



Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting

Wednesday January 17, 2024

Public Works

11360 Hwy 212 W

Cologne, MN 55322

6:30 pm Regular Meeting

AGENDA

- 1)** Call to Order (6:30 p.m.)
- 2)** Roll Call (6:30 p.m.)
- 3)** Approval of Agenda (6:31 p.m.)
- 4)** Approval of the December 13, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes (6:32 p.m.)
- 5)** Commissioner Liaison Report (6:35 p.m.)
- 6)** Open to the Public (6:40 p.m.)
- 7)** Old Business (6:45 p.m.)
 - a.** 2024 Lifeguard Services at County Beaches
- 8)** Informational Items (7:15 p.m.)
 - a.** Baylor Regional Park Boardwalk Design & Project Schedule
 - b.** Review Lake Minnewashta Playground Equipment Proposals (Information Provided at Meeting)
- 9)** Staff Reports (7:30 p.m.)
 - a.** General Operations & Recreation Services
 - b.** Maintenance and Natural Resources Operations
 - c.** Administrative Update
- 10)** Commission Member Reports (8:00 p.m.)
- 11)** Next Meeting Date (8:05 p.m.)
 - a.** February 14, 2024 – Discuss changing to the 1st or 3rd Wednesday
- 12)** Adjourn (8:10 p.m.)

Upcoming Events and Activities

January 20, & 26: Sun Room Informal Open Houses

1/27/24 & 2/17/24: Candlelit Nights at Baylor

2/20/24: Paradise Commons Ribbon Cutting

4/6/24: Maple Syrup Festival at Baylor

6/21/24: Paradise Commons Grand Opening Community Celebration

CARVER COUNTY



Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting

Wednesday December 13, 2023

Public Works

11360 Hwy 212 W

Cologne, MN 55322

6:30 pm Regular Meeting

MINUTES

- 1) Call to Order
 - a. M. Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.
- 2) Roll Call
 - a. Present: Jenn Brewington, Christine Fenner, Makiza Johnson, Scott Knight, Curt Kobilarcsik, Mark Lagergren, & Reid Welch
 - b. Absent: N/A
 - c. Staff: Marty Walsh, Sam Pertz, Jake Sandvig, Hope Mack, & Julie Wigfield
- 3) Approval of Agenda
 - a. Motion to approve the agenda made by R. Welch, Seconded by J. Brewington; Passed 7-0
- 4) Approval of the November 8, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes
 - a. Motion to approve the minutes made by J. Brewington, Seconded by R. Welch; Passed 7-0
- 5) Commissioner Liaison Report
 - a. N/A
- 6) Open to the Public
 - a. N/A
- 7) New Business
 - a. Special Use Permit – Frozen Fairway
 - i. The Waconia Dandy Lions Club will be hosting an Ice Golf Tournament on Saturday, February 3rd at Lake Waconia Regional Park. They will utilize the Sun Room and grounds.
 1. Motion to approve made by M. Lagergren; Seconded by S. Knight; Passed 7-0
 - b. 2024 Lifeguard Services at County Beaches
 - i. Three options for services in 2024 were presented to the Commission along with a draft schedule if the plan is to guard the beaches. After discussion, it was recommended to survey the public and bring back the results at the January meeting. Upon reviewing the results, a recommendation will then be brought forward to the County Board.
- 8) Informational Items
 - a. 2024 – 2028 Capital Investment Program
 - i. The Commission reviewed plans for 2024 and proposed projects for 2025-2028.
- 9) Staff Reports
 - a. General Operations & Recreation Services

