Date: May 21, 2026
To: Doug Rowen, Town Chair; and Town Board Supervisors
cc: April Fredrick, Clerk-Treas.; David Carlson, Administrator
From: Jill Berke, Park Board Chair

Apr. – May 2026 Park Board Report

Cove Boat Ramp

- Activity – boat ramp use is increasing.

Glover Park

- Activity – in spite of cooler temps use is increasing for pickleball court, ball fields, dog walking and hiking on trails, and playground use.
- Spring ephemerals – several species of native species and ferns are popping up in the wooded spaces along the trails and enjoyed by hikers and naturalists.
- No biking signs – signs prohibiting bicycle use are in place at entrance to Bluff, Woodland Flower and Oak Trails. Use is allowed on Eagle Trail, Eagle Pass and Omaha Access.
- Contract with ball organizations – for 2026 season, the Hudson Boosters Ball Organization and River Falls Youth Baseball Organization Lease, Maintenance and Operations Agreement for Glover Park Ball Fields contracts have been signed.
- Invasives project 2026- the spring invasives removal project, utilizing the St. Croix Correctional Center in late April and early May included the northwest partition of the park and removal of garlic mustard from along entrance road. Volunteers Gary Sumer (project lead), Mark Swanson and Jill Berke monitored and assisted with removal. Extensive amounts of buckthorn, prickly ash and other woody invasives were removed and brush piles were created. Work will continue per invasives plan.

Pemble's Access

- Open for season – park opened May 1; portable bathroom is in place and member Swanson opens daily and Park Rangers close daily. Limited use due to cold spring temps.

General

Park Board recommended to the Town Board that the 2026-31 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) 5-phase process begin, utilizing Cedar Corp. (Sr. Planner Eric Fowle and Engineer Rob Jones) at cost not to exceed $17,000.

Park Board is revisiting the Park Board's mission, evaluating need for additional parkland, and continuing relationship building with surrounding municipalities. Visioning exercise was led by Town Chair Rowen at April meeting.

Thank you to the Town Board, Park Rangers, Public Works staff, and Town office staff for assisting with park and recreation projects and activities.

Park Board:

Jill Berke, Chair	Adrian Missy	Gary Sumner
Michele McElmeel	Supr. Alicia Schneider	Mark Swanson, Vice-Chair