

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
August 2, 2023 - 6:30 PM

Community Room
933 Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI

OR

[Zoom Teleconferencing](#)

Meeting ID: 873 1764 6696 | Passcode: 868471

By Computer: [Join](#)

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

AGENDA

- I. Discussion and Possible Action on:
 1. Roll Call.
 2. Approval of June 7, 2023 meeting minutes
 3. Naming of parcel #'s 281240825440001 (10 acres) and 281240825440002 (20 acres) "Hall Nature Preserve" in honor of Sue and Kent Hall and their major contributions to the City of Stevens Point and Stevens Point Park system in accordance with the City's Naming Rights Policy Item 6(D).
 4. Renaming Emerson Park parcel #281240832103401 (2.10 acres) to "Seramur Park" in honor of the John C. Seramur Family and their substantial Emerson Park Project donation in accordance with the City's Naming Rights Policy Item 6(C)(1) and Item 6(D).
 5. Approval of Parks, Recreation and Forestry proposed policy #1.05 regarding alcohol requests in Goerke Park.
 6. Director's Report
 1. 39th Riverfront Rendezvous
 2. KB Willett and Community Stadium Project update
 3. Bandshell project completed
 7. Adjournment.

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 - Naming of parcel #'s 281240825440001 (10 acres) and 281240825440002 (20 acres) "Hall Nature Preserve" in honor of Sue and Kent Hall and their major contributions to the City of Stevens Point and Stevens Point Park system in accordance with the City's Naming Rights Policy Item 6(D).

See memo included in your packet

#4 - Renaming Emerson Park parcel #281240832103401 (2.10 acres) to "Seramur Park" in honor of the John C. Seramur Family and their substantial Emerson Park Project donation in accordance with the City's Naming Rights Policy Item 6(C)(1) and Item 6(D).

See memo included in your packet

#5 - Approval of Parks, Recreation and Forestry proposed policy #1.05 regarding alcohol requests in Goerke Park.

Last month one of the commissioners requested that the board consider giving reoccurring approval of alcohol sales in Goerke Park to the discretion of the Director. The draft policy included in your packet would require new requests to come before park commission and reoccurring the ability to be approved by the Director.

Staff recommend approval of the new policy as written

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Board of Park Commissioners

June 7, 2023 - 6:30 PM

Community Room

933 Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI

OR

[Zoom Teleconferencing](#)

Meeting ID: 868 7612 5381 | Passcode: 202160

By Computer: [Join](#)

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

I. Discussion and Possible Action on:

1. Roll Call.

Present: Freckman, Disher, Glodosky, Alder Keymer, McDonalds, Okonek, Alder Shorr, Sorenson, Carrie Winn, Alder Zarazua

Excused: Przybylski

Also Present: Director Dan Kremer

2. Approval of May 3, 2023 meeting minutes

Motion to approve by Disher, second by McDonald; passed 10-0.

3. Request by Point Fastpitch to serve alcohol on July 14, 15 and 16 at Goerke Park.

Motion to approve by Shorr, second by Glodosky; passed 10-0.

4. Exchanging property along Second Street North.

Motion to approve property exchange as presented by Alder Shorr, second by Glodosky; passed 10-0.

5. Director's Report

- Pool opening day was June 2, 2023
- Emerson Park project update
- Bandshell project update
- Community Stadium and KB Willett Arena project update
- Community Tree Management Institute being held in Stevens Point

No action.

6. Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn by Disher, second by Glodosky; meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT
PUBLIC PARK AND FACILITY NAMING POLICY**

1. **Purpose**
To establish a consistent and formal policy and process for naming public parklands, parks and recreational facilities which the community may accept and readily identify with.
2. **Scope**
It will identify significant historical, geological and ecological areas located within the community. Also, it would give suitable recognition to individuals who make a sizeable monetary contribution or have contributed to the growth and development of the city.
3. **Responsibility**
The Parks Commission shall be responsible for recommending to the Common Council the naming or change in name for all assigned public Park and Recreation areas in the City of Stevens Point. However, notwithstanding this provision the Common Council shall not be precluded from naming a Park or Facility.
4. **Objectives and Goals**
 - A. The names should be purposeful, suitable, symbolic, and should fall under one of the classifications provided within this policy.
 - B. Names of facilities should be adopted before dedication of a facility or before development begins on a new facility.
 - C. Names will not be for living persons except when substantial donations are offered to the community for park and recreational purposes and when the donor stipulates a name as being a part of that donation or when a living person makes a substantial commitment of time and effort to improve the quality of life in the community. In such cases the Parks Commission shall recommend that the Council accept or reject such an offer.
 - D. Names for public officials will not be used without thorough justification and, in most cases, the person should be honored posthumously.
 - E. Names of individuals will be considered only if that person was actively involved in giving unselfishly of herself/himself for the betterment of the community. It will be necessary for this individual to have strong community support.
5. **Procedure**
 - A. Requests or proposals for adopting a specified name for a particular Park or Recreation area shall be submitted to the Parks Commission in written form along with thorough documentation giving the reasons for the selection of the proposed name.
 - B. After a name is decided upon by the Parks Commission, public notice of the recommended Qualifying Name will occur in the City's official newspaper. Citizen comments and recommendations must be in writing to the Director of Parks and Recreation and received prior to the next Common Council meeting for approval.

