

**CITY OF AU GRES
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025
5:00 PM**

PRESENT: Barb Osborne, Sheree Wiltse, Dan & Terry Heinrich, Jan Gore, Chad Anthony

ABSENT: Paige Belanger, Sean Mattia

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Dale Wiltse, Park Manager Chris Ireland

1). CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chairman Chad Anthony at 5:20 p.m. The board met at the ballfields at 5:00 pm for a check presentation from Arenac Community Funds for \$10,600.

2). ROLL CALL

Roll call noted Paige Belanger and Sean Mattia absent.

3). MINUTES

MOTION (S Wiltse) to approve minutes from June 17, 2025 as submitted, support (Osborne). Motion carried.

4). CITIZENS COMMENTS: None

5). OLD BUSINESS: None

6). NEW BUSINESS:

6.1 Campground Expansion: City Manager reported that construction is scheduled to begin in September. Bilacic Trucking is finishing up another job. They are behind due to lack of employees. We are still waiting for the approval from the State of Michigan regarding the \$400,000 grant for the bathhouse. Then State has not approved the budget yet. Chirs has removed two dugouts and Dan would like to see if the other two can be relocated to the new fields.

6.2 Ballfields: City Manager reported that the fields are coming along. The issue is the lack of participation by the volunteer group that committed to the building and maintenance of the fields. Dan is going to reach out to the volunteer group. The board also discussed options to recruit volunteers. Is the city responsible if the fields are not ready by April 1st?

6.3 KinderPlatz Park: The board discussed the park and questioned what needs to be done at the park to improve it. It was decided to hold the September Park & Rec Meeting at the park.

6.4 Disc Golf Course: The course has new picnic tables thanks to Teresa Spies and has added 18 tee box benches. The entrance to the course is looking great with the clean up by TrueRoots.

7). CITY MANAGER COMMENTS: Thank you to ACF for \$10,600 donation towards the ballfield maintenance building. Thank you to Dan Heinrich for mowing the fields. New campground and city website is in process. Board will need to review camping fees for 2026 year and have recommendations at the September meeting. Halloween in the Park is scheduled for October 18, 2025. New Dawn Senior Open House is scheduled for September 6, 2025.

8). PARK MANAGER COMMENTS:

New reservation system is up and running. Rib Rally is this upcoming weekend. Campground Chili Cookoff is scheduled for August 30 and the Soup Cook off is being planned for September.

9). PARK & REC BOARD COMMENTS:

The board suggested organizing a volunteer day in the Spring of 2026 to recruit residents and guests for assisting in needed park projects. This may be a great way to get ore volunteers for other projects.

10). ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (S Wiltse) adjourns at 6:25 p.m.; support (D Heinrich). Motion carried.

Chad Anthony, Chairman