

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Board of Park Commissioners**  
Wednesday, September 7, 2011  
Rec Center  
2442 Sims Ave.  
Meeting Room  
6:30 p.m.

## **AGENDA**

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of the July 6, 2011 Minutes
3. Discussion and Possible Action on Formation of Pool Sub-Committee (Alderperson Suomi)
4. Discussion and Possible Action on Moving Memorial Park Playground Purchase to 2012(Barb Jacobson)
5. Overview of Iverson Pak Restoration Work (Christopher Badtke)
6. Update on Storm Damage (City Forester)
7. Director's Report
8. 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 City Council may attend this meeting.**

# Agenda Notes

**Item #3** As staff, after reading the proposal, I would make the following recommendation. That if a group of citizens would like to get together and make recommendations to the staff/commission, and raise funds for the operations of the pool, it would be better if it wasn't an official sub-committee of the Commission. This would be no different from Little League, Adult Softball, Girls Softball, KASH Playground, Skateboard Park Committee, etc. All of these committees/organizations function very well, and do not require all of the government formality that a sub-committee under the Commission would have to follow. I would hope that if a citizens committee is formed, they would provide us with suggestions about the pools current and future operations/programs, not start dissecting the day-to-day operation of the pool. I feel that type of detail should be left to our paid professional staff, not a committee. Over the years, I feel Bob and his staff has done a very good job keeping up with the newest trends in pool programming and operations. I would recommend that Bob be available as a resource person only to this committee, because ultimately he and I will need to review any recommendations this committee may develop for the Commission to consider.

After our last meeting several Commissioners asked that I provide them with a profit/loss statement of the pool over the past several years and information about attendance in August.

<b>2006 Revenues</b>	\$42,913.90	<b>2006 Expenses</b>	\$115,918.94	-\$73,005.04
<b>2007 Revenues</b>	\$45,382.21	<b>2007 Expenses</b>	\$102,237.70	-\$56,885.49
<b>2008 Revenues</b>	\$46,790.35	<b>2008 Expenses</b>	\$119,825.45	-\$73,035.10
<b>2009 Revenues</b>	\$43,046.50	<b>2009 Expenses</b>	\$113,762.81	-\$70,716.31
<b>2010 Revenues</b>	\$46,018.14	<b>2010 Expenses</b>	\$114,199.08	-\$68,180.94

As you can see, the pool over the past five years since closing earlier, lost on an average \$68,000/year.

As for attendance in August, over the past nine years our attendance has dropped when comparing the same time period in July.

***Below is the letter Alderperson Suomi sent out to OMNA (Old Main Neighborhood Assoc) members asking for support, with the responses she received.***

To the members of OMNA:

This bulletin concerns the effort that I have started which address the Copps Municipal Pool closing August 14th, two weeks before school starts. Historically it has closed early. I am looking for people that support the concept of the Copps Municipal Pool staying open longer, possibly by next summer.

The Park Commission has not been convinced that this is a concern among our community - the pool closing two weeks before school starts. If there are enough people who think that the pool should stay open longer during the summer then I possibly will be able to proceed with Park Commissions' approval in developing a committee to develop ideas to generate a funding revenue source to support the longer time frame of keeping the pool open.

However, I need to know if there is support from the community in keeping the pool open longer during the summer. If you would e-mail me with a response in favor of the proposal, then the next step would be for me to ask if you would be willing to sign a petition and/or come to the next Park Commission Board Meeting. The next Park Commission could be August 3rd at 6:30 at the Park and Rec building by PJ Jacobs. Also, more information can be found on Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/groups/238756099482670>

Thanks!

Sincerely,  
Joanne Suomi

[jasuomi@charter.net](mailto:jasuomi@charter.net)  
OMNA board member  
2nd Ward Alderperson

## Responses:

**From:** "Santha Bickford" >  
**Date:** July 11, 2011 5:11:40 PM CDT  
**To:** "Armin/Cindy Nebel" <  
**Subject:** Re: Cops Municipal Pool - keep open longer?

Excellent idea, Joanne! I think we definitely need it open. Wasn't aware it was closing that early. Thanks for bringing it to our attention.

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From: "Brent Hall"  
To: [jasuomi@charter.net](mailto:jasuomi@charter.net)

We would love to see the pool open longer and would be happy to sign a petition to keep the pool open longer.

Thanks  
Terri Hall  
345-1121

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From: "MARY ANN POWELL" < >  
To: [jasuomi@charter.net](mailto:jasuomi@charter.net)

I am in favor of keeping it open until school begins; it seems that the weather is usually hot and sticky during that time, and kids need something to do. Mary Ann Powell

From: Sara Davis

To: [jasuomi@charter.net](mailto:jasuomi@charter.net)

Hi Joanne,

We fully support the pool being open longer in the summer and would be happy to sign a petition. Friends and I have been complaining about that for years. I noticed yesterday that the Weston aquatic center doesn't close until Aug 28 th !

