

**Parks, Recreation & Library Board
of the City of Onalaska**

Monday, May 18, 2020

1

1 The Meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Library Board of the City of Onalaska was called to
2 order on Monday, May 18, 2020 at City Hall. It was noted that the meeting had been announced
3 and a notice posted at City Hall.

4
5 Roll call was taken with the following members present: Ald. Steven Nott, Andrea Benco, Brian
6 Udermann, Connor Nagy, Jon Klock, Ohbe Johnson, Patric McGuane

7
8 Also Present: City Administrator Eric Rindfleisch, Mayor Kim Smith, Parks and Recreation
9 Director Dan Wick, Parks Supervisor Mark Hanson, Recreation Supervisor Kraig Koelbl,
10 Buildings Manager Brian Babiash, Omni Center Sales Manager Tony Meyers

11
12 **Item 2 – Approval of minutes from the previous meeting**

13
14 Motion by Ald. Nott, second by Brian Udermann, to approve the minutes from the previous
15 meeting as printed and on file in the City Clerk’s Office.

16
17 On voice vote, motion carried.

18
19 **Item 3 – Public Input (Limited to 3 minutes/individual)**

20
21 Andrea called three times for anyone wishing to provide public input and closed that portion of
22 the meeting.

23
24 **Consideration and possible action on the following items:**

25
26 **Item 4 – Discussion and recommendation on Aquatic Center Closure**

27
28 Dan told board members that other than the fact the Badger Bounce Back Program has been
29 struck down by the Wisconsin State Supreme Court, very little information has come forward
30 since the May 11 Special Parks, Recreation & Library Board meeting. Dan told board members
31 a La Crosse County Health Department representative had contacted staff members and informed
32 the department will be following the Center for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for
33 the Aquatic Center’s opening. Dan said staff had prepared budget documents which board
34 members should have received earlier Monday. Staff has revised the budget projections based
35 on the guidance laid out by the CDC.

36
37 Dan highlighted the following options if the Aquatic Center were to open Wednesday, June 10:

- 38
39
 - **Expenses for a full opening:** \$177,137.41
 - **Expenses if operating without concessions:** \$158,654.41
 - **Expenses if operating without slides:** \$162,188.41

40
41
Reviewed 05/20/2020 by Dan Wick

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- 42 • **Expenses if operating without concessions or slides:** \$143,705.41
- 43 • **Expenses if operating from 12:30-4:30 p.m., meaning no night swimming:**
- 44 \$156,979.91
- 45 • **Expenses if operating from June 10 through Friday, July 31:** \$146,452. This option
- 46 would allow the contractor to begin resurfacing the pool in August rather than September
- 47 so that the renovations may be completed while weather conditions likely still are
- 48 favorable.

49

50 Dan next showed board members a copy of the minutes from the May 12 Common Council
51 meeting, noting Ald. Diane Wulf had made a motion that Ald. Nott had seconded for the Council
52 to take no action to amend the Aquatic Center budget for 2020. Dan said, “We would be looking
53 at the budget figure of \$79,548 as the budget deficit to work through as we look at the budget
54 process.”

55

56 Andrea asked if the slides would be removed because of the disinfectant issues or staffing issues,
57 or if there is another reason why they would be removed.

58

59 Dan told Andrea, “All of the above,” and he noted the CDC had discussed the slide touchpoints,
60 including the handrails, as well as questioning how often staff would be able to disinfect that
61 area.

62

63 Ald. Nott asked Dan if the changes were based on the constraints that went from 50 to 148
64 patrons.

65

66 Dan told Ald. Nott he is correct and said the CDC has guidelines it recommends that staff must
67 look at both in the pool and the deck space to ensure patrons keep a 6-foot distance from each
68 other. Dan said staff took the square footage of the deck space at the Aquatic Center (16,758
69 square feet) and told Ald. Nott, “If you use 113 feet per person to keep a 6-foot radius around
70 people, that would allow us to have 148 people in the pool at any given time.”

