

SPECIAL EVENT COMMITTEE REPORT
June 26, 2024 North Conference Room, City Hall

Staff Present: Brendan Osborne, Patrick Newkirk, Lane Berg, Chad Hesselink, Ryan Dahlgren, Jasmine Dutton, Cory Tietz, Morgan Wilbur, Ryan Petrie, Jared Wirth, Robert Haller, Al Rinka, Valerie Reiter, Amber Willi

Others Present: Dana Crosson, Visit Eau Claire; Lucas Connolly, Visit Eau Claire; Jon Standiford, G&S Sports Company; Sami Taylor, Mayo Clinic; Rick Nagler, Mayo Clinic; Nick Meyer, Wisconsin Bike Fed

Agenda Item: Mid-Summer Madness

Overview: G&S Sports Company would like to host the Mid-Summer Madness Fastpitch Tournament on July 19-21, 2024 at Bollinger Fields. This event is expecting 2,800 attendees, will sell merchandise or other items, and serve or sell food or concessions. This a new event to Eau Claire.

Vote: All members voted to recommend approval to City Council.

Agenda Item: The Gathering of Waters Powwow

Event Overview: Mayo Clinic and the Pablo Foundation would like to host The Gathering of Waters Powwow on September 21, 2024 at Carson Park. This event is intended as a celebration of Native American culture featuring educational booths and Native American artists, speakers, musicians, dancers, food vendors, and a powwow. Event organizers are expecting 4,000 attendees; will accept donations; sell merchandise or other items; put up tents or inflatables; and serve or sell food or concessions. This is a new event.

Vote: All members voted to recommend approval to City Council, pending the receipt of a valid Certificate of Insurance.

Agenda Item: Ride Across Wisconsin 2025

Event Overview: The Wisconsin Bike Fed is exploring hosting their Ride Across Wisconsin event in Eau Claire in August of 2025. Local WBF Board Member Nick Meyer explained that the event, if held in Eau Claire, would likely be a long-ride loop with options for 60- to 175-mile routes that begin and end in downtown Eau Claire. The ride would likely begin in the pre-dawn hours and would utilize the road with a police escort for the ride out of town. Once details are more finalized, organizers will submit proposed route(s) for review.

Agenda Item: Love Eau Claire Day Camp

Event Overview: Love Eau Claire Community, Inc. would like to host the Love Eau Claire Day Camp on Mondays – Wednesdays, July 8-31, 2024 in Cameron Park. This is a day camp for kids featuring outdoor games, crafts, snacks, and more. This event is expecting 25 attendees per day; will charge an entry fee or admission; will accept donations; and will serve food or concessions. This is a repeat event, with changes to the days of the week from previous years.

Vote: All members voted to approve. This event is administratively approved pending receipt of a valid certificate of insurance.

Agenda Item: Walking into History

Event Overview: The Chippewa Valley Museum would like to host Walking into History Guided Tours event along the Chippewa River and Lakeview Cemetery on various dates in July and August 2024. Guided walking tours will be limited to groups of 25 people. This event will charge an entry fee or admission and will accept donations. This is a repeat event, with changes to the tour routes from previous years.

Vote: All members voted to approve. This event is administratively approved.

Agenda Item: Chippewa Valley Multicultural Festival

Event Overview: JONAH’s Immigration Task Force would like to host the Chippewa Valley Multicultural Festival on Sunday, August 25, 2024. This event would celebrate the increasing ethnic diversity of the Chippewa Valley with music, food, and vendors. Organizers are expecting 1,500 attendees; will sell merchandise or other items; and will serve or sell food or concessions.

Vote: All members voted to recommend approval to City Council.

Agenda Item: Buckshot Run

Event Overview: Special Olympics Wisconsin would like to host the Buckshot Run on Saturday, August 31, 2024. Event participants will run either a 2- or 5-mile route beginning and ending in Carson Park. After the run, the event will have food trucks, live music, awards, and a beer garden area. This event is expecting 750 attendees; will charge an entry fee or admission; accept donations; serve or sell food or concessions; will sell or distribute 2+ kegs/half barrels; and will close City streets, alley, sidewalk, or boulevard. This is a repeat event. The committee will review this event again once their alcohol application paperwork is completed and a valid certificate of insurance is provided.