CARVER COUNTY



- i. Winter rentals will begin on Friday, January 5th (pending on snow conditions), we'll be posting for PSA's, and Sun Room reservations are starting to come in.
 - b. Maintenance and Natural Resources Operations
 - i. A new gator was purchased, interviews are occurring for two Maintenance Technician positions, tree removals are happening, and the WEC is scheduled to be demolished in late December.
 - c. Administrative Update
 - i. A punch list for Paradise Commons is being compiled and we're processing a purchase agreement for a section of the Lake Minnetonka Regional Trail.
- 10) Commission Member Reports**
- a. Curt Kobilarsik reached his maximum time on the Commission, but Scott Knight plans to return for another term.
- 11) Next Meeting Date**
- a. January 17, 2024
- 12) Adjourn**
- a. Motion to adjourn at 8:11pm made by R. Welch, Seconded by C. Fenner; Passed 7-0

CARVER COUNTY



Carver County Parks

11360 Highway 212 West, Suite 2
Cologne, MN 55322

MEMO

TO: Members of the Park Commission
CC: Martin Walsh, Parks & Recreation Director
FROM: Sam Pertz, Parks & Trails Supervisor
SUBJECT: 2024 Lifeguard Services
DATE: 1/10/2024

At the December meeting, staff presented two options for consideration by the Park Commission regarding service options for lifeguarding at the regional park locations in 2024. At that meeting staff shared that other local agencies in a similar situation were planning to engage with the public on the service interest. The Commission asked staff to develop some public engagement to help inform their decision.

Staff assembled a basic survey and distributed it on all primary communication channels (social media, email marketing, web content) on January 2. The questions posed were intended to gain better insight on how users would respond to service changes as it relates to beach facility use.

The questions were:

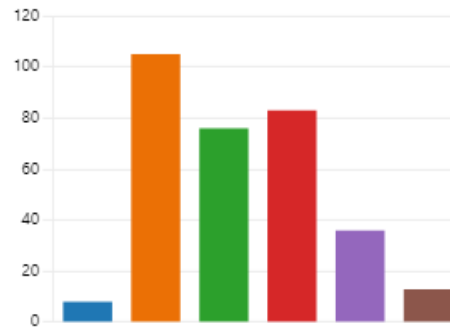
- 1.** Approximately, how often do you use the Lake Waconia and/or Lake Minnewashta beaches during the summer?
- *Daily, Weekly, Biweekly, Monthly, Once a Summer, Never*
- 2.** I plan my family's summer beach use around lifeguard services.
- *5 Strongly Agree, 4 Agree, 3 Somewhat Agree, 2 Somewhat Disagree, 1 Completely Disagree*
- 3.** If Carver County did not provide lifeguard service in 2024, I would avoid using the Lake Waconia and/or Lake Minnewashta beaches.
- *5 Strongly Agree, 4 Agree, 3 Somewhat Agree, 2 Somewhat Disagree, 1 Completely Disagree*

The volume of responses (321) was surprising, and certainly helpful to try and understand the larger interest of park users. Here's how the data was trending as of January 11.

1. Approximately, how often do you use the Lake Waconia and/or Lake Minnewashta beaches during the summer?

[More Details](#)

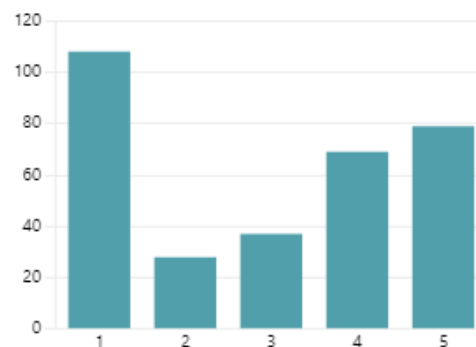
Daily	8
Weekly	105
Biweekly	76
Monthly	83
Once a Summer	36
Never	13



2. I plan my family's summer beach use around lifeguard services. (5 - Strongly Agree, 4 - Agree, 3 - Somewhat Agree, 2 - Somewhat Disagree, 1 - Completely Disagree)

[More Details](#)