Thanks for the time and effort you are putting into this!

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Sarah and Jason Davis

**From:** james hogan <

**Date:** July 11, 2011 3:29:37 PM CDT

**To:** Armin/Cindy Nebel <

**Subject:** Re: Fwd: Copsps Municipal Pool - keep open longer?

I am in favor of keeping the pool open longer. But i do think, as a former educator, that there should be a few days before school opens that it is closed. We want those kids bored and ready to learn Jim Hogan

From: "Jami Gebert"

To: [jasuomi@charter.net](mailto:jasuomi@charter.net)

Hi Joanne,

Again, thank you for contacting me to participate in helping to keep the Municipal Pool open longer. I apologize that it has taken a week for me to respond – who knew summertime would be so busy. Below I charted out the issue, solution, and ideas – just to help me think it through.

**Issue:** The committee wants to keep the Donald Copsps Municipal Pool open longer at the end of the season (*currently closes on Sunday, August 14 th – the 2011 school year begins on September 1st – two weeks later*).

**Solution:** The committee needs to raise \$11,000/wkly to cover pool expenses in order to keep the pool open. The committee would like to build funds to keep the pool open later every year, not just this year or next year.

**Ideas:**

1. Increase the admission costs .25 ¢ , making it an even \$3.00 for 6 & older and \$2.50 for 5 & younger. – Without knowing average attendance, I'm not sure the amount of increased revenue this will bring in, but I think it's worth exploring with City/Parks Dept input and approval.
2. Increase sponsorship levels for free swim days. Explore the option of free swim weekends or weeks. Could add extra bonuses to sponsorship, such as advertising business name on the electronic sign in-front of the fire department or allowing them to handout information (or have a representative present at the pool) during the sponsored time.
3. Consider extra special events at the pool – maybe someone knows Tom Pease or a magician, etc. Charge extra for those event days.

4. I believe there are already concessions at the pool, but is there something else you can sell? Toys, beach bags, sunglasses, sunscreen, bubbles, towels, etc. They could have a special logo on them or maybe there are just fun designs and colors.
5. Why just sell at the pool – Stevens Point as a ton of summer events! You could do a table at Crazy Days, Jazz Fest, etc. Selling the above or maybe selling just bottled water.
6. Partner with some area businesses on percentage sales days – like Cold Stone or Noodles. Have committee members/volunteers serve food or help bus tables for a percentage of sales for the day. This works best if advertised through facebook or similar systems, to let friends know to eat at a specific establishment on a certain day.

We have explored for the Skate Park, but not hosted, a Spaghetti Dinner at the Elk's Club. The Elk's host spaghetti dinners year round – groups sell tickets and receive a percentage of each ticket. I'm pretty sure the Elk's handle everything, but bussing the tables. This activity works well for athletic associations, because sports teams are usually large and students can divide-up and sell a couple tickets fast. I believe the Elk's holds 300, so you have to sell 300 tickets to get the maximum benefit.

7. Donation jugs both at the pool and area businesses. You sometimes see these containers for the Humane Society. The committee would have to have someone put together a nice picture and message to place on the jugs and someone willing to ask for placement and collect periodically.

All of the above are simply suggestions. I'm sure numbers 1, 2, 3, & 4 would need Park's Board and/or City Council approval.

#### **Questions:**

1. Would the committee have an account through the City to deposit raised funds? Would donations be tax-deductible?
2. Would the City allow the committee to set up an account at the Community Foundation? The donations would be tax-deductible and it only takes \$100 to start an account. Also, the Community Foundation staff issues every donor a receipt with thank you letter, which takes a lot of responsibility off the committee.

The problem with all of the above is that they are time-consuming and although they might produce a profit of a couple hundred dollars, you need \$11,000. I would really suggest personal asks. Setting up appointments with Travel Guard, Delta Dental, Skyward, Gamber-Johnson, etc. etc. and asking for a larger donation. In doing this, you will probably need a leave behind brochure with information, including who to contact & where to send the money. Given the current sponsorships for free-swim days, I'm thinking the City/Parks Dept has some guidelines/benefits established to work/build off of???

I know the free-swim sponsorships are probably already completed for this year, but another suggestion might be to ask if the City would allow you to expand the sponsorship asks (solicitations) to "free-swim weekends" or "weeks" for next year – you don't want to solicit the same folks twice, but if you partnered to ask for a larger amount with some larger benefit(s) at the same time and it was personally done with a committees' help – it might be mutually beneficial.