71

72 Ald. Nott pointed out there is a significant reduction in the additional funds that might have to be
73 requested, and he told board members he sees two major break points: a June 10 opening with
74 no slides, but concessions; and opening the Aquatic Center from June 10 through July 31. Ald.
75 Nott asked if the June 10 through July 31 operating dates would be with no slides and no
76 concessions.

77

78 Dan said the pool would be fully operational during those dates.

79

80 Ald. Nott inquired about the cost of operating June 10 through July 31 without the slides.

81

82 Dan estimated there would be a reduction of \$12,000 to \$13,000 if the slides were removed.

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83
84 Ald. Nott said, “With that, now you’re looking at just over a \$10,000 additional fund in order to
85 run June 10 to July 31 with no slides – approximately, [because] I know you’ll have to run the
86 figures. Now we’re substantially less from where we were before. We’re down into the
87 \$10,000-ish range as opposed to the \$50,000-plus range if we were to go to that. I see those two
88 break points: the June 10 [opening] with no slides, and just to keep it equal, a June 10 to July 31
89 [season] with no slides. [Those] are two big break points in the cost. I’m concerned on several
90 levels that we do need to try to provide some type of normalcy, especially for the teen
91 population. I’m not trying to disparage our citizens, of course, but national statistics will
92 definitely show that if you don’t have recreation opportunities, there’s more than likely going to
93 be a spike in petty theft [and] simple crimes because kids need something to do. That’s the
94 bottom line. If you’re not providing them safe and lawful practices, some of them may decide to
95 go other courses. That’s one reason why I’m thinking now that we’re down into a level of
96 reasonableness between one of those two options.

97
98 The other thing is, we saw the increased in the allowed participation of patrons from 50 to 148 in
99 just one week with the changes of the guidance coming out from the county. Again, just because
100 the county recommends does not mean we have to follow. I would like to hear from Amanda on
101 that, perhaps [Tuesday], but it is my understanding that the home rule actually constrains them
102 fairly significantly. ... The last thing [is], if anything I expect those numbers will continue to
103 rise, unless allowable and what would be reasonable, because [Sunday] the Health and Human
104 Services Secretary [Alex Azar] I think was interviewed on one of the Sunday shows, [and] he
105 said they have data now for over three weeks in several of the states that have opened up, like
106 Colorado, Georgia, [and] Texas. And not only have they seen no spike in the opening states,
107 they have seen spikes in the closed states. [That] potentially could be explained by the fact that
108 the closed states are having people in incubators, if you will, as opposed to getting out where we
109 know that science shows sunlight, open air, heat and humidity tend to kill these viruses very
110 quickly. One of the things I heard from the CDC several weeks ago is that 70 degrees above,
111 with sun, can kill this virus in less than two minutes. It actually would be safer to get [people]
112 outside.

113
114 Long story short, with all that background, I would like to see if there is any support or any
115 discussion on one of the two options of the June 10 [opening with] no slides, or the June 10 to
116 July 31 [season with] no slides. Personally, I’m leaning more toward the June 10 to July 31
117 [option] only because of cost. It does provide an opportunity to avoid weather risk of getting the
118 renovations done.”

119
120 City Administrator Rindfleisch told board members one consideration that does not fit with the
121 financial analysis is the legal analysis, noting the question regarding a known danger has not yet
122 been answered. City Administrator Rindfleisch told board members he has been in contact with
123 CVMIC and the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, and he said, “The case of if someone

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124 should get sick and decides to press a known danger case against the city, we do not know how
125 that would end. As other pools have been closed in the area, we would be the test case should
126 we be litigated over that issue. I don't have guidance I can offer you ... It's simply an unknown
127 at this time."