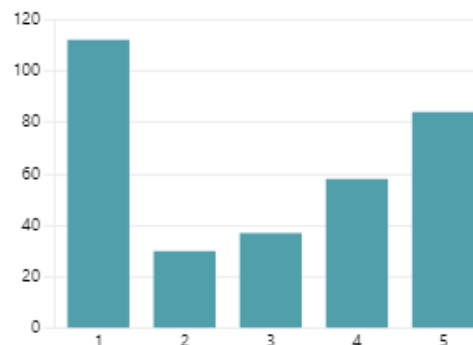
2.95
Average Rating



3. If Carver County did not provide lifeguard services in 2024, I would avoid using the Lake Waconia and/or Lake Minnewashta beaches. (5 - Strongly Agree, 4 - Agree, 3 - Somewhat Agree, 2 - Somewhat Disagree, 1 - Completely Disagree)

[More Details](#)

2.91
Average Rating



CARVER COUNTY

In reviewing the data, some trends began to come forward:

- 189 of the 321 responses (59%) use the beach facilities daily, weekly, or biweekly.
- 148 of the 321 responses (46%) either strongly agree or agree with the statement that they plan beach use around lifeguard staffing.
- 179 of the 321 responses (56%) indicated they somewhat agree/somewhat disagree/completely disagree with the statement that they would avoid using the beach facilities if lifeguard services were not provided.

Some questions also came to mind:

- Are users who do not value/use lifeguard services using this opportunity to make their opinions known?
- How should we interpret level of use to opinion on service priority? (should those who don't use our facilities often weigh heavily on our decision?)
 - In looking at the relationship of the responses that indicated monthly/once a summer/never for use level, over 50% of those participants at least somewhat agree, but more so somewhat disagree and completely disagree to question 2. Looking at this dynamic might suggest the data is louder for those users that aren't using the facilities frequently.

Staff will have the e-form available in the meeting for final review. Further discussion and assessments can be made. While the public response is valuable information, the mixed results do not make the ultimate decision from Staff perspective. In considering the operational approach other metro counties have taken on lifeguard service specific to the regional park areas, there are numerous examples of unguarded beach facilities. While the preliminary schedule would still allow for an attempt to develop a lifeguard program in time of the June swim season, the Department would be strained to be ready with the services.

For these reasons, staff are recommending lifeguard services are not provided in 2024 and that all County beaches are operated as unguarded, "swim at your own risk" facilities. If the Commission and the County Board are supportive of this service change, work would be planned to ensure the facilities clearly represent this condition to include the removal of guard stands, enhanced signage, etc. Broad public communications would be planned well in advance to the typical June swim season. Not providing guard services this year could allow for gathering additional user input and will allow the Department to further position itself to consider providing the service in 2025 if that is the interest of the Commission and County Board.

Recommendation: It is requested that the Park Commission make recommendation to the County Board that the beaches of Lake Minnewashta and Waconia Regional Parks change from a lifeguard service to an unguarded swim at your own risk service.



Carver County Parks

11360 Highway 212 West, Suite 2
Cologne, MN 55322

MEMO

TO: Members of the Park Commission
FROM: Martin Walsh, Parks and Recreation Director
SUBJECT: Baylor Regional Park Boardwalk Project
DATE: January 9, 2024

The Baylor Regional Park boardwalk was taken out of service the summer of 2022 due to the deteriorated condition of the structure.

Bolton & Menk is the consulting engineering firm for the project. Product research, design, and engineering planning for the replacement of the boardwalk has been underway since this past spring. The replacement structure will be constructed to be 12' wide and composed largely of treated wood trusses and decking. Investigation about the existing plastic floats that support the structure revealed that they are in good condition. We are planning to salvage the floats and reuse them.

A bid alternate which would construct the decking from a composite product, is also to be considered. The trusses that comprise the substructure of the boardwalk would continue to be treated wood due to costs, increased weight, and concern with constructability of this material as a truss.

The project is to replace the existing boardwalk in its current location and constructed at a 12' width which mirrors the existing boardwalk.