Revised 10.5.13

- C. For an individual (excluding historically significant individuals) to be considered, that person must have contributed significantly to the acquisition or development of the park or facility or to the park system overall. The recommended name must be accompanied by a biographical sketch which shall provide evidence of contributions to the park, facility, or park system overall.

6. **Selection Criteria**

Park and Recreation areas /facilities may be named:

- A. For location, such as the name of an adjacent street or the related plat or subdivision.
- B. For a geologic, geographic, historical, botanical, horticultural or scientific feature inherent to the area.
- C. To honor a person or groups:
 - 1. When a major donation has been made to the City for a park/facility wherein the donor stipulates a name as being a consideration of a donation, and donation is deemed suitable for recreational purposes, the Parks Commission shall make a recommendation to the Common Council as to accepting or rejecting such an offer.
 - 2. An organization, business, or group for whom a park/facility is to be named should meet the following criteria:
 - A. It should not be political or religious in nature unless it has had a unique and important place in the areas history.
 - B. It should be a local organization, business, or group, unless if a non-local group, it has performed some outstanding service for the area.
- D. To show gratitude to an individual:

When it seems appropriate to name a park/facility in honor of a person, it should be one who has made a major contribution to the community and/or has been instrumental in acquiring the area, and will be subject to the discretion of the Parks Commission.
- E. Classifications - These classifications are in order of priority.
 - Places and Features
 - 1. Natural phenomenon
 - 2. Recognizable area or neighborhood
 - 3. Descriptive
 - 4. Horticultural, zoological, environmental
 - 5. Assumed name (commonly used name)
 - Historic Events
 - 1. Battles
 - 2. Discoveries
 - 3. Explorations
 - 4. Community development
 - Organizations

Revised 10.5.13

1. Civic
 2. Veterans
 3. Fraternal
 4. Other
- Person's Name
1. Large donors
 2. Historical groups
 3. Local hero
 4. National hero
 5. National official
 6. State official
 7. Local official
 8. Local individual(s)
- Great Ideas or Causes
1. Ecological
 2. Friendship
 3. Independence
 4. Peace

7. **Adoption**

A group may ask to adopt a park or recreation facility for improvement or maintenance purposes, and in return the park or facility could be named after that group. A written agreement should be signed specifically detailing the future responsibilities of the group adopting the park or facility and any name change must first be approved by the Common Council.

8. **Other Naming Alternatives**

1. Parks and facilities that are donated to the City can be named by deed restriction by the donor. The naming and acceptance of land is subject to approval by the Parks Commission and Common Council.
2. Special names for new facilities or areas within a park (i.e. playgrounds, shelters, etc.) will be allowed under stated classifications and criteria when donations result in a substantial contribution to the proposed facility. (Generally 50% or more of the proposed cost of the facility). These names will be recommended to the Common Council for final approval.

9. **Frequency, Repetition, Segmentation**

Generally, individuals and/or groups recognized (named) with one park or facility cannot be recognized with additional parks or facilities. Groups are not allowed to identify parks or facilities by using local chapters, numbers, troops, etc.

10. **Renaming**

1. The renaming of parks and facilities is strongly discouraged. It is recommended

Revised 10.5.13

that efforts to change a name be subject to the most critical examination so as not to diminish the original justification for the name or discount the value of the prior contributors.

2. Only those parks and facilities named for geographic location, outstanding feature or subdivision should be considered for renaming. Parks named by deed restriction cannot be considered for renaming.
3. In order for a park or facility to be considered for renaming the following must occur:
 - a. The recommended name must qualify according to Section 6 of this policy, and;
 - b. Be accompanied by a petition from the particular park or facility users.

