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## Parks, Recreation & Forestry

1316 North 14th St., 2nd Floor, Room 200  
Superior, WI 54880  
Web site: [www.ci.superior.wi.us](http://www.ci.superior.wi.us)

Phone: 715-395-7270  
Fax: 715-395-7346  
TTY: 715-395-7521

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission Members

FROM: Linda M Cadotte, Director 

DATE: April 23, 2019

RE: **Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Agenda**  
**Thursday, April 25, 2019 – 5:15 p.m.**  
**Room 204, Government Center**

*The Parks and Recreation Commission mission statement is: To fairly and equitably develop, maintain and improve its programs and entities.*

**Please make every effort to attend. Please call if you are unable to attend.**

1. Approval of February 28, 2019 meeting minutes
2. Webster Park renaming
3. Woodstock Bay & Pokegama Bay Landings design
4. Disc Golf Course – Superior Municipal Forest
5. Playground Program locations
  - Locations
  - Program dates
  - Bus agreement
6. Grants and donations recommendation
7. Resurfacing of playgrounds & other capital projects
8. Comprehensive Outdoor Rec Plan
9. Parks, Recreation & Forestry Director's Report

Next meeting date: May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 at 5 p.m.

*Notice is hereby given that a majority of the members of the Common Council may be present at the meeting, and although this may constitute a quorum of the Common Council, the council will not take any action at this meeting*  
*The City of Superior complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are in need of an accommodation to participate in the public meeting process, please contact Parks and Recreation at (715) 395-7270 or by email: [parks@ci.superior.wi.us](mailto:parks@ci.superior.wi.us) by 4:30 p.m. on the day prior to the scheduled meeting. The City will attempt to accommodate any request depending on the amount of notice we receive.*  
**In compliance with Wisconsin Open Meetings Law, this agenda was posted:** Government Center, Court House, & Public Library,  
Emailed to: Daily Telegram, Public Library, April 23, 2019.

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**February 28, 2019**  
**Room 204, Government Center**

Members Present: Keith Kern, Tom Wondolkowski, Gene Rosburg, Brittany Berrens Markgren

Members excused: Elizabeth Norén, Craig Sutherland

Also Present: Linda Cadotte, Angie Harker, Russ Behlings, Erick Flood, Dean Nelson, Tyler Masseth

1. Approval of January 24, 2019 meeting minutes

**MOTION by Rosburg, seconded by Wondolkowski, and carried to approve the Parks and Recreation Commission minutes of January 24, 2019.**

2. Skijoring Trails

Dean Nelson was present and spoke about skijoring, a sport which he has recently taken up. He explained that the designated skijoring trail on Chase's Point is difficult to skijor on as it is groomed by the snowmobile clubs. He requested that the city open up some of the other ski trails for skijoring on designated days, as there is a trail in Duluth that does this. Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director Linda Cadotte and Superintendent Russ Behlings both spoke to the issue. The blue and Millennium trails were designated as multi-use this season and Nelson indicated he has skijored these. Also all motorized trails including Billings Drive can be used for skijoring. It is not feasible to groom the trail at Chase's Point due to the location and the fact that the first snowmobile to use it would destroy the ski grooming. Also, the city is finally making headway in keeping dogs and their owners from walking on the ski trails and it is felt allowing skijoring on certain days would cause significant confusion especially given that the dog park is right at the trail head. Cadotte highlighted the number of ski passes sold thus far: 683 daily passes and 630 annual. We have not been contacted by anyone else regarding skijoring. The commission suggested to Nelson that if he finds additional persons that are interested in skijoring in the future, that he could bring the issue back, but at this time no change in trail designation was made.

3. Archery Range

The commission discussed the issue of how to proceed with the archery range on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street in light of the fact that the Douglas County Fish and Game League has decided to place their own targets at their Constance Range and their uncertainty about their level of commitment if a new range were constructed at 42<sup>nd</sup> Street. The current range and targets are in very poor condition. It was noted that only the first four targets are typically used and that the trend is away from long and compound bows and now crossbows are very popular and cannot be used at our current range with the current type of target. Many archers are shooting at indoor ranges as well. Since the upgrade of the range was initially brought forth by the Fish and Game League and their plans have now changed, there was a lengthy discussion about the need/demand for the range, who would maintain it, etc. After the discussion the commission agreed that the city should discontinue maintenance of the current range and remove the targets this spring. It was noted that the issue could be revisited if a demand for the range to remain in existence is brought forth.