Those are my thoughts; hopefully they weren't too random and somewhat helpful. I apologize if this wasn't what you were looking for . . . . let me know and maybe we can go in a different direction. I'm happy to provide some guidance and I'm always

happy to volunteer at special events/fundraiser, etc. I'm not sure I could commit to anything longer term.

Thanks,

JAMI GEBERT

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From: "Clarke and Virginia Crandell"

Is the pool self-sustaining, or does it require tax monies for its operation?

From: [jasuomi@charter.net](mailto:jasuomi@charter.net)

Mr. and Mrs. Crandell, The pool is not self-sustained. From what I understand the money from Rendezvous supplements various projects/programs within the city and one program is the operation expenses of the Copps municipal pool. One of the responsibilities of the committee that I am proposing to the Park Commission would be is to begin having discussions with staff ... ways to increase revenue for the pool to stay open longer - 10 weeks to 12 weeks (possibly on a smaller scale of hours for example only evening hours for the last two weeks) and having the pool open on holidays - Memorial day, July 4th and Labor Day.... Thanks for the inquiry. Sincerely, Joanne

From: Tom Schrader

FYI

Actually Rendezvous is supported through donations and Room Tax. It does not supplement any other programs and lost money the last two years.

**Item #4.** Barb Jacob is in the process of raising funds to offset the costs of the proposed playground equipment replacement in Memorial Park. She feels if the replacement were to be moved up to next year, it would make it easier for her to raise funds. Our current adopted Capital Improvement plan calls for the equipment to be replaced in 2015.

As staff, I would recommend that the Commission support moving the funding of the equipment up if Ms. Jacobson can raise half of the funds. This support would need to be in the form of a motion to the Finance Committee.

July 30,2011

Tom Schrader  
Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department  
2442 Sims Ave  
Stevens Point WI 54481

715-346-1531

Dear Tom, and Board of Parks Commissioners,

At this time I am requesting that the Parks Board, place Veterans Memorial Park a top priority to obtain new play ground equipment for next year (spring of 2012). With your help by placing this park as a priority I believe I can obtain approval from the finance committee to move this project up on the projected schedule. At this time this park is not due to obtain any new play ground equipment until 2015/16, with the city paying the whole bill for the equipment. I have made a proposal to the mayor. I will do a fund raiser (which I have started), and raise ½ the money needed for this equipment, and the city will pay the other ½, up to \$15,000. But I need you to make this a priority for next year.

At this time there are only 2 items for the children to play on, one being a swing set with 2 children swings and 2 tot swings, and a 3 piece train which two of the cars are broken due to the recent storm. The swing was donated back in 1953 by the South-side Business Association and the train was purchased by the city about 10-12 years ago. There was other playground equipment that has been removed from the park and never replaced. This is the only park on the South-side, west of Hwy51, between the Clark street bridge and the City Limits. I believe that it is important to provide these children on the South-side a safe place to play without having to cross a major Hwy.

Many people do not believe this park is used, but it is and would be used more if there was more equipment for the children to play on. The people in this area care about their park. After the storm this is the only park I know of that the area residents went into and cleaned it up. They cut up and stacked all the fallen trees and branches, along with raking all the debris laying around.