11. **Use of Plaques and Markers**

1. This means of recognition will be used to honor individuals and organizations for the community or designate history of a particular property. All plaques, markers, memorials or monuments placed on parkland must be approved by the Parks Commission as to design and placement.
2. All plaques, markers, and memorials are subject to the same naming criteria in Section 6 of this policy.
3. Because of their proneness to vandalism and maintenance, plaques, markers, and memorials should be used sparingly.
4. Designed to blend with and compliment the existing Parks and Recreation Department Sign policy, and Plaques, Markers, and Memorials Policy, and must be reviewed and approved by the Commission.
5. A written maintenance agreement for each plaque/marker/memorial shall be developed and signed by the Director of Parks and Recreation and donor individual/organization.
6. The Commissions first priority is to use the Community Foundation Tree Memorial program as a means of recognition.

12. **Contest**

Contests may be used for naming parks or facilities providing they meet the approval of the Parks Commission and Common Council.

13. **Groundbreaking and Dedication**

When a new park is given or a facility constructed and ready for public use, a certain amount of public relations work should accompany the occasion. The purpose is to bring awareness to the public of a new property or facility for public use. Media tools to be used include radio, T.V. (cable), video, newspaper, magazine, Internet, etc.

14. **Grandfather Clause**

All existing park and recreational facilities named prior to adoption of this policy are under a grandfather clause with respect to this policy.



To: Board of Park Commissioners and City Council

From: Dan Kremer, Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry

Date: July 27, 2023

Subject: Dedicating and Naming Parcel ID #'s 281240825440001 and 281240825440002 the "Hall Nature Preserve"

The City of Stevens Point lost a beloved member of the community and a wealth of knowledge on the Board of Park Commissioners last January with the passing of Sue Hall. Sue's positive attitude and uplifting spirit made her a one of a kind. Sue and her husband, Kent Hall, spent their lives giving back and improving our community with their time and talents. A biography of some of the major contributions for Sue and Kent is included with this memo.

Since the time of Sue's passing, many from the community, city council and board of park commissioners have been speaking with city staff regarding completing something in honor of Sue. While the team involved was evaluating options, it was felt that Sue and her husband Kent were so impactful in our community that it made the most sense to do something to honor both of them. City staff was able to consult with Kent and Sue's children, Sheri Johnson and Doug Hall, who helped design the sign and provided feedback while being in communication with Kent on our plans. Kent and Sue have been pillars of our community and we are excited to bring this recommendation for consideration.

The team involved are recommending to expand the area to the east of Parkdale Park by dedicating 30 acres as a nature preserve and naming it the "Hall Nature Preserve". The sign that will stand at the entrance is included in your packet for review. If approved, the Parks Department would build a gravel trail from the existing pathway in Parkdale Park which will lead northeast to the nature preserve. The Forestry Department would perform tree trimming to create a "trailhead" and the sign would be installed immediately following. It is our plan to ask Kent to take a picture with the sign prior to installation as well.

