

MINUTES
City of Norwich, Parks Commission
May 27, 2025

Present: Chairperson C. Sprague, Comm. B. McCracken, Comm. OJ Levesque, Comm. S. Lambert, Comm. T. French, Comm. M. Kirsch, Alderwoman N. Allaire

Absent: Comm. K. Thompson

Also Present: A. Testani, E. Larsen

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

Comm. French made a motion approve April's meeting minutes, seconded by Comm. Lambert. Approved by all.

Chairperson Sprague interested Marianne Kirsch as the newest member of the Parks Commission. Marianne will be the commissions representative for Weiler Park.

As part of the annual review of the parks, last night's meeting was held at Bruchhausen Park. Eric Larsen asked the commission how the Friends of the Park could help improve Bruchhausen. Eric explained as part of the Park's master plan it was clear there are parks that could be improved inexpensively, compared to the improvements at South Broad St Park. Bruchhausen and Auburn Park are two parks Friends of the Parks would be interested in helping to improve.

The commission reviewed the playground equipment. While the new playground equipment is in nice condition the park does not contain anything for kids in the 2 to 5 years of age group. New equipment should be a priority for the park. The commission also felt the pea stone playground surface is more of a hazard. It should be replaced. Additional improvements would be to lengthen the basketball courts, adding a second net and improving the lighting within the park.

A. Testani reviewed the near-term action items from the park's master plan.

New Business:

It was noted that a dog waste station should be installed at Auburn Park and maybe one more at Bruchhausen.

The Pulse, formerly the Tobacco Free Coalition, is sponsoring a Family Fun Day at Kurt Beyer Pool on June 13th.

There is a community picnic being planned for June 13th at Weiler Park by June Hill. She has contacted the city regarding reserving the park and applying for the permit to all for music. She was also informed that she needs to contact County Health regarding cooking food.

Chairman's Report: Chairperson Sprague mentioned two trees need to be removed. Both are ash trees. The first is in the parking lot at Weiler Park. The other is at Kurt Beyer Pool.

Commissioner's Reports: It was noted that the fire truck at Bruchhausen is missing the steering wheel. One should be added, or the arm should be removed before a child hurts themselves on it.

Budget: No update.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 8:14 was made by Comm. French, seconded by Comm. Kirsch, approved by all.

Next meeting: Tuesday June 24 at 7:00 at the Kurt Beyer Pool.