

AMENDED
CITY OF STURGEON BAY
JOINT PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, January 27, 2016
Council Chambers, City Hall, 421 Michigan Street
5:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Consideration of: 5 Year Outdoor Recreation Plan
5. Adjourn

NOTE: DEVIATION FROM THE AGENDA ORDER SHOWN MAY OCCUR

Notice is hereby given that a majority of the Common Council may be present at this meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility. If a quorum of the Common Council does attend, this may constitute a meeting of the Common Council and is noticed as such, although the Common Council will not take any formal action at this meeting.

Notice is hereby given that if a quorum of one of the committees is not present, the committee with a quorum may meet and act upon the agenda subjects.

Posted:
10:30 a.m.
1/22/2016

JML

Park and Recreation Committee/Board Members:

Ron Vandertie, Chairman
Jerry Stults, Vice Chairman
William Gregory
Chris Larsen
Randy Morrow
Marilyn Kleist
George Husby
Leif Hagman
Bob Bordeau

Bordeau, Bob

From: Shawn Fairchild <fairchild.shawn@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2015 7:08 PM
To: Bordeau, Bob
Subject: 5 year parks and rec plan
Attachments: Cardy Support Letter.PDF

Dear Mr Bordeau,

It has been brought to my attention the opportunity to review the 5 year parks and Rec Plan for the City of Sturgeon Bay.

I would like an opportunity to pass along a letter that I was copied regarding The Cardy Paleoindian campsite in Sturgeon Bay. I have visited this little known site, and comprehend its importance to this area. It seems this site deserves more recognition, and should definitely be incorporated into our local parks plan and at the very least be an integral part of the Ice Age trail that passes through Sturgeon Bay and into Potawatomi State park.

I am also concerned at the perception that our existing parks are negotiable for trade out for other functions happening in our community , such as development of different areas that include present or potential waterfront open, publicly usable, land in trade for relocation, or other non public uses, such as docking, or public parking.

Our public park lands are valuable to the public, for the public's use, and have been established as such for the maximum use of the public. Trading out for parking and simply relocating a park into a former cornfield is not justified.

Please take these issues into account in your review of our 5 year parks plan.

Thank you
Shawn Fairchild

Door County Environmental Council

Protecting Door County's Natural Resources since 1971

November 2015

To Parks Dept.,

The Door County Environmental Council's mission statement includes protecting and preserving Door County's natural resources and we believe the Paleo-Indian Camp - the Cardy Site on the west side of Sturgeon Bay is a historic, natural resource that needs protection.

One way to protect this site would be to include the camp in the Sturgeon Bay Open Recreation 5 yr. Park Plan. Designating this site in the Park plan will help to promote this site as an educational venue for school kids and the general public.

Recognizing this prehistoric site will instill understanding of our ties and similarities to our ancestors' use of the glaciated area we now call Sturgeon Bay. Eleven thousand years ago the Paleo Indians fished just like we fish now. They hunted then and we hunt now. They built boats, raised families, grew food, lived and died just like we do now. By celebrating the continuous existence of humans on the special piece of earth, we can better preserve this land for our descendants just like the Paleo Indians preserved this land for us.

What better way for us to honor the first citizens of Sturgeon Bay than to establish a park celebrating their existence.

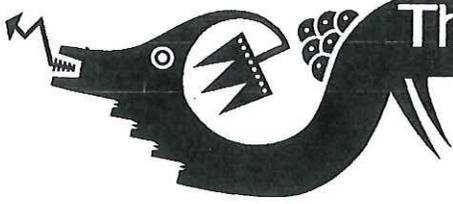
The City could further promote the Cardy site by including it in the Ice Age Trail route now being planned and by providing a few parking spaces for better accessibility.

This low-lying area must also be protected from environmental damage that may occur by water runoff or digging in future road projects in the area.

Sturgeon Bay is lucky to have such a historic site from 9000b.c. as well preserved as it is. We must protect and preserve this treasure.

Thank you for your consideration.

The Board of Directors for The Door County Environmental Council



The Archaeological Conservancy

3620 N. High St. Suite 307
Columbus, OH 43214
(614) 267-1100
Fax (614) 267-1901

November 25, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

It has been brought to my attention that the city of Sturgeon Bay is in the process of developing a new parks plan. The Archaeological Conservancy maintains a permanent archaeological preserve at 322 and 334 W. Spruce Street. It is the Cardy Paleoindian Campsite, and it preserves the remains of an American Indian campsite of about 11,000 years ago. The archaeological site is listed on The National Register of Historic Places, and it is my understanding that it was designated as a local historic site by the Sturgeon Bay Common Council on February 15, 2011. The property containing the archaeological site was donated to The Archaeological Conservancy in September 2011 by the Cardy family.