128

129 Andrea noted she has been reading science journals and studies related to COVID-19, and she
130 said some coronaviruses are susceptible to heat and humidity. However, Andrea also said she
131 has not read definitive studies that state this particular coronavirus is susceptible to heat and
132 humidity. Andrea noted she has read studies to the contrary, and she said, "I think we have to be
133 careful because we don't have a lot that has been published and peer-reviewed out there. We
134 have to be careful what we say."

135

136 Ald. Nott said it would appear to him that someone would not have a strong legal argument if
137 he/she stated he/she had contracted the coronavirus or another virus because he/she had gone
138 swimming at the Aquatic Center unless studies showed the one common factor several
139 individuals who contracted the coronavirus was they had all gone swimming.

140

141 City Administrator Rindfleisch told Ald. Nott there is nothing to prevent someone from bringing
142 the case, and he said the fastest way to get out of cases is by having a past case of a similar
143 nature. City Administrator Rindfleisch said, "That's where we end up with the known danger
144 right now. The end result of such a case, I agree it would be a high bar to set. But it does not
145 preclude anybody from bringing the case." City Administrator Rindfleisch used the example of
146 someone bringing a case pertaining to drowning in a pool, noting that while it is a danger, the
147 city provides lifeguards and reasons to close the pool if there is danger. City Administrator
148 Rindfleisch said, "We take actions on known cases. When you don't action on ___ case, it opens
149 you up to liability. ... Right now we have no clear guidance as to the response we would have to
150 do outside of defending the case."

151

152 Connor referred to the spreadsheet Dan had sent board members and noted the annual subsidy
153 would be \$110,266.51 if the Aquatic Center opened June 10 without the slides. Connor said,
154 "That would be over \$30,000 where the current limit is. Based on what the Common Council
155 said at the last meeting, we can't request additional funds for our pool facility."

156

157 Dan told Connor he is correct, noting that was the motion that was made, seconded and approved
158 at the May 12 Common Council meeting.

159

160 Ald. Nott noted this item appears on the Special Common Council meeting agenda for Tuesday
161 night and said the Council may have another vote.

162

163 Andrea said she has concerns that the numbers are based on the Aquatic Center opening and
164 being allowed to remain open. Andrea said, "This is a huge amount of money to not make or to

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165 request in addition, especially given the fact I think that the city right now is tight enough on its
166 budget that if we had a deficit of \$100,000, that would be a salaried position or two. To me,
167 opening the pool, given the questions and the risks out there financially and health-wise, it just
168 seems like it might not be the responsible choice even if it would be the more appealing choice, I
169 think, for most of us.”

170
171 Ald. Nott said he was leaning toward operating the pool from June 10 through July 31 with no
172 slides, but with concessions, and he told board members that while Dan will have to perform the
173 final calculations it appears it would be necessary to only request an additional \$10,000. Ald.
174 Nott stated this is all with the assumption the number of people allowed in the pool cannot
175 exceed 148, “which may or may not be true as we continue to go forward. I would argue that
176 who’s really going to be determining these are these open states if they continue to show no
177 spike. I don’t know how other states will be able to continue to deny joining them.”

178
179 Andrea said she believes there has been a significant increase in COVID-19 cases locally even
180 though the “Safer at Home” order was struck down recently [May 13]. Andrea said, “I also have
181 some concerns about that looking at the longevity of how long we can keep the pool open.”

182
183 Ald. Nott said, “I think that saying within one week any new cases have to be by them, not only
184 because we opened up, it’s premature to say that. That’s a very small data set and a very small
185 amount of time.” Additional comments Ald. Nott made were inaudible due to a poor internet
186 connection.

187
188 Andrea said she believes the cases reported the week of May 10-16 in La Crosse County came in
189 prior to the openings. Andrea also said she does not believe cases from the state being reopened
190 will be seen for a couple of weeks based on incubations and testing capacities. Andrea said she
191 was not saying the cases reported last week were due to the state reopening “because they came
192 in well before that.”

