LA PORTE PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
BOARD MINUTES
AUGUST 20, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Mitch Feikes, who also led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Also attending were Nicole Messacar, Denise Bealor, Jr. Francis, Mark Schreiber, Kyle Cashmer, Evan Miller, Gregory Pietsch, Karyl Feikes and Roberta Mumaw.

RECOGNITIONS
None

MINUTES
The minutes from the previous month's meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Denise Bealor, seconded by Jr. Francis.

BILLS AND CLAIMS
The bills and claims in the amount of $182,910.01 were unanimously approved on a motion by Jr. Francis, seconded by Nicole Messacar.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS
Mark Schreiber met with Nicole Messacar last week and stated that the Natural Resource sub-committee will begin meeting once again. There are some opportunities for some projects and improvements.

OLD BUSINESS
Mark Schreiber gave an update on the pending grant application for the Civic Auditorium elevator. Mary Ann Richards is currently waiting for 2 letters of concurrence on the historical review. Once the letters are received the environmental review will need to be completed, she will then hold a public meeting and then this will be submitted to HUD.

NEW BUSINESS
Justin with Aquatic Weed Control updated the Board on the ongoing treatment of all nonnative plant control in Clear Lake. These are done through the LARE program (Lake and River Enhancement) funding is provided through boat registrations. The grant received was in the amount of $8400 to be used for AVMP studies (aquatic vegetation management plan) and for Eurasian water milfoil treatments. This year 2 visual surveys were done, and no milfoil was found. The tier 2 survey was just done at 50 different locations in the lake which showed low levels of native plants (map included) The lake clarity has been an issue for several years and this could be due to the watershed. The draft version of the AVMP is due November 15 and will be sent to Mark as well as LARE. The final version will be due winter of 2026. Spraying for purple loosestrife and phragmites (both emergent and nonnative) will be done in the future.

Mark Schreiber stated he has been working with a regional entertainment firm that does consulting. We hope to do some collaborations with them on promotions as well. We are currently looking into ways to elevate the Civic Auditorium. No action is required currently.

A quote was presented from Marquis Electric in the amount of $17,023 for electrical repairs at Beechwood Golf Course. A total of 3 quotes were requested with only one response coming

back. Kyle Cashmer stated there has been ongoing issues with the 3-phase transformer by 18 tee for years. Several times a year the fuse needs to be replaced especially during storms. When this goes out it can affect different areas of the course. There are sufficient funds in the Beechwood capital account but there will need to be an additional appropriation to complete the project. A motion to approve the project was approved unanimously on a motion by Nicole Messacar, seconded by Jr Francis.

Mark Schreiber requested permission to dispose of a John Deere 997 72" mower as well as a Minolta copier/printer, both are approximately 10 years old and have no value. The request was approved on a motion by Nicole Messacar, seconded by Denise Bealor.

Mark Schreiber requested permission to allow Dunebrook to park in the grass for their upcoming dragon boat races that will be held on Stone Lake September 6. The request was approved on a motion by Denise Bealor, seconded by Nicole Messacar.

Mark Schreiber requested permission for himself and Evan Miller to attend the Indiana Park and Recreation Association conference November 11-13 in Muncie Indiana. The cost for the conference will be $370 per person for registration. The hotel cost will be $129 per night. The request was approved on a motion by Nicole Messacar, seconded by Jr Francis.

BOARD MEMBER/DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Mark Schreiber thanked the staff for doing a fantastic job. All programs and events were well attended again this summer. Lakefest was also well attended, bringing people from all different areas.

Denise Bealor wanted to thank the maintenance staff for cleaning the pickleball courts. They did a fantastic job.

Nicole Messacar commented on the high levels of e-coli in Stone Lake after the last heavy rain. Park patrons should be aware of and stay out of the water within 72 hours after heavy rains. La Porte County Health Department samples old Stone Lake Beach, new Stone Lake Beach, and Kiwanis Teledyne.

The motion to adjourn was made by Jr Francis, seconded by Nicole Messacar. Motion was approved unanimously.

Mitch Feikes, President

Roberta Mumaw, Secretary

Approved: 9-14-25