The Cardy Paleoindian Campsite is maintained as open-space, and we have installed an interpretive kiosk that tells the story of the ancient campsite. Like so many other archaeological sites in the eastern United States, the Cardy site conceals its significance beneath the soil, so the surface features of the site are visually unimpressive -- essentially a mowed residential lawn. However, all archaeological remains from the terminal Ice Age period are quite rare and usually consist of isolated spear points and the occasional "kill site" of Ice Age animals such as mammoths. Ice Age habitation sites, such as the Cardy Campsite, are virtually unknown. As a confidently dated Ice Age habitation site it is unique in Wisconsin.

The Archaeological Conservancy is a national, nonprofit organization whose purpose is the permanent protection of the most significant archaeological sites in the nation. Since our founding in 1980, we have permanently preserved nearly 500 archaeological sites in 45 states. We do this in order to insure that archaeological sites will be available to future generations for research, education and as landmarks of our national heritage. Given the great rate of archaeological site destruction in the United States, our organization is narrowly focused on land acquisition, so we have negligible funds for park development. Nonetheless, we are always happy to cooperate with local governments and NGOs that are interested in utilizing our preserves. The Cardy Paleoindian Campsite is such a special place that we would certainly welcome any recognition that the city of Sturgeon Bay might provide.

I would be happy to discuss this further with any interested parties.

Yours truly,

Paul S. Gardner
Midwest Regional Director

B.

Bordeau, Bob

From: Laurel Hauser <lduffinhauser@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 11:14 AM
To: Bordeaux, Bob
Cc: Kelly Catarozoli
Subject: Kuddos on the Park Plan

Good morning, Bob.

I understand that you are taking comments on the newly-released Parks Plan. I've just had a chance to read through it and want to compliment everyone involved in putting it together. It's really impressive and has a lot of good information. I didn't read it with a fine-tooth comb, but I'm impressed with what is included. I hope it was fun to put together because it's fun to read and shows the scope of all you do. As you know, I am a huge fan of our Parks and Rec Department! Thanks for including the info on the skatepark and for having lighting in the list of future improvements. You'll make a lot of skaters happy.

My two main comments at this point would be for the plan to include strategic language about "connection" and about "branding." We have such a good park system; I think we should work to connect the parks/natural areas, etc and communicate them as a connected plan that can not only benefit the community but would draw visitors. I'm thinking of how Portland is known for its Emerald Necklace. Working with the County and the Silent Sports Alliance on this could be huge. Door County could have an "emerald necklace" with Sturgeon Bay taking a lead and being Door County's City of Parks. I think it could have a positive economic and aesthetic impact. Perhaps we could come up with a name that people could get behind. I'll give this some thought! Certainly a walking map would be a start to branding the connection between the parks.

A couple more stray thoughts...

Art. I believe a commitment to incorporating art in our parks—sculpture, mosaics, etc—would pay back in spades. It's not something we've done much of in the past, so it would involve some new thinking and new partners, but it would speak to Door County's art culture. My dream is to get a fun modern sculpture at the skatepark someday.

Ice Age Trail—don't forget that SB is a connector on a really cool state-wide trail that already exists.

That's it for now. Sorry this is so cursory; I only have a few minutes today but wanted to get these thoughts to you.

Thanks, Bob, for considering and sharing these comments, for the great plan you've done, and for all the amazing work you and your staff does each day for our City.

Laurel Hauser

C.

Lenius, Jen

From: Bordeau, Bob
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 9:17 AM
To: Lenius, Jen
Subject: FW: comment on Sturgeon Bay Outdoor Recreation Plan
Attachments: Ship Canal paragraph.docx

From: Jodi Milske [<mailto:jmilske@doorcountylandtrust.org>]
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 10:54 AM
To: Bordeau, Bob
Cc: 'Dan Burke'; Crossman@doorcountylandtrust.org
Subject: comment on Sturgeon Bay Outdoor Recreation Plan

Dear Mr. Bordeau,

I am writing to comment on Item 33. "Canal Property Beach" of the "Inventory of Outdoor Recreational Facilities" on page 17 of the "Outdoor Recreation Plan for City of Sturgeon Bay". I am requesting that you substitute that paragraph with the one attached to this email, which I believe more accurately describes the current status of that property and its public uses. To clarify: while the entire preserve does lie within the City of Sturgeon Bay, it is wholly owned and managed by the Door County Land Trust. The strip of land immediately adjacent to the shipping channel is owned by the U.S. Government. The City retains a 50-acre inholding which does not border on the ship canal or the beach and contains the dredge spoil disposal site, and the area immediately to the north of the City parcel is owned by American Transmission Company. The Land Trust preserve includes the 500 feet of beach south of the breakwater, and a 50 foot strip adjacent to and south of the Land Trust property is owned by the Town of Sturgeon Bay. While both beach areas are open to the public, there is no formal lease agreement between the Town and the Land Trust and the Land Trust property is not managed as a Town park; this lease was terminated when the City sold the property to the Land Trust. Thank you, and please feel free to contact me with any additional questions.

