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City of Ashland, Wisconsin ~ Parks and Recreation Department
400 4th Ave West Ashland ~ WI 54806 ~ www.coawi.org

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

Mon, Mar 28, 2022 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM (CDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://meet.goto.com/839403405>

United States (Toll Free): [1 877 309 2073](tel:18773092073)

Access Code: 839-403-405

I. Call to Order

- a. Roll Call
- b. Agenda Modification
- c. Approval of Minutes
 - i. Approval of February 28, 2022 meeting minutes

II. Public Comment Period

III Information Items

- Parks Projects Updates
 - o Oredock Diamond Access
 - o WisDOT TAP Grant Project
 - o Playground Installation/Update
- Recreation Updates
 - o Program Updates
 - o Summer Staffing
 - o BATB MOU
- Urban Forestry
 - o Tree Removals

IV. Business Items:

- Discussion and potential action on No Mow May Resolution and Sign
- Discussion on Earth Day and Arbor Celebrations
- Discussion and Approval on the purchase of new playground for Prentice Park and reallocating \$12,000 from Fund 453 to 481 (Parks Capital Budget) for such purchase.
- Approval to apply to the 4 Cedars Fund for Tree Replacements along 6th St East
- Approval to apply to the Ashland Education Fund for the creation of an Art Cart

V. Next Meeting Date

Monday April 18, 2022

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VI. Comments and Questions

VII. Adjourn

It is possible that members of and a possible quorum of members of other governmental bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above stated meeting to gather information or speak about a subject, over which they have decision-making responsibility. Any governmental body at the above stated meeting will take no action other than the governmental body specifically referred to above in this notice. The City of Ashland does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or provision of services, programs or activities. NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, the City of Ashland will accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through auxiliary aids or services. For additional information or to request this service, contact Sara Hudson at (715) 685-1644.

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Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Memo
3/28/2022

Information Items

- Parks Projects Updates
 - Oredock Diamond Access
 - Plans and specification for the Oredock Diamond Access will be available on the City website 4/4/22, bids will be accepting 4/5 -4/22 with a public opening on 4/22 at 2pm at City Hall. Staff and consultants are hopeful that the bids come in favorable. Attached are the two options of pedestrian walkways that are in the bid package.
 - WisDOT TAP Grant Project
 - Bids are expected to go out in April and be returned in early May with construction happening this summer and fall. On Tuesday, Council will vote to retain Ayres and Associates for project administration and oversight.
 - Playground Installation/Update
 - Kreher Park playground will be removed sometime in late April and the new playground will be installed sometime in June.
- Recreation Updates
 - Program Updates
 - **Softball:** Registration is open for U10, U12, and U14 softball
 - **Baseball:** Registration is open for Ashland Youth Baseball (Babe Ruth)
 - Staff has been working to tweak the summer baseball program, opening it up to 4 yr olds. Tball will be for kids 5-7 and Basics of baseball will be for 4 yr old. Little League is now starting a Coach Pitch program for 7-8 yr olds.
 - **Freckles O' Lucky Leprechaun Hunt** - 15 families participated in the event. Drawing for the magical prize, 2 boxes of Lucky Charms, will take place this week on Wed.
 - **Easter Bunny Scavenger Hunt** – the Easter Bunny Scavenger Hunt will take place April 9 – 24, 2022. Details about this program are still in the works, but participant will visit City parks (not Prentice) looking for an Easter Bunny, each Easter Bunny will have a joke, riddle or activity for the participant to do.
 - Summer Staffing
 - APR will be hiring 2 people to run our summer recreational programs this year. The plan is to hold 6-8 week of Day Camp programing, similar to what was done in 2020 and 2021. One of the candidates is also interested in coaching Tball and filling in for other programs, archery, bouldering, etc.
 - BATB MOU
 - City Staff met last week with the leads of the BATB, each party had a chance to explain their situations. It was agreed that an MOU is needed to more fully understand where each party is coming from, know expectations and responsibilities and work to create a better relationship between the two parties.

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- Urban Forestry
 - o Tree Removals – trees will start to be removed the 2nd week in April.
 -

Business Items:

- Discussion and potential action on No Mow May Resolution and Sign

City staff is seeking approval from the PRC to move the No Mow May Resolution to Council at the April 19 meeting. Please see attached. Staff is also seeking approval from the PRC to create and sell the attached No Mow May signs. Heart Graphics is able to make these signs for \$12, they will be sold for \$5. Yes we will not make money. The Planning and Development CIP budget has money to assist in offsetting this cost. Please see attached sign. Sara had spoken to Ray Kallio, Property Maintenance, and they have agreed that people who participate in No Mow May will have until June 3 to maintain their lawns before they are fined, this gives people 3 days. - Discussion on Earth Day and Arbor Celebrations

- Discussion on Earth Day and Arbor Celebrations

The Parks and Recreation Director is seeking suggestions from the PRC as to when to hold the annual Earth Day and Arbor Day Celebrations. Earth Day is April 22 and Arbor Day is April 30. In 2021 the City combined the two days into one celebration, even though the weather was awful, 30+ people showed up to help plant two apples and pick up garbage. Based on 2022 weather, a delayed celebration may be in order.