193
194 Connor noted the cases reported this past week in La Crosse County have increased by
195 approximately 25 percent, also noting the number of cases in the county is smaller than the cases
196 in Madison (Dane County) and Milwaukee (Milwaukee County). Connor said, “We just don’t
197 know going forward what our case rate is going to look like if it opens, if it will go up at all. It’s
198 one of those things that even ... I think the National Guard is opening a testing center across the
199 road from the pool on Thursday. I personally don’t think I can defend keeping the pool open
200 given the concerns for staff and people coming to the pool. I think we mentioned last week that
201 when people are in the pool, it’s very difficult to social distance. I know you [Dan] mentioned
202 you plotted out there is so many square feet so we can have this many people in the pool at a
203 time. But I feel like policing and patrolling that when they’re in the pool is very difficult.”

204
205 Mark said that while he understands Ald. Nott’s viewpoint regarding teenagers having the

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206 opportunity to engage in constructive activities, he also believes it is a minute issue. Mark said
207 he is concerned about the teenage employees at the Aquatic Center trying to tell patrons to
208 engage in social distancing, stating he believes it will be more difficult than everyone realizes.
209 Mark also said, “More importantly, down the road, if we have budget trouble, you know which
210 department always [suffers the consequences]. It is us. I think looking forward, this would be
211 prudent – and I underline prudent – to look forward to programs that could possibly be cut next
212 year and in the future. Forget about this year – what about going forward and all of a sudden
213 there’s a big shortfall. Guess where they’re going to come from. That’s how it’s been in the
214 past.”

215
216 Andrea told board members she and her co-workers had been confronted earlier Monday at her
217 place of employment by a customer who resides in another state. Andrea said this individual and
218 his wife had come to the store at which she is employed because Wisconsin has opened, and she
219 told board members the gentleman was opposed to the restrictions that had been in place.
220 Andrea said the individual had directed “very uncomfortable words” toward her and her co-
221 workers because they all were wearing masks and practicing social distancing. Andrea said the
222 individual “had no respect for that at all and didn’t think we had the right to have that respect in
223 the store.” Andrea told board members she and her co-workers are comfortable with themselves
224 and worked through it, and she said the individual eventually exited the facility. Andrea said, “I
225 would not wish that on young people at all. I also have a lot of concerns along those lines. I
226 think we just don’t know what the environment is going to be. Because this is such a
227 controversial and hot-button issue, I think we could be throwing our pool [employees] into a
228 really tough place to be.”

229
230 Brian Udermann told Andrea he agrees with her that the Aquatic Center potentially could close
231 shortly after opening, and he also noted additional rules and staff training would be necessary.
232 Brian said he also agrees with Mark that staff would experience some challenging situations
233 from patrons, and he told board members that at this moment he is leaning toward not opening
234 the pool this summer.

235
236 Patric said he agrees with Ald. Nott’s statements that people need positive activities in which to
237 engage, and he also said he is interested in hearing what type of lower-cost alternatives the city
238 could offer to teenagers. Patric said, “I don’t like getting into modeling and what is this going to
239 look like in three weeks because that is all unknown to us and none of us are experts in that. It’s
240 hard to speculate how that’s going to look. ... My real concern here is it is very expensive. I’d
241 be interested to hear from Dan what the net savings is if we decide not to open it, because we’re
242 talking about putting a tremendous amount of money into something with a diminished level of
243 service. You’re taking the slide away. You don’t have concessions. And now, how attractive is
244 this, anyway? It’s basically getting in a big bathtub with cooler water. It’s nice to say we have
245 enough capacity for everyone to stay six feet apart or more, but will they, especially when we’re
246 talking about kids. They’re not going to do that in most cases. They’re going to congregate

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247 together. ... I would have those concerns. Like I said at our meeting [May 11], if you're going to
248 close the pool, this is the time to do it. I don't think there's going to be a public outcry for not
249 doing it. And if it's the fiscally responsible thing to do for Onalaska, then I think we need to
250 seriously consider that. At this point, it seems like we're heading down that road."

