



# Parks & Recreation Commission -

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025;  
Doty Shoreline Walk-Thru 4:00-4:30 PM  
Regular Meeting 4:30 PM  
Whiting Boathouse, 98 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Neenah, WI 54956**



**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, pursuant to the requirements of Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.84, that a majority of the Neenah Common Council may be present at this meeting. Common Council members may be present to gather information about a subject over which they have decision making responsibility. This constitutes a meeting of the Neenah Common Council and must be noticed as such. The Council will not take any formal action at this meeting.

MEMBERS	Lee Hillstrom, Kate Hancock-Cooke, Gary Lawell, Peter Kelly, Eric Maggio, Ted Galloway, Jim Wise, Ashley Ondresky, and Scott Weber	
STAFF	Megan Thompson, Jim Kluge, Trevor Fink, and Michael Kading	
AGENDA TOPICS		
CALL TO ORDER		
APPEARANCES	Open Forum / Commission Consideration of Appearances	
MINUTES	Approval of Regular Minutes: August 21, 2025	Attached
BILL VOUCHERS	Bills for previous month	Ondresky
FINANCIAL Report	Review financials quarterly	Attached
MISSION ACTION Report		Attached
BUSINESS ITEMS	1. Doty Cabin Report and Presentation 2. 2025 CIP Review 3. Announcements & Future Agenda Items	
LIAISON / AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS	◇ Plan Commission ◇ Harbor Committee	◇ Hancock-Cooke ◇ Galloway
ADJOURN		

ADA Accommodation Notice: the following notice should be included in all printed material produced for City programs. In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the City of Neenah will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities based on disability in its services, programs, or activities. If you need assistance, or reasonable accommodation in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please call the **Park and Recreation Department** or the City's ADA Coordinator at (920) 886-6106 or e-mail [clerk@neenahwi.gov](mailto:clerk@neenahwi.gov) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting or event to request an accommodation.

***Creating Community Through People, Parks & Programs***



## PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

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REGULAR MEETING – August 21, 2025

### Members Present

	Jim Wise	X	Kate Hancock - Cooke		Gary Lawell
	Peter Kelly	X	Eric Maggio	X	Ted Galloway
X	Lee Hillstrom		Ashley Ondresky	X	Scott Weber

### Staff Present

X	Michael T. Kading, Director of Parks & Recreation
X	Jim Kluge, Superintendent of Recreation
X	Trevor Fink, Superintendent of Parks
X	Megan Thompson, Recreation Supervisor

**Others Present:** Kara Palasz, Gerry Andrews, James Vigil, Carolynne Vigil, Roxie Emunson, Frank Cuthbert, Mary Helen Casper, Peter Casper, Suzy Betker, Scott Woolf, and Vanessa Beilfuss

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY Commissioner Maggio at 4:30 P.M.

### Correspondence

None

### Appearances

Mr. Vigil expressed his appreciation for the sheep at Carpenter Preserve, noting that this is the least invasive way to deal with invasive species. He also acknowledges that this will take time.

Ms. Palasz is concerned about the condition of Douglas Park. She stated that kids played on the equipment prior to it being removed, and the pavilion still was of use. She feels that her property is of less value.

At the close of appearances, the Commission decided to permit responses:

Director Kading stated that the City had a need for a stormwater pond to address neighborhood flooding issues, and the Commission worked with the stormwater utility to help stormwater relief in the area. Parks & Recreation staff evaluated the equipment based upon age, accessibility, and ability to purchase replacement parts. Finding that the equipment was 20+ years old and did not meet current ADA and safety standards, staff recommended removal. The future of the site is yet to be determined. Several ideas have been developed, but no decisions have been made.

Commissioner Galloway stated for the record that he abstained from votes related to Douglas Park due to his direct connection to the Galloway Company. He further encouraged residents to find out more information from the department or attend Commission meetings prior to posting inaccurate information. He reiterated that he and the company are committed to the Neenah community and want to help facilitate community engagement and cooperation.

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### **Minutes**

MSC Hillstrom/Galloway to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2025 Commission Meeting. All voting aye.

### **Bill Vouchers**

Commissioner Maggio reviewed the vouchers for August and found them to be in order.

### **Mission Action Report**

The report was distributed earlier. The following items were discussed:

Director Kading gave a brief overview of the Mission/Action Report.

Commissioner Galloway complimented staff on the roll out of the Kimberly Point Lighthouse fundraising effort. He has individuals throughout the community talking about the effort and is confident that we will reach our goal.

Recreation Supervisor Thompson stated that the summer has gone well and that programs end tomorrow (Friday, August 22), and the pool closes the next day.

### **BUSINESS FOR CONSIDERATION**

#### **NEW BUSINESS ITEM #1: Proposed 2026 Operational/Maintenance and CIP Budgets**

Director Kading reviewed the proposed budgets.