- Discussion and Approval on the purchase of new playground for Prentice Park and reallocating \$12,000 from Fund 453 to 481 (Parks Capital Budget) for such purchase.

The Parks and Recreation Department is seeking approval to purchase playground equipment from Lee Recreation for Prentice Park and approve a reallocation of \$12,000 from Fund 453 Waterfront Development to Fund 481 – Parks Capital to assist in the purchase. The playground at Prentice Park is over 25 years old. The average lifespan of a play structure and it needs replacing. If not replaced, the City could be liable for injuries that could happen on the aging and deteriorating playground equipment. The 2022 Parks Capital Improvements Budget has designated \$40,000 for a new playground. The Parks and Recreation Director is asking for an additional \$12,000 to purchase the Nucleus play system. The Parks and Recreation Committee and Lake Superior Elementary School participated in a survey to select a new playground and Nucleus won by a large margin. The Nucleus play system will likely be constructed at Kreher Park. The Gaga Spire system, which was approved by the Council in November 2021, would then go into Prentice Park as the themes of these play systems fit these sites better.

- Approval to apply to the 4 Cedars Fund for Tree Replacements along 6th St East

The Parks and Recreation Department is seeking approval from the PRC to apply for a Duluth Superior Area Community Fund 4 Cedars Grant to assist in paying for Reforestation and Native

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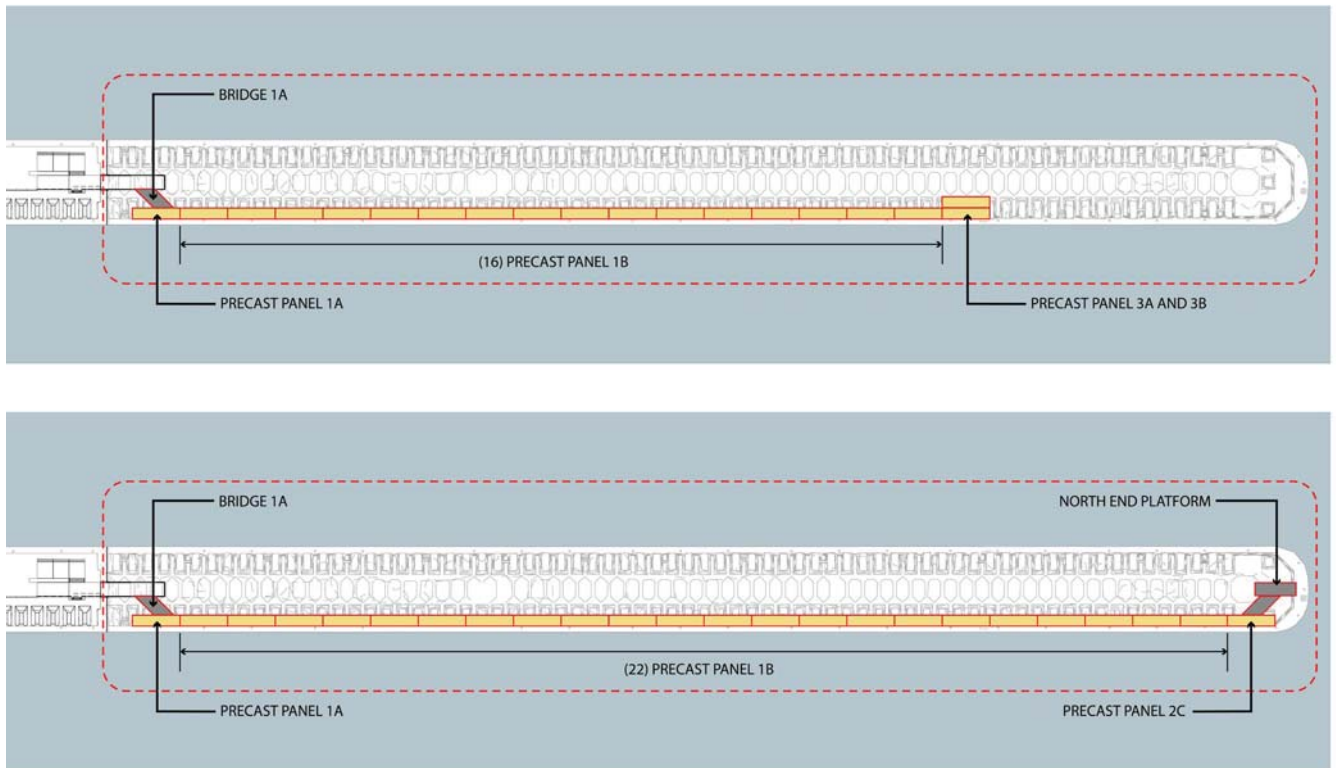


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Plantings programs. The grant would assist in paying for replacement trees along the 6th Ave East reconstruction area, native plantings in planters along Main St W and in public parking lots.