251

252 Ald. Nott said, "I don't think that we should be using speculation of what might happen in the
253 future or not to determine whether or not we move forward. We should be using the numbers
254 with the current data of 148 that are in front of us, because I don't know if they're going to have
255 more people who are allowed, and we don't know if we're going to have to close again. What
256 we do know is with the current constraints, the numbers are in front of us. The June 10 to July
257 31 [option] was going to be an initial \$10,000 or so. It's sounds like there's not a lot of support
258 for that."

259

260 Motion by Ald. Nott to request an additional \$10,500 from the Common Council to open the
261 Aquatic Center from June 10 to July 31, 2020 without the water slides, but with concessions.

262

263 Motion dies for lack of a second.

264

265 Jon asked Dan if there is a plan regarding how social distancing would be enforced, or if an
266 Aquatic Center employee would issue a verbal warning if people are too close together.

267

268 Dan told Jon, "As we've been going through this process, that's part of the process we've been
269 looking at. Not knowing and trying to hit a moving target and waiting for some direction at this
270 level and the Council, then we would start to develop that plan to go forward. I have prepared to
271 bring additional staff on so we would have people who would be taking care of the sanitizing and
272 the social distancing. We were using the figure of 148 people that we would have three
273 attendants who would be responsible for roughly 50 people that they would have to watch over.
274 They would be in designated areas of our pool deck."

275

276 Jon asked if any thought has been given to patrons who refuse to comply.

277

278 Dan told Jon no and said, "Part of the discussion that has come forward is if we open with all of
279 the other area pools closed, what would that do to our facility? There were some questions
280 raised that we would only let in Onalaska residents. I'm very opposed to that because I think we
281 have to realize, what is our 14, 15, 16-year-old staff going to deal with when someone is dropped
282 off and ready to go into the pool? If we're going to open, we need to let the first people who
283 come to the pool into the pool on a first-come, first-served basis. We have to try to isolate them
284 and protect them the best that we can, but the idea of somebody coming right out and saying
285 'no,' those are things we have to work through yet."

286

287 Jon said the guidelines that have been put forth must be followed if the city opens the Aquatic

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288 Center. Jon said that while the city does not have to adhere to all of them, “I think with all the
289 unknown, it’s our obligation to make sure that we operate the pool as safe as we can. Part of that
290 is asking the 16, 17, and 18-year-old kids to ask people to keep separate, and [some are] going to
291 say ‘no.’ Then we have to ask teenagers to kick people out of the pool. It seems like there’s
292 going to be a lot of conflict – not that conflict is bad. Maybe it’s a learning opportunity, who
293 knows? If we were to go forward with this, I would really want to make sure there’s a strong
294 commitment from this board and the Common Council that we’re going to follow a set of
295 recommendations whether they’re required or not just to make sure that we are as safe as
296 possible for our community.”

297
298 Dan noted full-time wages and benefits are allocated to the Aquatic Center, and he told board
299 members he assumes the calculations for gas, electric, and water will decrease by a percentage.
300 Dan said that as of now, the projected loss for the Aquatic Center is \$60,000 to \$65,000, and he
301 told board members, “To Patric’s question [regarding] if we don’t open, we’re projecting
302 throughout the pool season to be at just under \$80,000. So [there is] roughly a \$15,000 swing in
303 the direction of the good for us if we do not open.”

304
305 Ohbe said that while he initially favored opening the pool without concessions or the slides, he
306 now leans toward not opening the pool this summer based on this evening’s discussion.
307 However, Ohbe also said he still is undecided.

308
309 Ald. Nott said the city will not be saving \$79,000, but rather \$14,000, and he stated, “It’s a
310 difference of saving \$14,000, because we’re going to have to spend \$65,000 anyway, or
311 spending an additional \$10,500. That’s where we’re at: saving \$14,000 or spending \$10,500. It
312 is not saving \$79,000.”

313
314 Patric asked Dan if the labor will be reallocated, or if it is an outlay of expenses.