**MOTION by Kern, seconded by Rosburg, and carried to discontinue upkeep of the current, 42<sup>nd</sup> Street archery range.**

4. Disc golf

Tyler Masseth with the disc golf group was in attendance and gave an update on their group's ideas. They recommend a pay to play course, perhaps \$5 for a day pass. They would be interested in starting to help clear the area as early as this spring. The additional burden on city staff for upkeep such as mowing and other maintenance tasks was discussed at length. Next steps: it was suggested to consider holding a public meeting in the spring and schedule a walk about to get a better sense of the course. It was agreed that a walking tour would be scheduled in April/May (weather permitting) and pending the results of that, opening the course as early as late summer could be considered. The commission felt that starting with the basics such as installing the baskets without tee pads at first (which could be done with the maintenance and construction crew supported by volunteer efforts) would be a good start, however it was felt that no firm decisions could be made until city staff and commissioners walk through the proposed course.

5. Parks, Recreation & Forestry Director's Report

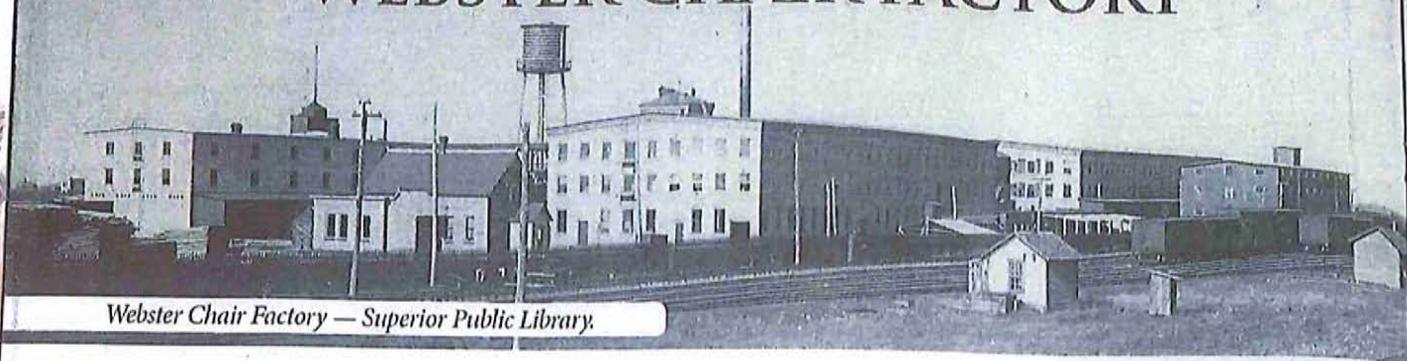
Cadotte indicated the Stride, Ride, Glide Triathlon is scheduled in the municipal forest this Sunday. Tomorrow is the deadline for Recreational Grant applications. Staff has followed up with groups that have not sent their applications in. The meeting to review the grants is March 21<sup>st</sup> and packets of the applications will be emailed to commissioners prior to the meeting. The public comment period regarding the renaming of Webster Park is still open. Jason Laumann of Northwest Regional Planning Commission has indicated that by the end of March, beginning of April, a final meeting regarding the Comprehensive Outdoor Rec Plan will be held with the advisory board members. Following that, the plan will be brought to the Parks and Rec Commission.

**Kern announced the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.**

**The next Parks & Recreation Commission meeting will be held Thursday, March 28th at 5:00 p.m.**

Minutes submitted to the Council Meeting of March 19, 2019.

# ANDREW J. WEBSTER, FOUNDER OF THE WEBSTER CHAIR FACTORY



Webster Chair Factory — Superior Public Library.



North Country History  
by Rachael Marlin

An article in January 2019 in the *Superior Telegram* newspaper announced that Webster Park in South Superior, Wisconsin, will soon be renamed Webster Dream Park. This made me wonder if very many people know that the park was named for Andrew J. Webster, founder of the Webster Chair factory that gave South Superior its start. Here's how it all came about.

Webster (1829-1903) grew up on a farm in Cabot, Vermont. When he was 21, he started working as a machinist and dreamed of moving West to seek his fortune as so many young aspiring Yankee entrepreneurs did back then. Four years later he married Helen Vance, who furnished \$500 for the couple to move to Racine, Wisconsin, south of Milwaukee, to start their new life.

