxes per year for the next three years. Potential plans to introduce and influence the public and the GCT recreational users with interpretive signage regarding the importance of wood duck and hooded merganser research efforts will positively impact the many thousands of users of the trail. The interpretive boards will educate the public, create place rootedness with individuals, and will dissuade potential depreciative behavior on the trails regarding natural wildlife.

## **Funding**

We currently have \$2,000/ year funding available to us through the Kennedy Grohne Chair in Waterfowl and Wetland Conservation via Dr. Ben Sedinger, and additional funds from the UWSP Chapter of Ducks Unlimited, and the UWSP Chapter of The Wildlife Society are being explored.

We will be conducting outreach to seek donations for box materials such as poles 8-12 ft in length from leftover fencing or irrigation piping and fund netting, screws, and potentially a camera scope telescope with organization funds.

### **Research Question(s)**

- **Initially:** Monitor established cavity nesting waterfowl populations and provide breeding habitat while monitoring nest survival. Collect nest box use data by determining the species use and whether it is a waterfowl species or a non-target species, and determine if a clutch was present and how many were successful.
- **Then:** Examine the difference in usage and nest success in summer and winter with nesting boxes held on a pole compared to those placed on a tree with hooded mergansers and wood ducks.
  - The success of each run is based on box density and or distance from box to box.
  - Utilize local abundance estimates from eBird data and compare them with nest box usage around the GCT.
- **Future Plan:** Examine the variability of nest box use after establishment (How many years after boxes are put up does it take for nest boxes to be used?).
  - The use of geolocators to determine the distribution of such species.
  - Monitor the species using the boxes, if active, candle the eggs to determine the hatch date.
  - Continue past research on population dynamics throughout the state and midwest region to improve knowledge regarding breeding, migration, and harvests in the area with the use of capture-mark-recapture techniques to estimate survival. Utilize CMR analysis techniques.

### **Methods**

#### **Winter:**

- Nest contents will be observed and replaced with fresh woodchips for bedding
- Boxes will be maintained by making any necessary repairs to ensure the longevity of the boxes
- Determining changes if any in nest contents that were checked in the summer

#### **Summer:**

- Nest contents will be observed and then placed back into the nest box
  - Includes counting the clutch of eggs, candling eggs, and potentially adding geolocators on the female wood ducks

### **Data Collection:**

- Checking 20 boxes around the GCT as well as current boxes in the Schmeeckle Reserve
- Determining use based on the presence of eggs or feathers
- Determining which species occupied the box
  - Hooded Merganser - Larger, white egg with a thicker shell
  - Wood Duck - Smaller, off-white color, with a thinner shell
- Determining whether the hatch was successful
  - A detached membrane indicates a successful hatch while an attached membrane indicates that it was unsuccessful due to predation
  - In the summer the nest box will be deemed as successful if the hen is still on the nest
- We mapped a variety of example points on AvenzaMaps and uploaded them to ArcGIS to show the potential location of the boxes and will determine the exact locations when the boxes are constructed

### **Data Analysis:**

- A regression analysis will be used to compare the abundance of wood ducks and nest box usage and also to compare the abundance of hooded mergansers and nest box usage
- This will be compared to statewide and Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region data of wood duck and hooded merganser abundance and their use of nest boxes

### **Significance of the Project**

#### **Conservation and Research:**

- Waterfowl nesting habitat is becoming increasingly more threatened by anthropogenic and climatic conditions creating a need for extensive, forward-thinking research and monitoring efforts.
- Limited monitoring across the state - this project will allow the GCT board committee and users to gauge the wood duck and hooded merganser populations present across the water bodies and nesting boxes located on and near the trail.
- Conservation importance regarding waterfowl populations, health dynamics, and nest availability across Central Wisconsin.
- Nest boxes provide alternative nesting habitats for species such as the wood duck or hooded mergansers where hens can nest safely from predators. The large-scale deployment of nest boxes can be used as management alternatives for land managers to help increase local and regional populations of these two species in an area where natural cavities may be limited.