315
316 Dan told Patric that while some staff members might be reallocated to other facilities and
317 projects, it is an outlay of expenses at this time. Dan also asked Patric if he is referring to full-
318 time or seasonal employees.

319
320 Patric said, “If you’re going to spend this \$80,000 one way or another if the pool is open or
321 closed, it sounds like it’s a \$15,000 savings.”

322
323 Dan explained that the individual who takes care of the pool also is a Parks Department
324 employee who will be allocated 100 percent to the Parks Department. Dan also noted this
325 individual will not have any responsibilities at the Aquatic Center.

326
327 Jon asked if the Common Council had addressed the state of the city’s budget at its May 12
328 meeting, also asking if the Council would even consider allocating more funds for the Aquatic

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329 Center.

330

331 Mayor K. Smith said, “It is something that the Common Council can decide to do. But the way
332 our budget works, we only have so much money. If they want to make a budget amendment and
333 add funds to the Park Department – specifically, to the pool – or anything else – it doesn’t matter
334 what it is – they have to figure out what they’re going to take those funds from. That would be
335 part of the budget amendment decision: Which thing are we going to forego in order to do this
336 instead?”

337

338 Andrea asked if there are other things currently impacting the budget.

339

340 Mayor K. Smith told Andrea yes and said attempting to forecast what will happen has been very
341 difficult. Mayor K. Smith noted all of the city’s revenue sources are down, also pointing out that
342 the Omni Center is currently closed and there is no incoming room tax revenue. Mayor K. Smith
343 told board members many of the revenues on which the city relies “are gone, and the expenses
344 remain.”

345

346 City Administrator Rindfleisch noted General Fund items such as parking citations or other
347 ordinance violations that would run through Municipal Court have effectively been at zero for
348 the last several months. City Administrator Rindfleisch also said that while expenses are not
349 quite as high over the last several months, “until we can really summarize that and project what
350 they’re going to be going forward, it’s really tough to say where we’re going to end up this way.
351 Overall, we’re going to be down in revenue. It’s tough to predict right now how much [we’re
352 going to be] down in revenue in the General Fund.” City Administrator Rindfleisch noted the
353 other funds are Enterprise Funds, which need to be self-supporting, and he told board members
354 the pool is not an Enterprise Fund as it relies on General Fund contributions. City Administrator
355 Rindfleisch said there also are other restraints on this year’s revenue the city will have to look
356 for.

357

358 Ald. Nott stated he would not want to take funding from an area such as public safety and
359 redirect it toward recreation. However, Ald. Nott also said, “Based on conversations last week,
360 the Parks and Rec [Department] is already looking at other programs where they’re either talking
361 about reducing the duration or eliminating entirely some of the other recreational opportunities.
362 I would assume those would bring some cost savings as well.”

363

364 Dan said, “We’re looking at everything right now and trying to come up with the best way to do
365 it, [either] by pushing programs [or] shortening programs and looking at what we feasibly can do
366 in the current times that we’re at.”

367

368 Motion by Andrea, second by Brian Udermann, to not open the Aquatic Center for the 2020 year
369 due to the unknowns of the budget and the safety concerns as they relate to COVID-19.

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370
371 On voice vote, motion carried, 6-1 (Ald. Nott).

372
373 Andrea noted it now will be possible to perform maintenance at the Aquatic Center, and she
374 asked board members to try to think of ways to augment the city's recreation program and assist
375 city staff. Andrea said creativity is a must so that a connection that respects social distancing
376 guidelines may be made with individuals of all ages. Andrea said perhaps ultimate frisbee or
377 scavenger hunts are options.