**Action:** MSC Galloway/Hillstrom to accept and recommend the proposed 2026 Operational/Maintenance and CIP Budgets. All voting aye.

#### **BUSINESS ITEM # 2: 2025 CIP Review**

Report was reviewed.

#### **BUSINESS ITEM # 3: Announcements and Future Agenda Items**

Doty Cabin – End of Year Report and Presentation

### **Liaison Reports**

Plans Commission: Hancock-Cooke reported that school play equipment at the former Shattuck Middle School site was approved.

Harbor Committee: Galloway stated buoy placement seems to be off and should be looked into.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 5:12 P.M.

Recorded for the Commission by Michael T. Kading, CPRP



# Parks & Recreation MISSION ACTION REPORT

September 18, 2025

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## Provide recreational experiences.

- **Children's Playtime 3K** began on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. We have once again partnered with **Washington Early Learning School** to help provide social opportunities for children participating in early intervention services. This has been a wonderful partnership for the past few years, and we are looking forward to it again!
- Our **Summer Program Registration Report** is attached. Overall, families were thrilled with the numerous opportunities we offered to keep our youth and families active, involved, and engaged throughout the summer. We are so grateful to our seasonal staff, who really are the reason we can offer so many wonderful opportunities!
- **Kayak rental stations** saw 28 rentals at Arrowhead and 20 rentals at Doty Park in August.

## Promote health and wellness.

- **Fall fitness** opportunities include Yoga, Zumba, and Tai Chi classes.
- In partnership with the **Boy & Girls Club**, we are offering **Indoor Pickleball** open play. Registration is required. Play starts in October.

## Protect environmental resources.

- Carpenter Preserve:
  - ✓ Bi-annual public update meeting with the neighbors is scheduled for October 2 at 6:00PM at the George Scherck Shelter.
  - ✓ Sheep/goats will complete their third visit to the preserve within the week.
  - ✓ As evidenced by the pictures, the volunteer crew cut in the pathways off of the parking on Breezewood (drone footage provided by Dan Emunson, Wooly Green Grazers).
  - ✓ Wooly Green Grazers sponsored a neighborhood appreciation event on September 9, where they recognized Megan and Derek (pictured to the right) for their help and dedication throughout the summer in caring for the sheep/goats.
- Arrowhead:
  - ✓ The major focus through October is confirming permitted uses for Arrowhead through the DNR.
  - ✓ Highway Landscapers has completed 2 of the 3 kill and tills with a final prep expected by the end of the month and dormant seeding by the end of October.



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Parks & Programs*

# Parks & Recreation MISSION ACTION REPORT

- **Doty Park Shoreline:**  
Work is progressing very quickly with Vinton taking advantage of the dry weather. To-date, coffer dam has been installed, channel de-watered, wood walls along Fox River have been removed, and rip-rap placed. Next week, the internal wall will be removed and wall foundations installed for the center portion of the channel. DNR was onsite 9/12 – no aquatic invasive species found. **Reminder:** a walk-thru has been scheduled for 9/18 beginning at 3:55 (prior to the Commission Meeting).

## Strengthen community image and sense of place.

- The **2025-2026 Fall/Winter Activity Guide** was released online on August 14<sup>th</sup> and was mailed out the following week. This guide includes fall, winter, and early spring programs. An online-only guide will be released in December.

## Increase cultural unity.

- **Doty Cabin Summary**

Year	Children	Adults	Total	Donation
2025	334	828	1162	\$595.50
2024	232	528	760	\$581.00
2023	333	551	884	\$463.00

Three events were sponsored at the Cabin throughout the summer. One event was canceled due to rain. We are looking to continue to have one community event at the Cabin per month.

Cabin inventory was completed (more about this later).

We hired a new docent in March to fill the Sandy Joch position.

Jann McBride, 30-year docent, has decided to retire from her role. Jann's wisdom and knowledge will be missed. We thank Jann for her dedication, time, and commitment. With Jann came Bill McBride, who has been an incredible resource at the cabin, including cleaning up (daily), emptying dehumidifiers, and playing the role of Mr. Doty during school group visits. The City has been blessed for 30 years. We wish them well!

- **Riverside Players** finished their 69<sup>th</sup> season on Saturday, September 13 with the musical *Chicago*. All 8 performances were sold out, making it one of the most successful musicals in Riverside Players history. Special thanks to Director Susan Rabideau for her talented cast and crew.
- **Riverside Players 70<sup>th</sup> Season** has been announced as follows: *The Spongebob Musical* – July 23-26 & July 29-August 1, 2026 and *Rumors* – September 10-13, 2026.