### **Policy and Site Management Implications:**

- As supporters of research, this can help guide management decisions and it would be a great project to publicize the importance of waterfowl population dynamics and the overall importance of how waterfowl affect ecosystems in and around Wisconsin and its many recreation areas through the usage of nest box surveillance.
- Potentially allow us to inform policy actions regarding the importance of funding statewide nest box usage research and add to the overall pool of data for waterfowl nest box usage. As well as to encourage more funding for conservation on a state/federal level.

### **Interpretive Science and Public Education:**

- Once the project is established, we're thinking of ways to expand our efforts statewide, perhaps by including nest boxes on commonly used recreational trails and providing interpretive science boards near and around boxes for public viewing and learning.
- Creation and implementation of interpretive science displays can help citizens near the GCT, and surrounding communities understand the research and efforts that are going on in the GCT. This can help form a positive and sustainable relationship with the public and create positive influences on citizen behavior.
- Creation of sight-specific satisfaction for GCT users and helps visitors develop cultural and personal relationships with the landscape.

### **UWSP Student and GCT Board Advancement:**

- The addition of nest boxes on the GCT will inform and educate recreational users of current practices and projects that the GCT board, UWSP TWS, and UWSP DU have been working on regarding the GCT through interpretive signage boards that will be located near the nest boxes.
- Provides opportunities for students to establish connections with state and federal agencies.
- Creates experiences that students can use on work/academic activities as well as on resumes.
- Allow students to establish meaningful wildlife techniques and gain valuable experience early in their careers through an easy introduction to wildlife sampling and surveying.
- Allow students to gain experience in leadership, logistical planning, budgeting, research methods, and data management.

### **Report Planning**

We will be presenting our findings to the Jim and Katie Krause College of Natural Resources Undergraduate Research Symposium through either a poster or oral presentation. We will also plan to have a report written to the GCT Board to give updates on our research and our continued plan to add additional boxes each year.



# Creating Outdoor Experiences

Interpretive trail signs are a valuable tool for connecting people to places through storytelling. The forthcoming Plover River Crossing Trail offers a unique educational opportunity for interpretive signage based on the principles of Environmental History. The signage planned for the Plover River Crossing will deepen our understanding of how human activity over hundreds and even thousands of years shaped the ecological landscape of the Plover River we see today. This Environmental History approach will not only illustrate the inextricable link between environmental and human history but also address the often-ignored influence of Indigenous peoples on what is now Stevens Point.

The Plover River Crossing Interpretive Trail Sign Project received a Community Grant from the Community Foundation of Central Wisconsin in March 2023. The advisory team for the project includes Karen Ann Hoffman (Oneida Nation), Ray Reser, PhD



Christopher Sweet - Garman Nature Preserve Wayfinding Sign

(archaeologist), Chrissy Shegone (Prairie Band Potawatomi), Tori Jennings, PhD (cultural anthropologist), Steve Menzel (Friends of Plover River Crossing Trail Director), and Ho-

Chunk, Ojibwe Artist Christopher Sweet of Blue Bear Studio in Baraboo.

Christopher Sweet attended the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico and most of his work focuses on Native American culture. He paints in miniature sizes to large murals and was the artist selected by the 106 group to create the inspiration and original artwork for the wayfinding trail signs at Garman Nature Preserve in Waterloo, Wisconsin (above photo). Christopher's experience, creativity, and dedication to unity and healing make his artwork ideal for this project.

The PRC Interpretive Trail Sign Project will also be linked to the future trail naming. Although this name is not yet known, we are planning to restore Indigenous place-naming to the pathway. Given the significant effort and financing necessary for this project to succeed, we ask the Parks Board to pre-approve the signage and trail naming concepts so we may move forward and secure the artist agreement.

## Plover River Crossing Interpretive Trail Sign Project