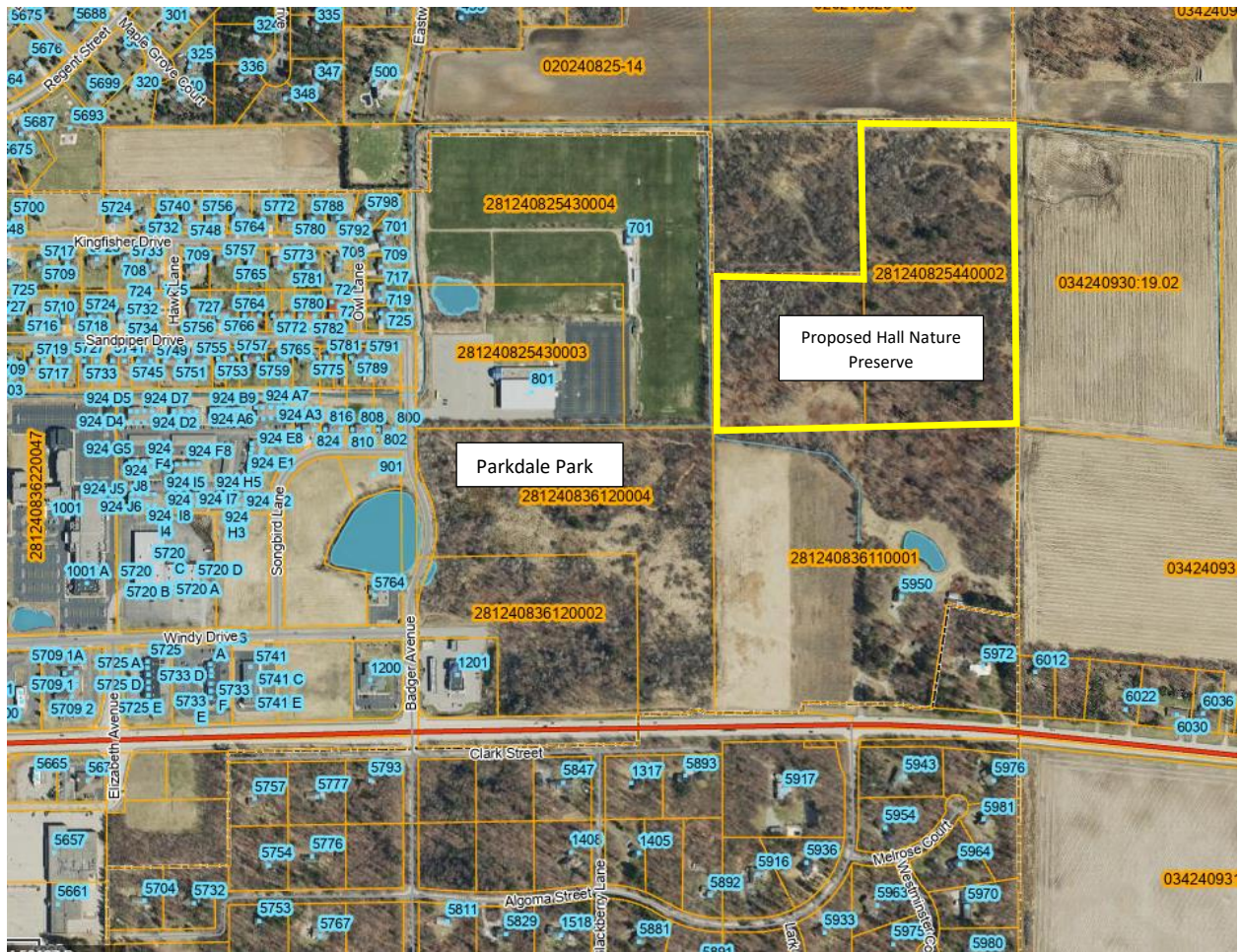
No other improvements are planned at this time; however, we feel that in the future another volunteer organization may wish to improve pathways on the 30 acres and that could be considered at that time. The primary purpose of the Nature Preserve would be to protect the existing habitat, protect the wetland areas and wildlife that are pay tribute to Kent and Sue. The City owns the land so no additional dollars for land acquisition are required. If this is approved, the trail and sign would be installed this fall.

City Staff and the volunteer planning team recommend dedicating these two parcels as an addition to Parkdale Park and naming it the "Hall Nature Preserve".