378
379 **Item 5 – Discussion and recommendation on Park and Recreation Department Reopening**
380 **Guidelines**

381
382 Dan said staff members had been working on guidelines on opening through the Badger Bounce
383 Back Program. Staff had created Xcel spreadsheets that addressed each phase and the different
384 portions of it that needed to be done. However, due to the Wisconsin State Supreme Court
385 voting 4-3 on May 13 to overturn the “Safer At Home” order issued by Governor Tony Evers,
386 Dan said staff also has begun focusing on the city's market and has spoken to other area agencies
387 to figure out a solution. Dan said, “Most of this is focused toward our recreation programs’
388 standpoint,” and he told board members both Kraig and Recreation Coordinator Tyler
389 Kettenhagen have spoken with local communities and agencies that operate programs as they
390 attempt to develop a program. Dan said staff has nothing formal to present this evening, and he
391 told board members staff is working toward developing plans to readjust the department's
392 programs that are planned.

393
394 **Item 6 – Report from Blufflands Coalition**

395
396 No report.

397
398 **Item 7 – Report from Onalaska Enhancement Foundation**

399
400 No report.

401
402 **Item 8 – Director's Report**

403
404 **a. Parks Update**

405
406 Mark said staff is working on mowing, preparing the baseball and softball fields, performing
407 repairs, working on the trails on the bluff, and removing garlic mustard. Mark also noted staff
408 members operated the new mower earlier Monday and approve of it.

409
410

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411 **b. Recreation Update**

412

413 Kraig told board members he wishes to ease into the department's programs, and that he has
414 spoken to different contracted programs and staff members as to how they want to see programs
415 function. Kraig said it is necessary to reorganize information off the previous summer brochure
416 before sending that information to parents and determining registration dates. Kraig said it is
417 possible the traveling baseball program might begin soon, noting he has met with various
418 organizations within the league in an attempt to develop protocols for games. Kraig noted
419 another meeting is scheduled for Thursday, and he told board members other local organizations
420 such as Shelby, The Boys and Girls Club, and Holmen all are eager to begin perhaps in early
421 June. Kraig said the process of determining dates and adjusting fees will occur in the next
422 couple weeks. Kraig also told board members the department's baseball tournament, which was
423 scheduled for June 5-6, has been moved to July 31-August 1. Kraig also said staff is working on
424 protocols for programs such as t-ball.

425

426 **c. Aquatic Center Update**

427

428 No additional report.

429

430 **d. Omni Center Update**

431

432 Dan reported the City of Onalaska is working with La Crosse County and the National Guard on
433 having a COVID-19 testing site at the Omni Center. Testing will be conducted Thursday from
434 11 a.m. until 7 p.m., and a significant amount of traffic is anticipated in that area.

435

436 Brian Babiash reported that the girls high school hockey tournament, which was scheduled for
437 July, has been cancelled. Brian also reported that staff is working with Trane Company on the
438 chiller in Arena No. 2, and he told board members there are daily inquiries about ice time. Brian
439 also noted staff has plans that address sanitizing the facility.

440

441 Ald. Nott noted that increased testing for COVID-19 almost certainly will result in a greater
442 number of individuals who are diagnosed with the coronavirus. Ald. Nott stressed that that does
443 not mean the incident rate has therefore increased as well. Rather, Ald. Nott said it means there
444 is more testing, which means there likely will be more results.

445

446 Tony told board members four groups that had cancelled events earlier in the year due to the
447 pandemic have rescheduled either for late summer or early fall.

448

449 Andrea asked if the air-handling system at the Omni Center is capable of increasing the air
450 exchange.

451

**Parks, Recreation & Library Board
of the City of Onalaska**

Monday, May 18, 2020

12

452 Brian Babiash said the air handlers in Arena No. 1 are very capable of recirculating air. Brian
453 also noted the temperature in Arena No. 1 could drop from 80 degrees to 60 degrees within two
454 hours if the air conditioner were activated.

455

456 **e. Library Update**

457

458 No report.

459

460 **Adjournment**

461

462 Motion by Ald. Nott to adjourn.

463

464 Andrea noted the meeting is being adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

465

466

467 Recorded by:

468

469 Kirk Bey