- Approval to apply to the Ashland Education Fund for the creation of an Art Cart

APR is seeking approval to work with the Vaughn Public Library to apply for an Ashland Education Fund grant to create an Art Cart. Art in the Park with a Cart is partnership between Ashland Parks & Recreation, the Vaughn Public Library and Ashland School District Art Educators. Using the VPL Book Trike, once a week throughout the summer an art activity developed by an area art educator will be offered to kids ages 6 – 11 in Ashland's parks. Hosting outdoor art activities gives students an inspiring setting to express their creativity. The book trike as a mobile classroom uniquely communicates a little whimsy as well as a commitment to be kind to the planet. Engaging in curriculum-based art activities will help students maintain a higher level of thinking during the summer months when the potential for slide is greatest. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to participate along with their kids, reinforcing a connection between learning and home life. Many of the projects will focus on materials and supplies that are repurposed and found in most households so activities can easily be repeated in the backyard. Registration for each session will be limited to 12 participants. This will ensure one on one interaction between the instructors and the kids. While this may limit participation, the goal is to have different groups of kids at each session. The expectation is to have 35 – 40 individual students. The project budget will be \$2000 which will pay for: artists \$1000, supplies \$600, promotion/advertising \$200, contingencies (extra supplies, flat tire) \$200. Both City of Ashland departments will contribute personnel time not included in the project budget.



- F. Minor errors or omissions in a Bid will not be considered grounds for rejecting that Bid. Owner reserves the right to consider and/or award a Contract for a Bid containing minor errors or omissions if doing so is in the best interests of the Project.

1.20 CONTRACT SECURITY AND INSURANCE

- A. Article 5 of the General Conditions, as may be modified by the Supplementary Conditions, sets forth Owner's requirements as to performance and payment bonds and insurance. When the Successful Bidder delivers the executed Agreement to Owner, it shall be accompanied by such bonds.

1.21 SIGNING OF AGREEMENT

- A. When Owner issues a Notice of Award to the Successful Bidder, it shall be accompanied by the required number of unsigned counterparts of the Agreement along with the other Contract Documents which are identified in the Agreement as attached thereto. Within 15 days thereafter, Successful Bidder shall sign and deliver the required number of counterparts of the Agreement and attached documents to Owner. Within ten days thereafter, Owner shall deliver one fully signed counterpart to Successful Bidder with a complete set of the Drawings with appropriate identification.
- B. Drawing and general provisions of the Contract, including General and Supplementary Conditions and Division 1 Specification Sections, apply to this Section.

A Resolution to Adopt No Mow May 2022 in the City of Ashland

WHEREAS, the City of Ashland recognizes the need to sustain pollinators, responsible for the reproduction of almost 90% of the world's flowering plant species, by providing them with healthy habitat; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the more than 3,600 species of native bees in the United States, along with introduced honey bees, we have very diverse dietary choices rich in fruits, nuts, and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators have experienced population declines due to a combination of habitat loss, poor nutrition, pesticides (including insecticides, fungicides, and herbicides), parasites, diseases, and climate change; and

WHEREAS, pollinator-friendly communities can benefit local and regional economies through healthier ecosystems, increased vegetable and fruit crop yields, and increased demand for pollinator-friendly plant materials from local growers; and

WHEREAS, a study published by Professor Del Toro, et.al., of Lawrence University which analyzed the effects of No Mow May participation in Appleton in 2020, demonstrated that both delayed and reduced frequency mowing and use of pollinator-friendly alternatives to harmful chemical lawn applications dramatically improved bee population numbers and species diversity; and,

WHEREAS, supporting pollinators fosters broad-based community engagement in environmental awareness and sustainability; and

WHEREAS, reduced mowing has additional environmental benefits including increased retention of soil moisture, reduced need for additional watering, less air pollution, less noise pollution, and fewer greenhouse gas emissions from motorized mowers; and

WHEREAS, The City of Ashland has adopted Ordinance 750: Unified Development Ordinance which requires orderly maintenance of residential property and limits the length of grass in a lawn.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; that in order to protect pollinator habitat, the City of Ashland Common Council supports the City staff's efforts to delay mowing of City lands, as deemed appropriate by the Parks and Recreation Director and the Public Works Director, during the month of May.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED; that the City of Ashland Common Council encourages the public to participate in No Mow May and instructs the city staff to suspend enforcement of Ordinance 750 on grass length during the month of May 2022.



Proposed Prentice Park Playground