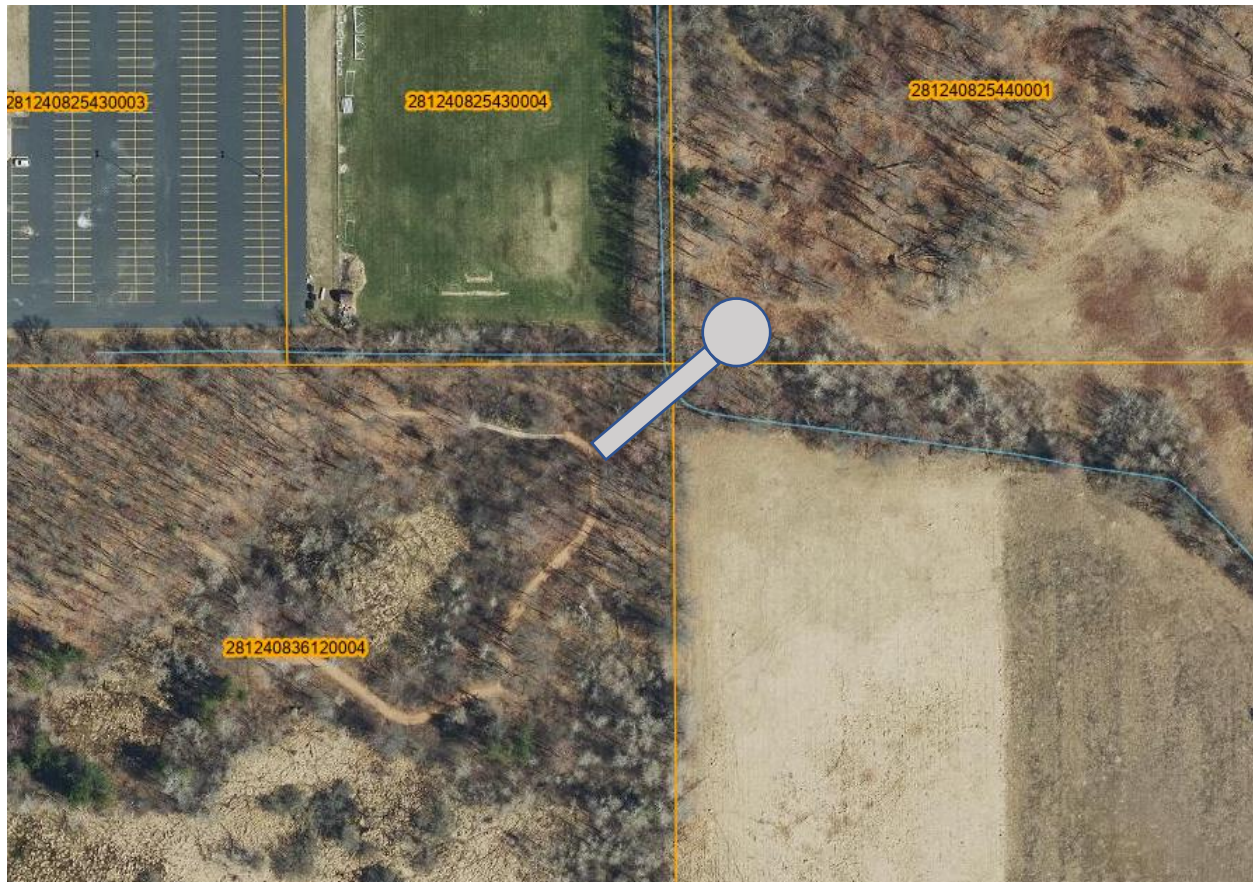
Kent and Sue Hall Biographical Information

Suzanne “Sue” Hall was a beloved member of the Stevens Point community. A teacher by trade, Sue served as a member of the park commission for 18 years and was involved with numerous community activities. She was the co-chair person to raise money to build the Pfiffner Pioneer Park bandshell, she was the President of the Junior Women’s club, state Conservation chairperson and was on Gaylord Nelson’s First Earth Day Committee. She served on several boards of directors including the YMCA, Mead Wildlife, Aldo Leopold Audubon, and Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin.

Sue married Kent Hall in 1962, they have two children Sheri Johnson of Mount Pleasant, WI and Doug Hall of Everett, WA. Kent and Sue were highly involved with running within the City and started Stevens Point Area Running Club (SPARC) in 1980. Kent’s professional life consisted of teaching at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. Kent was instrumental in raising funds to enable construction of an education facility and administrative office for the Mead and McMillan Wildlife Area complex. Hall retired in 1998 after 30 years at UWSP where he advised the award-winning Beta Beta Beta honor society for 17 years. Kent was the driving force between Bird City USA designations for Stevens Point and Plover and was active in the Audubon Society along with Sue.



Proposed Trail Connection and Sign Location



Gravel Trail Connection



Proposed sign location and entrance into proposed Hall Nature Area – no other improvements at this time



Memo

TO: Board of Park Commissioners and Common Council
FROM: Dan Kremer, Director of Parks, Recreation, Forestry
DATE: July 27, 2023
RE: Renaming of Emerson Park to Seramur Park

The Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department has been working alongside the Friends of Emerson Park to complete the transformation of Emerson Park over the last several years. Most recently, the Friends solidified funding to allow a new playground, basketball court, sidewalks, cornhole goals and a field backstop to be installed and that work just completed earlier this summer. Those transformations have led to extreme excitement within the community and crowds of residents being at the park enjoying the space.

This memo is being provided because a once-in-a-generation opportunity has presented itself for the Stevens Point park system. The Friends of Emerson Park and city staff have been meeting with the John C. Seramur family over the last several weeks and they have offered to complete the capital campaign with a \$500,000 gift in exchange for park naming. A gift of this magnitude is the largest single gift ever made to the Stevens Point Park system and it will be transformational for the park and the park users. This gift will allow a restroom pavilion, accessory park lighting, concrete plaza and additional sidewalk network to be installed in 2024 and would 100% complete the third and final phase for the revitalization project which was approved by the Park Commission in 2020.