Respectfully,
Jodi Milske

Jodi Milske
Land Stewardship Manager

Door County Land Trust
P.O. Box 65
Sturgeon Bay WI 54235

phone: (920) 746-1359
e-mail: jmilske@doorcountylandtrust.org
website: www.doorcountylandtrust.org

"Preserving Door County's Finest Open Spaces & Wild Places"

33. Sturgeon Bay Canal Property

In 2009, Sturgeon Bay Utilities sold 332 acres of land on the south side of the Ship Canal to the Door County Land Trust, retaining 50 acres for future use by SBU. The Land Trust operates the property as the “Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve”, which has grown to 445 acres through an additional acquisition. The preserve has 2.5 miles of rustic trails as well as 500 feet of sandy Lake Michigan shoreline at the end of Lake Lane. It is open to the public year around for activities such as hiking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, birdwatching, and some types of hunting. There are two parking lots, informational kiosks, a scenic overlook with a commanding view of the canal, and seating benches throughout the preserve.

D.

Lenius, Jen

From: Olejniczak, Marty
Sent: Monday, December 07, 2015 2:47 PM
To: Lenius, Jen
Cc: Bordeau, Bob
Subject: RE: Outdoor Rec Plan
Attachments: 6. Festival Waterfront - Waterfront Concept Plan (10.30.14).pdf

Jen:

Here are my suggested revisions to the park plan. Feel free to add them in (or not). Let me know if you have questions about any of this.

Marty

1. Bay View Park

Bay View Park is located on the waterfront, northwest of Madison Avenue. It consists of a small green area with a gazebo, along with an adjoining earthen berm jutting approximately 850 feet into the bay. The berm is known as the old railroad spur since it supported a railroad bridge across Sturgeon Bay. There are waterfront walkways through and adjacent to Bay View Park that both lead to the end of the railroad spur and connect the foot of Michigan Street Bridge westward to Otumba Park. The total size of these waterfront parcels is 3.7 acres, but 1 acre is used for a municipal parking lot, most of which is reserved for use by an adjoining restaurant marina. Bay View Park is a great place to relax and view the waters of Sturgeon Bay, the shipbuilding industry, the historic bridge, and the adjoining recreational boating activity. The park functions as a neighborhood park and special recreation area. The walkways are handicapped accessible with ramped fishing decks and viewing area along the railroad spur.

15. Sawyer Park

Located at 36 S. Neenah Avenue, this is another of the City's waterfront parks. The west side of Sturgeon Bay was known as Sawyer prior to its merger with Sturgeon Bay in 1891. Sawyer Park contains 8.8 acres and is comprised of reclaimed industrial lands that the City acquired in the 1980's. The park is most known for its large modern boat launching facility. This very popular launching site has six lanes within a protected basin, docking space, harbor master's building, restrooms/fish cleaning stations and large lighted parking area with room for about 170 vehicles with trailers. This facility was completed in 1991. Next to the launching facility is an expansive lawn area. This area is used for various fishing tournaments and other special events, including the Sturgeon Bay Open Bass Tournament.

The Sturgeon Bay Open Bass Tournament and the Sturgeon Bay Rotary Club jointly funded construction of a large pavilion at Sawyer Park. The pavilion was completed in early 2006 and should promote greater usage of this park which offers great views of the water and convenient access to the downtown. The shelter was enclosed in 2010 making it the only fully enclosed shelter within the City parks system. The City also was awarded a state grant to rehabilitate the dock wall along much of the Sawyer Park frontage. The repaired dock wall is primarily intended to allow Great Lakes freighters to moor during the winter layover period, but will also benefit the park by improving access for shore fishermen.

The dock wall and the land adjacent to the water is currently leased to the U.S. Coast Guard. It is the mooring facility for the USCGC Mobile Bay, a buoy tender and ice breaker. The leased property is one of three U.S.C.G. facility in the Sturgeon Bay area. The Coast Guard's presence is celebrated through the City of Sturgeon Bay being named an official Coast Guard City.