# Parks & Recreation MISSION ACTION REPORT

## SUMMER PROGRAM REGISTRATION DATA

PROGRAMS	*2020 FINAL	2021 FINAL	2022 FINAL	2023 FINAL	2024 FINAL	2025 FINAL
<b>PLAYGROUND TOTALS</b>	<b>3,144</b>	<b>4,320</b>	<b>4,344</b>	<b>5,301</b>	<b>5,596</b>	<b>5,490</b>
ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND	121	254	232	237	204	212
ARCHERY	42	100	88	56	82	56
BIKE CLUB	11	14	15	10	10	X
COMMUNITY KIDS	16	25	21	X	X	X
CRAFTS	15	45	40	91	76	X
DANCE CLASS Boggie Ballroom	X	X	X	20	20	14
FLAG RUGBY	X	7	19	X	9	X
GO GIRLS GO	8	16	18	15	18	12
KIDSTAGE	14	42	30	30	23	30
NATURE (HECKRODT)	x	38	41	50	50	50
WILDERNESS SURVIVAL	20	X	20	25	26	25
OPERATION RECREATION	2529	3212	3278	3112	3265	3240 (69)
OPERATION RECREATION JR				1103	1295	1404 (37)
SPORT EXPLORERS	53 (NEW)	89	66	36	34	29
TOT SPORTS	43	100	105	109	74	65
SPORTS BASICS CAMPS						48 (NEW)
BOUNDLESS ADVENTURES			23	38	30	X
START SMART GOLF	X	10	10	10	10	6
TENNIS	137	181	191	206	210	170
TENNIS/ ACCELERATED	49	47	10	22	24	24
TENNIS/ PEE WEE	18	44	42	41	53	40
TOT LOT	48	79	89	81	83	65
FUN SCIENCE	20	32	X	X	X	X
ZUMBA KIDS	X	X	6	9	X	X
<b>SPECIAL EVENTS TOTALS</b>	<b>843</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>1,843</b>	<b>1,791</b>	<b>1,663</b>	<b>1,404</b>
BABYSITTER CLINIC	28	64	110	83	60	88
BOWLING/BUMPER	X	100	71	83	47	49
LEARN TO KNIT					12	6
BOWLING/REGULAR	X	X	11	3	15	10
FILTHY FUN KIDS RUN	45 (105)	129 (550)	183 (550)	279 (550)	201 (500)	208 (473)
GRANDPARENT AND ME	11	16	31	X	X	X
OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT	100	105	175	150	100	35
KARATE BOOT CAMP	8	32	18	20	28	19
MULBERRY LANE FARM	20	31	30	22	28	20
NIGHT GAMES	20 (1)	85	123	77	114	62 (2)
PARK KART	380	462	465	470	430	350
PHOTOGRAPHY WORK	21	14	16	X	4	X
YOUTH ENRICHMENT LEAGUE	20	43	41	46	34	24
TIME TRAVELERS CAMP	35	38	40	48	54	48
TREE CLIMBING	66	43	45	81	75	81
TOP GUN TENNIS	29	36	25	42	34	38
KIDS TRIATHLON		100	82	72	73	80
DISCOVER MUSIC			11	17	7	X
LEARN TO FISH				27 (40)	24 (40)	21 (40)
GREEN BAY ADVENTURE TRIP					24	X
<b>CAMP TOTALS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>319</b>
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL CAMP	X	114	197	215	155	166
GIRLS BASKETBALL CAMP	X	135	133	196	173	153
BOYS BASKETBALL CAMP	X		X	X	X	X
WRESTLING CAMP	X	41	X	X	X	X
<b>ADULT TOTALS</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>143</b>
ADULT TENNIS LESSONS	10	16	20	28	23	X

# Parks & Recreation MISSION ACTION REPORT

PICKLEBALL DRILLS & SKILLS					81	44
PICKLEBALL	46	113	93	149	125	99
HIIT	5	10	X	X	X	X
<b>GRAND TOTALS:</b>	<b>4,048</b>	<b>6,478</b>	<b>6,630</b>	<b>7,680</b>	<b>7,816</b>	<b>7,356</b>



## **City of Neenah Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting September 18, 2025**

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### **BUSINESS ITEM #1: Doty Cabin Report and Presentation**

Jacy Park, 2025 Cabin Docent, and Becky Kwiatkowski will be in attendance to provide a presentation on the summer inventory of the Doty Cabin collections. The last inventory was completed in 1995. Also completed in 1995 was a Collections Policy and Conservation Assessment. Both documents remain relevant today but need updating.

Over the course of the next 3-4 months/meetings, the Commission will be provided with the documents and suggested revisions. Once completed, the Commission will need to provide directions on items found in the collection.

The presentation given during the September 2025 Commission Meeting is an overview and precursor to information that will be provided during subsequent meetings.

**Suggested Action:** No Action

### **BUSINESS ITEM #2: 2025 CIP Review**

### **BUSINESS ITEM #3: Announcements & Future Agenda Items**

**Next meeting - October 16 at 4:30PM, City Hall**

**Carpenter Preserve Update Meeting - October 2 at 6:00PM, George Scherck Shelter**