Engineers' estimated cost: \$260,000

Funding Source: Grant Funds from the Governors Modernization funding for Regional Parks and Trails

Project Schedule

Bid Advertisement: January 11 through February 5, 2024

Bid Opening: February 6, 2024

Share Bid Results with Park Commission Members February 8, 2024

County Board Contract Award: February 20, 2024

Construction Start: After March 11, 2024

Project Completion: June 28, 2024

CARVER COUNTY

Baylor Boardwalk

1/17/24 Update





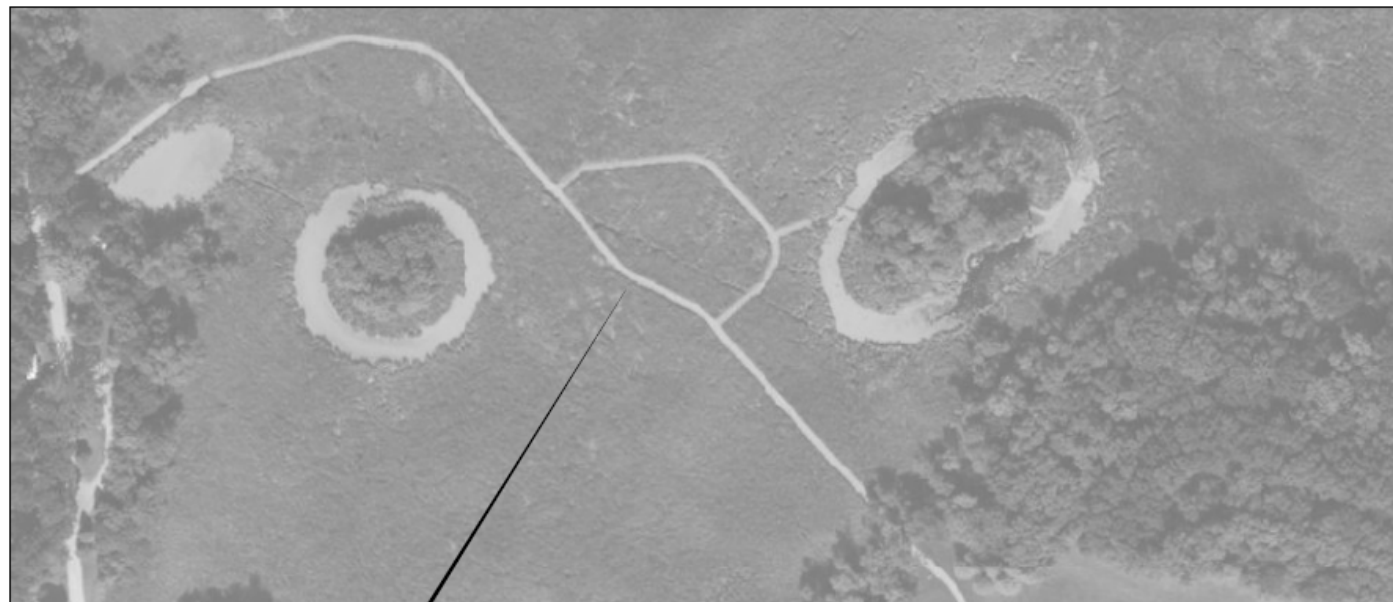
Public Works Division





CARVER COUNTY, MINNESOTA
CONSTRUCTION PLANS FOR
BAYLOR REGIONAL PARK BOARDWALK REPLACEMENT
BOARDWALK REPLACEMENT, BACKWALL REPLACEMENT

GOVERNING SPECIFICATION
THE 2000 EDITION OF THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION SHALL GOVERN
ALL TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES SHALL CONFORM TO THE WORK
OF THE "MINNESOTA MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL
DEVICES" INCLUDING "FIELD MANUAL FOR TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL"



PROJECT LOCATION
BAYLOR REGIONAL PARK

SHEET NO. INDEX

0 100 200
SCALE FEET



Public Works Division

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Y

- Has been offline for roughly two years
- Supports are rotten and beyond repair
- We worked with Bolton & Menk on construction plans for replacement
- Pre-bid meeting January 30th onsite at Baylor
- Includes a bid alternate for composite decking
- Includes reinforced structure for maintenance UTV travel