The most recent improvements to Sawyer Park include a pedestrian walkway winding through the park and under the Oregon Street Bridge. This walkway is intended to continue to connect with Bayview Park to the northwest. Historical signs and artifacts related to maritime history line the walkway.

20. Westside Waterfront

Located at the heart of the community, this underutilized stretch of prominent waterfront is located between the western approach to the two bridges, the Maple-Oregon Street and the Michigan Street bridges, which connect Sturgeon Bay's central business districts. This West Waterfront area offers a unique opportunity to revitalize a highly-visible and under used waterfront.

In 2011 the City of Sturgeon Bay began working on plans to improve this area. Goals for the project development include developing a busy, highly functional waterfront area for community residents as well as improve the City's appearance and welcome visitors to the community. Improving public access to the waterfront and encouraging higher and best uses for prominent, valuable waterfront sites is key to developing this site. The current plan for developing the waterfront portion of this site into a recreation area includes creating a wide waterfront promenade between the bridges, establishing an approximate one-acre park area adjoining the promenade at the south end along the Oregon Street Bridge approach, and installing a large central pier. These potential improvements are part of the overall redevelopment effort for the West Waterfront area. Wisconsin Coastal Management Program grants and a Stewardship grant have been received for implementation of public improvements, but the actual construction will also depend upon tax increment financing from new private development. If the new private development occurs, the proposed park improvements could occur in 2016 or 2017.

21. Woods West Park

This is a neighborhood park on the City's west side that was recently acquired from the Woods family. ~~The family agreed to donate the land for the park in exchange for the City extending municipal sanitary sewer and water facilities to serve their home.~~ Woods West Park is located at 1001 N. Cumberland Avenue, on the west side of Cumberland Avenue, just north of West Maple Street. The park totals 4.8 acres and is partially covered by orchard. ~~It may take several years for the park to be fully developed.~~ This park has a gravel parking lot, a back stop for playing baseball/kickball and playground equipment.

27. Memorial Athletic Complex

The school district also owns a portion of the Memorial Athletic complex located directly across Michigan Street. The facilities within that property are described under the City owned facilities (#14 12).

Also, under the YMCA Peterson Park description, the word "BAY" should not be all caps.

Under the Service Area Analysis on p. 22 the word "is" should be "are" (Service area criteria is are used)

Under the recommendations section:

East Side Waterfront / Stone Harbor Marina

- *Improve lighting for marina and waterfront*
- *Review parking needs and if necessary, provide parking space within a portion of the park or on nearby properties [Is this right? Where would parking go?]*

Graham Park / East Side Waterfront

- *In conjunction with the redevelopment of the PBI Shipyard consider the reconfiguration of park properties within the waterfront area via property swaps or potential land acquisition*
- *Provide picnic facilities*
- *Create a pedestrian connection to Martin Park by way of either installing a sidewalk on Pennsylvania Street from 1st to 2nd Avenue or by vacating the portion of Pennsylvania Street from 1st to 3rd Avenue*
- *Move Graham Monument to this location*
- *Install a volleyball court in the grass area*

Martin Park

- *Add park hours to sign*
- *Replace certain trees and make some additions to shrubbery*
- *Review parking needs and provide space on nearby properties, on the street or in the northwest corner of the park*
- *Move Graham Monument from Martin Park to new waterfront park*
- *Establish pedestrian link to Graham Park via either installing a sidewalk on Pennsylvania Street from 1st to 2nd Avenue or by vacating the portion of Pennsylvania Street from 1st to 3rd Avenue*

Sawyer Park and Boat Launch

- *Complete the waterfront walkway extension from Maritime Museum under the Oregon Street Bridge*
- *Acquire a portion of the Roen parcel to the south of the park, if needed, for additional boat trailer parking*
- ~~*Fix drainage issue near Oregon Street Bridge (already completed?)*~~
- ~~*Complete and implement a landscaping plan (already completed?)*~~
- *Install additional lighting by the launch area*

Westside Waterfront

- *Complete the "Festival Waterfront" public improvements along the waterfront between Michigan Street Bridge and Oregon Street Bridge, consistent with the plans. A concept plan is identified in Appendix A, which should be refined and finalized during the redevelopment process for the entire West Waterfront Redevelopment Area*
- *Add additional plantings along walkways*
- *Ensure a distinct delineation between public areas and private development through changes in ground elevation, landscaping, or other means*
- *Enhance visibility and access to the waterfront through signage and gateway elements*

[Also for Appendix A, please use the attached plan for the waterfront]