A year later in 1856, they moved to Menasha, Wisconsin, a new community established in the 1840s at the confluence of the Fox River and Lake Winnebago in northeast Wisconsin. There Webster had the chance to buy a small factory. He was the sole employee of the

Menasha Hub and Spoke Factory in a small building on top of a dam used for water power. In May, high water destroyed part of the dam, leaving the factory cut off with no power. Webster moved his business to nearby Neenah for a year, then returned to Menasha to set up shop in a larger building.

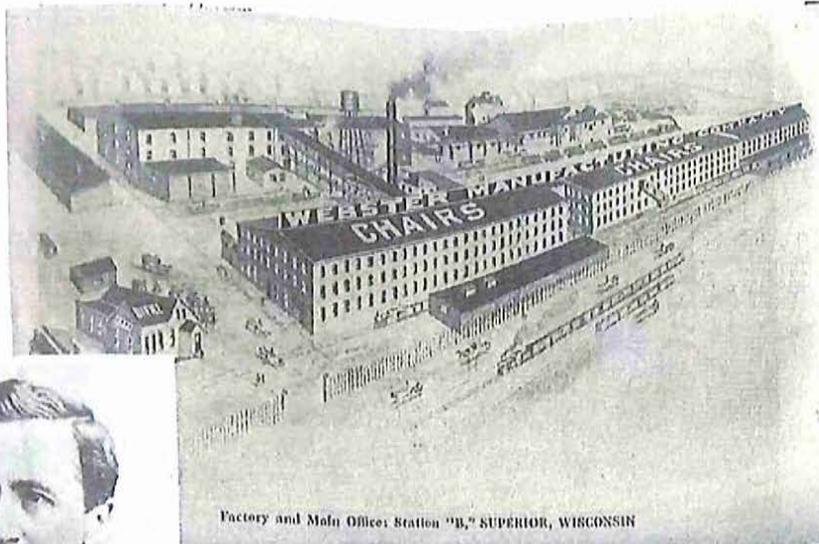
In 1861, Webster's friend, P. V. Lawson, joined the firm as a junior partner. They built a small factory of their own, now making additional farm implements such as whiffle trees and neck yokes. The Civil War created a need for wagon parts, so they bought 10 more acres for expansion and growth. They became the second largest manufacturer in the area, shipping to places from New York to Oregon. By 1879, the renamed Webster Manufacturing Company of Menasha employed 175 men full time and had a daily production of 150 wagons and 100 cultivators.

Webster took an active part in Menasha's civic life, serving on the first library board in 1870 and helping organize the Bank of Menasha. In 1876, his wife died, leaving Webster alone in their spacious home on Commercial Avenue on Doty's Island in Menasha. He ran for mayor and was elected for three terms from 1879 to 1881 and 1883 to 1884. Then

Webster remarried Mary J. Fratt of Racine, Wisconsin, and built a new showplace home on Washington Avenue.

In 1880, Webster's business partner left, fearing that declining timber resources and the business's need for six million board feet of lumber a year might end their business. Webster hired his wife's brother, who became secretary-treasurer of the company in 1885. They decided to move operations to a location with more timberland, and South Superior fit their need. Residents of Menasha were shocked when the Webster Manufacturing Company left town, leaving 200 people unemployed. But many of their top employees moved to South Superior to start up the new factory in 1890.

The Websters moved to Superior in 1891, when the new chair factory opened at 2101 North 57th Street by the Northern Pacific Railroad tracks. Their home stood nearby at the southeast corner of John Avenue and 56th Street, also in Superior's South End. The September 17, 1891, *Superior Daily Call* newspaper reported that "The Webster Chair Factory with 240 employees is in full operation." The reporter visited the new three-week-old factory, already turning out a large number



Factory and Main Office; Station "B," SUPERIOR, WISCONSIN

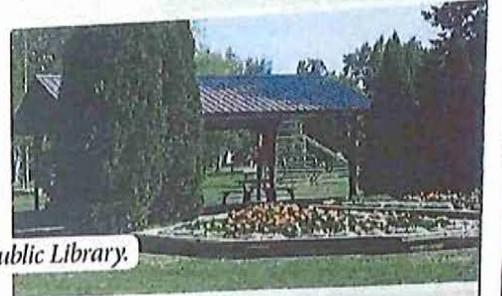


Left: Andrew J. Webster (1829-1903)—Superior Public Library.

