



222 Lewis Street  
River Falls, WI 54022

Phone 715-425-0900  
Fax 715-425-0915

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**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.**  
**City Hall Training Room or Virtually**

**Members Present:** Patricia LaRue (chair), Brandon Dobbertin, Brenda Gaulke, Matt Janquart  
Melissa Pedrini, and Sean Downing (Council Rep)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Cindi Danke-Recreation Manager; Mike Stifter-Public Works Director; Mike  
Noreen-City Forester; Brenda Rundle-Recreation Assistant

**Others Present:** Sam Clair

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting convened at 5:15 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MSC Gaulke/Downing to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2021 Recreation Advisory Board Meeting with one spelling correction. Carried 5-0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**ACTION ITEMS**

None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. City Forester Mike Noreen showed a slideshow with an update about Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). In 2021, 205 healthy ash trees were voluntarily removed and are in the process of being replaced. In 2022, we have over 250 EAB trees that were identified by staff so far with more expected. In the winter, you can see "blonding" on ash trees that have EAB. The revised plan is to treat 16 trees on Main Street in downtown this spring, then remove and replant other EAB trees in 2022 with a variety of trees. We are currently under contract with SavATree through December of 2022. The current forestry budget is \$70,000 and the operational need is \$200,000 so Mike Noreen will make a formal budget request to City Council in spring 2022. One board member asked if there are plans to educate the public about EAB, and Mike said he is working on a video and mentioned an Earth Day event, and he is open to other ideas.

2. Mike Stifter shared a list of projects and tasks accomplished in 2021, including tree removal, sound panels and historic panels at the Glen Park Pavilion, proactive trail projects, and general maintenance projects including a big landscaping project at Larson Park.

3. Mike Stifter shared a list of brainstormed park ideas for 2022 and beyond, including resurfacing of the Glen Park pickleball courts, six park playground projects, and many landscape and maintenance projects. Cindi reminded Park Board that there will be a survey sent out in about two weeks regarding the Outdoor Recreation Plan. An estimate is being prepared for playground equipment at Brandon's Park and Glen Park. Although it is not a priority at this time, some trees may be removed along the Glen Park riverbanks sometime in the future to make river viewing or overlook areas. The Lake Louise preservation is at a standstill until there is funding and because there could possibly be more flooding.

#### **CALENDAR**

The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting will be February 16, 2022

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MSC Janquart/Dobbertin to adjourn the meeting at 6:08 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Rundle  
Customer Service Representative