
Recreation Committee Meeting
Wednesday August 20, 2025
5:30pm at Juneau Community Center
MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Wendy Jo Smedema, Kara Erstad, Jessica Nehls-Rennhack, Jennifer White and Jane Fude

Also Present: Mayor Dan Wegener, Recreation Director Hunter Karnitz, DPW Director Joe Ludtke, and Rage Soccer Sub-Committee members Kevin Klueger and Paul Shanks.

1. This meeting was called to order at 5:31pm and roll call was taken. Present: Smedema, Nehls-Rennhack, Fude, Erstad, White. Motion carried.
2. White motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Nehls-Rennhack. Ayes: Smedema, Nehls-Rennhack, Fude, Erstad, White. Motion carried.
3. Erstad motioned to approve the minutes from the previous meeting, seconded by Nehls-Rennhack. Ayes: Erstad, Nehls-Rennhack, Smedema, Fude, White. Motion carried.
4. Public appearances and citizen comments: NONE
5. Juneau Soccer Sub Committee
 - a. Discussion and possible action regarding moving Wild Goose Park Soccer Fields
 - Sub Committee members Kevin Klueger and Paul Shanks discussed how moving the soccer fields caused issues regarding the slope on the Western side of the park and due to that, the field would have to be shrunk, which is not ideal for U14 Rage Soccer and Adult Soccer.
 - Kevin Klueger also mentioned the issue with moving the fields and having the storage shed/concession stand in the middle of the fields would cause congestion if there were large groups of people getting concessions.
 - Recreation Director Karnitz and DPW Director Ludtke discussed the main reason for moving the fields was to create a more safe distance between the two fields because they are currently very close to one another. Kevin Klueger discussed that Rage Soccer will not schedule games on those fields at the same time to avoid that issue.
 - Kevin Klueger and Paul Shanks advised leaving the large, U14 field where it was and moving only one of the smaller, U9 field's goals back about 30 feet to where one of the downed trees from the May tornado was to expand the U9 field.

- A motion to move the fields to Option A diagram (included at end of the minutes), minute moving the large field, from the June Recreation Committee Meeting was called by White, seconded by Smedema. Ayes: Fude, White, Erstad, Nehls-Rennhack, Smedema.

6. Discussion and possible action on removing old City Park playground equipment

- Recreation Director Karnitz discussed the idea of eventually removing a few pieces of old playground equipment in the City Park. The equipment is very old and not used by patrons of the park and has to be refurbished to maintain its appearance.
- Recreation Committee members agreed that no further restoration efforts should be made on the equipment and to eventually remove them once there is a plan to replace them. There was discussion on reaching out to businesses as sponsors to help cover new equipment costs.
- A motion to remove the equipment as long as there is a plan to fill the spaces was motioned by White, seconded by Nehls-Rennhack. Ayes: Fude, White, Erstad, Smedema, Nehls-Rennhack.

7. Recreation Director's Report

- Recreation Director Karnitz discussed programs that were ending, ongoing, or coming up.
 - Adult Soccer and T-Ball programs have concluded. T-Ball's last day ended with all kids receiving a certificate and a popsicle to cap a fun season.
 - The Flag Football program is about to start in early September. There are 19 kids registered across the grades K-5th.
 - Rage Soccer practices start the week of August 25th. There are 81 kids registered which is 7 more than last year.
 - Youth basketball registration is open for girls in grades 3-8th. Boys registration will be open soon.
 - The tennis/basketball courts were resurfaced and lined over the past week. Farhner Asphalt was in town resurfacing the parking lot at City Hall and they were able to fit the tennis/basketball court in their schedule while here. The cost of the resurfacing and lining was less than half of the capital budget set aside for the project. The remaining budget will be put on the September agenda to recommend allocating those funds into the storage shed project at Wild Goose Park.
- a. Update regarding Wild Goose Park storage shed
- Recreation Director Karnitz discussed that he has reached out to Modern Woodmen Representative Cassandra Schmidt but hasn't heard anything back yet.
 - Mayor Wegener said he spoke to her in person at the Dodge County Fair to hopefully get things moving forward.

8. Old Business: NONE

9. New Business

- Jennifer White mentioned how there is an Open House at Dodgeland on August 27th and it would be a good idea to see if Parks and Recreation could have a table there for registration and information for future programs.

10. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Fude, seconded by White. Ayes: Smedema, Fude, Erstad, White. Nehls-Rennhack had to leave by 6:25pm which is why she was absent from this motion's vote.

**Next meeting scheduled for September 17, 2025 at 5:30pm at the
Juneau Community Center**

Minutes Reported by:
Hunter Karnitz

Option A

1. Increase U9 field to the recommended size
2. Move large field to the south up to 20ft, remove concrete pad
3. Wouldn't have to remove any trees, just remove some stumps