Top: Webster Chair Factory illustration (1909-1910)—Superior Public Library.

Right Bottom: Webster Park—City of Superior.

Right Top: Douglas Finn of Superior Wisconsin and his Webster table and chairs—Rachael Martin photo.

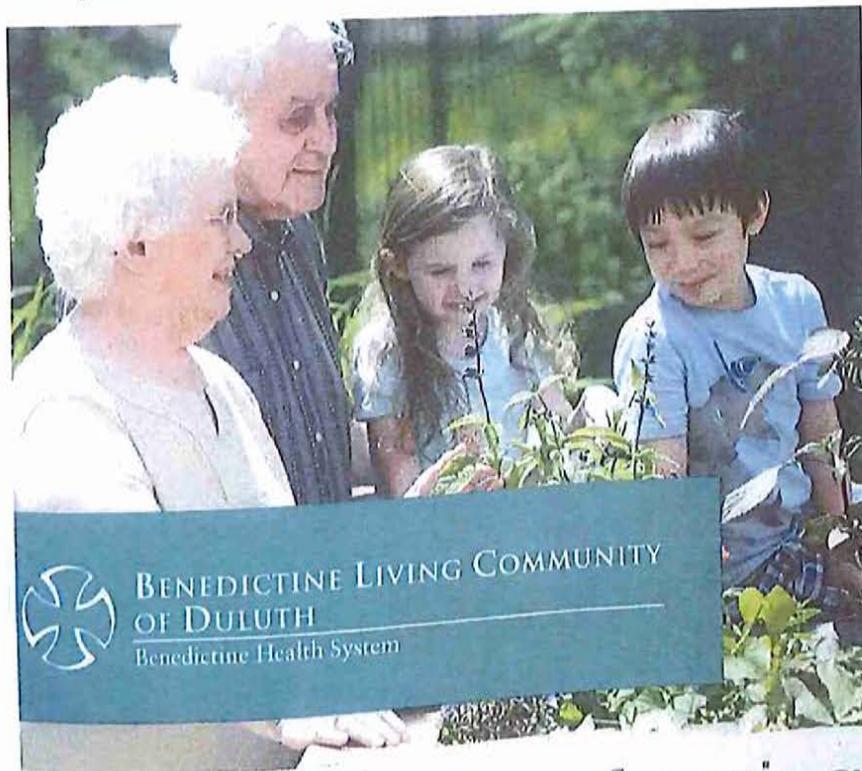


of six different types of chairs. Two-thirds of the regular workforce had been hired, and more help was needed. The newspaper man took a tour showing the process of making a chair from room to room.

In the varnishing room, where the employees were mostly women, one woman had been working with the company for 16 years. The chair factory's contractor, Mr. Guenard, had been with the company since

1880. The company showed the value of the division of labor in making a good, durable product.

At that time, business was booming in Superior's South Side, also called



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California, where Andrew J. Webster died on February 6 at age 75. Since he had no children or heirs, he left his entire estate to the Superior Board of Education for the advancement and promotion of manual training in Superior. After Mrs. Mary J. Webster's death in 1920, the Webster Memorial addition to Central High School began construction and opened on September 10, 1923, as

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**Harker, Angie**

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**From:** Erica Zielinski <zielinskiej@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:38 AM  
**To:** Parks  
**Subject:** Webster Dream Park

I agree with the name change from Webster Park to Webster Dream Park, which goes along with Kenna Hermanson's dream for this park! <3

Thank you all!  
Erica Champaigne

## Harker, Angie

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**From:** Cadotte, Linda  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:15 AM  
**To:** Harker, Angie  
**Subject:** FW: Webster Park

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**From:** Sutherland, Craig  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:13 AM  
**To:** Cadotte, Linda  
**Subject:** Webster Park

Please add me to the support list for the name change

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## Harker, Angie

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**From:** Kali O'Neill <kalioneill0858@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:46 AM  
**To:** Parks  
**Subject:** Webster Dream Park

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kali O'Neill and I am a lifelong resident of South Superior. I am absolutely thrilled that the City of Superior is looking at renaming Webster Park, "Webster Dream Park". Growing up I frequented Webster Park, and have so many great memories there and hope that other children will be able to share the same foundness that I do. I work as a Special Education Teacher in the Superior School District from this I have become more aware that students that are differently abled do not have the access of accessible playgrounds in this area. I know this will bring great joy to many families in the area with making this change. I hope that this is one of many positive changes to come in our community.