If the naming rights is approved, the Seramur Family will have donated over \$660,000 towards the overall revitalization project. A gift of this size is consistent with the City Naming Policy and a petition and donor biography information has been submitted to allow the naming consideration by the Park Commission and Common Council.

Staff has been in constant communication with the friend's group and the donor and recommended that the naming consideration be accompanied with a commitment to have a legacy marker providing background and history on the Emerson School and other historical significance to the property be included.

Preliminary renderings are included in the packet for reference. These renderings still require final design, historic and permit review and approval.

City Staff Recommendation:

1. Rename the Emerson Park parcel "Seramur Park" with a condition that the Friends of Emerson Park must include a legacy marker with historical information about the Emerson School and parcel history as part of the project.

FRIENDS OF | STEVENS POINT, WISCONSIN Emerson Park

July 17, 2023

Parks Director, Dan Kremer
Parks Board Chair, Wayne Sorenson
The City of Stevens Point Department of Parks, Recreation, & Forestry
The City of Stevens Board of Parks Commissioners
2442 Sims Ave.
Stevens Point, WI 54481

City of Stevens Point Parks Department & Board of Park Commissioners,

The Seramur Family Foundation have offered the Friends of Emerson Park an additional gift of \$500,000 to fund the completion of the Emerson Park Revitalization Project. These funds would cover the construction costs of a central pavilion and all required infrastructure, bringing their total contribution to this project to \$660,000 and over 70% of the overall park project costs. Due to the substantial and transformative power of these gifts, we are seeking to rename Emerson Park, Seramur Park. The Friends of Emerson Park submit this letter and petition to the City of Stevens Point Parks Department and Board of Park Commissioners, in accordance and compliance with the City of Stevens Point Public Park and Facility Naming Policy. As part of the park's final redevelopment, we are committed to the creation and placement of a memorial recognizing and honoring the former Emerson school buildings and grounds.

Sincerely

Ginger Keymer & Danielle Weaver
Co-Chairs, Friends of Emerson Park

We Believe:

Parks and greenspace are a refuge and lifeline.
In giving everyone equitable access to the outdoors.
Parks are common ground: They unite us and keep us connected.

FRIENDS OF | STEVENS POINT, WISCONSIN
Emerson Park

John C. Seramur Biographical Information

John C. Seramur is a 1965 graduate of Marquette University. Seramur was the president and chief executive officer of Stevens Point based First Financial Corporation, a thrift holding company that merged with Associated Banc-Corp in 1997, and its subsidiary, First Financial Bank, from 1966 to 1998. Seramur has served on numerous corporate boards, including Associated Banc-Corp, Vita Food Products Inc., Northland Cranberries Inc., the Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago and FreddieMac. Seramur and his team of Central Wisconsin employees grew First Financial Bank from the smallest Savings Bank to the largest Savings Bank in Wisconsin before it merged with Associated Banc-Corp.

John C. Seramur has provided and continues to provide scholarships to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point for Portage County business students and Marquette University for business students. John Seramur was a partner of Heritage Investment Company in which he provided affordable housing in Central Wisconsin to over 600 families.



Stevens Point Parks, Recreation and Forestry Policies and Procedures	
Policy #: 1.05	Effective Date: August 22, 2023
Subject: Alcohol Requests in Goerke Park	
Purpose: To provide efficient operation of recreation program operations	

All users requesting the ability to sell alcohol in Goerke Park within the City of Stevens Point are subject to the following provisions.

1. New Requests

- a) Must submit a written request detailing the event specifics, location alcohol will be present, types of alcohol being sold, event dates and organization information to the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department. These items will be reviewed and placed on the next park commission agenda for consideration
- b) Park Commission shall consider action at the next scheduled meeting
- c) Must complete all required legal license paperwork at the City Clerk's office prior to event and once approval is granted approval by the Park Commission.
- d) Must pay all applicable fees and charges and follow all local and state laws.

2. Returning Requests

- a) Must submit a written request detailing the event specifics, location alcohol will be present, types of alcohol being sold, event dates and organization information to the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department. Returning requests will be reviewed by the Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry for consideration.
- b) Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry will make decision on approval or denial
- c) Must complete all required legal license paperwork at the City Clerk's office prior to event and once approval is granted by the Director.
- d) Must pay all applicable fees and charges and follow all local and state laws.