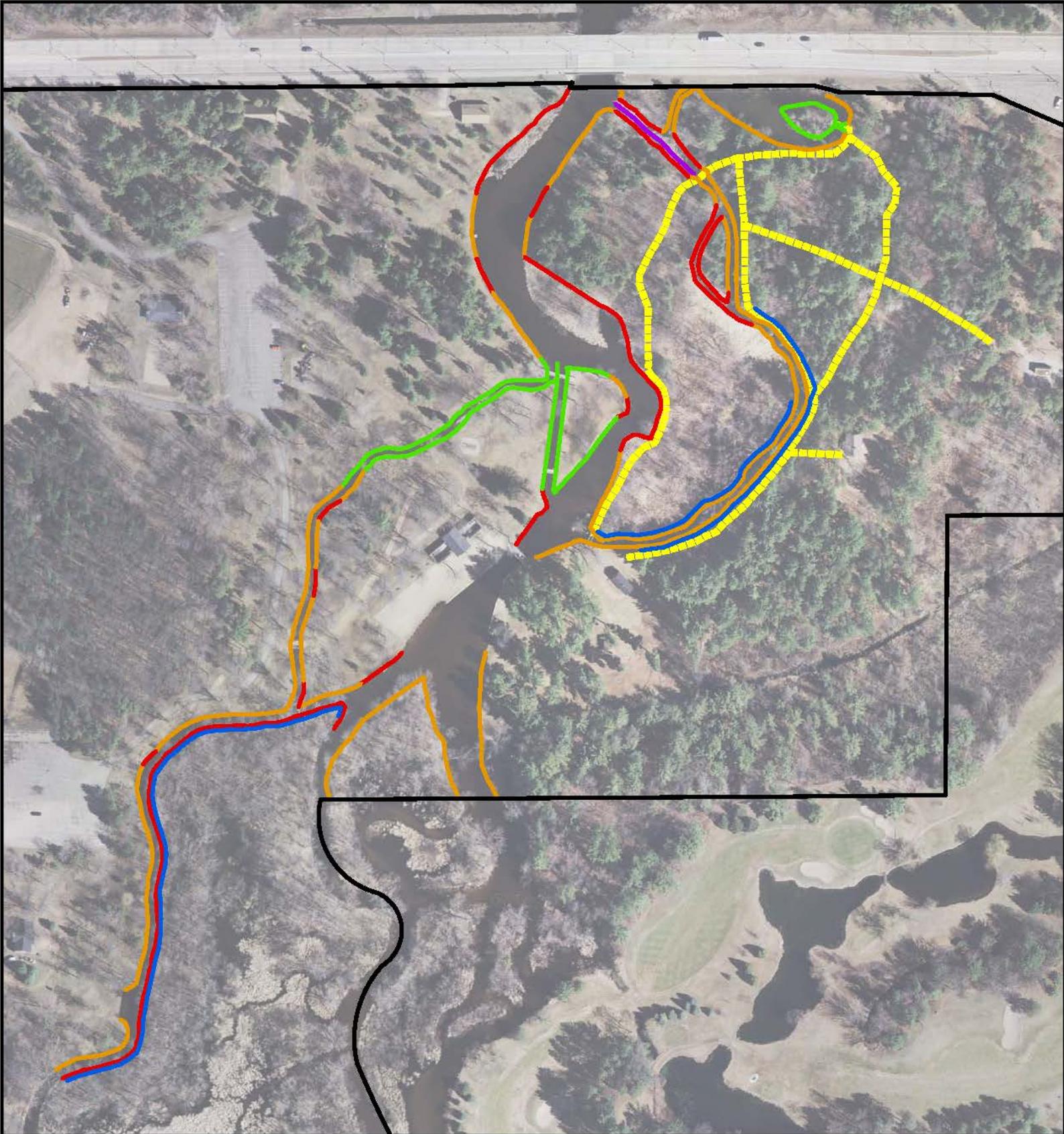
The monument was just redone this past year at no cost to the city. I feel it is time to update the rest of the park by adding proper playground equipment. So I am again requesting that you place Veterans Memorial Park as a priority for next year. With a joint effort with the City and the Community this venture will become a reality.

Thank You for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

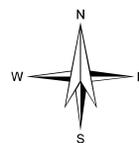
Barb Jacob

# City Of Stevens Point Iverson Park Restoration Map



### Legend

	Debrushing Areas	<b>Rip Rap Condition</b>
	Dredging	 Fair
	Park Boundary	 Good
	Trails	 Poor



## July 20<sup>th</sup> Storm Update

### Forestry Department

There are 20 trees along the city streets that remain that are scheduled to be removed due to the storm. The cost to have the contractor remove these trees would be \$5,616.00. The cost to remove the 20 resulting stumps, plus the 41 remaining tree stumps from the storm would cost \$4,344.00.

In the parks, seven trees remain to be removed as a result of the storm, at a cost of \$3,550.00. There are 91 remaining stumps in the managed areas of the parks. The cost to remove these stumps is \$8,107.70. The total cost of removing the trees and stumps at current contractor prices would be \$21,617.00.

As of 8/29/2011 a total of 92 street trees (typically trees between the street and sidewalk) will be or have been removed due to the storm. A conservative number of trees removed from parks, cemeteries, trails and other city owned lands is in excess of 300. A total of 231 trees on managed sections these properties has been documented.

The 91 street trees lost had an appraised value of approximately \$150,000. Additionally lost were the services the 91 street trees were providing annually (storm water reduction, energy savings, air quality, carbon dioxide sequestration, and added property values). The annual lost benefits are nearly \$10,000. These numbers were derived from the Street Tree Management Plan conducted by Davey Tree Resource Group in 2010. There is no estimate on the value of the lost park trees.

A good estimate of the average street tree lost was 19 inches in diameter, and for the parks the average diameter was 24 inches.

To contract out to replant the 91 street trees lost in the storm would cost about \$21,000.00. This is for two inch balled and burlapped trees at \$125.00 a piece and planted for \$110.00 each. The same cost per tree purchased and planted in the parks could be assumed. Smaller sized trees, and trees purchased bareroot/potted would lower costs.