Sincerely,  
Kali O'Neill

## Harker, Angie

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**From:** Judy G. <bjjudy@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 01, 2019 10:27 AM  
**To:** Parks  
**Subject:** Webster Park

I speak as someone who grew up in South End as did my parents, I raised my daughter there. I am thrilled that the city plans to make better use of Webster Park. What I am not thrilled about is renaming it Webster "Dream" Park! The name has survived for 100 years and meant something to generations of South enders. Now some one wants to change the name to something that sounds childish and downright silly in my opinion. The Webster's and their factory were important to Superior in their day, that was the reason the park was named for them. Please remember there is history around that park and the people that worked at the chair factory. Don't demean that by Changing it's proud name to something silly and childish. Remember the park belongs to all of the people adults as well as children!

Than you for a chance to comment.  
Judy Gregoire

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

## Harker, Angie

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**From:** Tony Charbonneau <tonyc@chartermi.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 03, 2019 12:44 PM  
**To:** Parks  
**Subject:** Renaming Webster Park

Hi Linda,

I am against renaming as the park was originally named after the Webster family for a reason. We sometimes forget our history and our predecessors named the park to honor everything they did for the community.

For that reason I don't know how renaming ever gained traction. After the improvements do a rededication ceremony and that should cover it!

Thanks!

Tony & Diane Charbonneau  
1402 E 5<sup>th</sup> St  
Superior

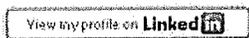
## Harker, Angie

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**From:** Wilberg, Rebecca L - DWD <Rebecca.Wilberg@dwd.wisconsin.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 10:32 AM  
**To:** Parks  
**Subject:** Webster Park Naming

Please consider renaming the Webster Park into Webster Dream Park. So fitting for improvements that are coming! Thank you!

Rebecca Wilberg, MS LPC  
Employment and Training Counselor  
Superior Job Center  
1805 N. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, St. 1  
Superior, WI 54880  
(715)392-7806  
FAX: (608)327-6252



<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/rebecca.wilberg/40176b/aa0/>

“Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work”  
Thomas Edison

**Harker, Angie**

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**From:** Art on the Planet <artonthepanel@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 11:17 AM  
**To:** Parks  
**Subject:** Webster Dream Park

Dear Superior Parks and Recreation Department,

The initiative and compassion this young citizen has displayed in a vision for our city that emphasizes inclusiveness absolutely has our approval.

As a local small business in this city we can only applaud the kind of forward thinking and determination that we would like to think typifies our town.

Please make every effort to authorize the naming of this initiative "Webster Dream Park". There is no better way to celebrate the generous and collaborative spirit of Superior's citizens, businesses and government!

Thank you for your consideration,

Kathryn Senn  
Nancy Senn  
Art on the Planet  
1413 Tower Avenue  
Superior, WI 54880

Art on the Planet  
Where Fine Art meets Fun Art

## Harker, Angie

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**From:** Cadotte, Linda  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2019 10:57 AM  
**To:** Harker, Angie  
**Subject:** FW: Webster DREAM Park

Please include for Parks Commission Public Comments for Webster.  
Thank you!

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**From:** Dan Olson [<mailto:laborers@local1091.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 28, 2019 1:38 PM  
**To:** Cadotte, Linda  
**Subject:** Webster DREAM Park

Good afternoon Director Cadotte,  
I'm not sure when the comment period ends for the process and request of renaming Webster Park.  
I am in full support of adding the simple word Dream to the Webster Family Park that was named on May 29, 1919.  
Hopefully we can celebrate the change on the 100th anniversary of the Park by kicking off our build to Superior's first  
ever all abilities and inclusive park and playground for children and young adults of all ages with disabilities. I know Kalee  
Hermanson has a list of signatures on a petition that was passed around in recent weeks.  
Thank you and your commission for your work and support of this wonderful project.

Daniel Olson  
Business Manager  
Laborers' Local 1091  
[laborers@local1091.com](mailto:laborers@local1091.com)  
218-728-5151 Office  
218-348-2346 Cell