



Wauwatosa, WI

Civic Celebration Commission

Meeting Minutes - Final

7725 W. North Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Thursday, March 26, 2026

7:00 PM

Committee Room #1

Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Robert Brunow called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present 7 Commissioner, Chair Robert Brunow
 Commissioner Dan Lofy
 Commissioner Pat Premetz
 Commissioner Brit Swisher
 Commissioner Jamie Swisher
 Commissioner Wendy Venske
 Commissioner Vera Westphal

Excused 4 Commissioner Mike Anich
 Commissioner Edward Bearden
 Commissioner Matt Wicker
 Alderperson Liaison Mike Morgan

DIRECTORS REPORTS

1. Discussion of fireworks and associated topics

[26-0614](#)

Report by Commission Chairperson Robert Brunow

Commission members received an email from the City Administrator that addressed a telephone meeting that took place with him, Commission Chairperson Brunow, and Milwaukee County Supervisor Rolland. The email stated that he encouraged the Commission to apply for the necessary permits and to continue working with this option, even if another site may look more promising. Commission Chair Brunow indicated that during the call, there was no indication that anything had actually changed with Milwaukee County and that no assurances were given that a permit would even be granted if applied for.

Discussion regarding the Swan Site took place. It was decided that, given the fact that there were no assurances that a permit would be approved, and given the fact that we are running out of time, the Swan Blvd. site would be rejected and that a site would be chosen from the other viable locations.

Report by member Dan Lofy

Have been in discussion with the Athletic Director at Wisconsin Lutheran about using their athletic complex area as a possible launch site. The result of the discussion is that they would look forward to the possibility of hosting our fireworks at their sports complex. The possibility of opening their football stadium and allowing people to sit in the stadium is likely and open for discussion. They would even open their concession stands and would offer parking at no charge.

Spoke with both the Fire and Police Departments, and they are tentatively on board with this option. According to the Fire Department, based on information provided, we could use 5" or possibly even 6"

shells from that location, depending on the exact launch area, subject to conditions.

A discussion of this option vs. the Mount Mary site took place, as both Hart Park itself and the 63rd & State locations continued to be rejected by the city.

Motion by member Dan Lofy to continue discussions with Wisconsin Lutheran College and to move forward with the sports complex site without the need for additional meetings, and to continue to work with Fire & Police Departments regarding plans.

2nd to motion by Jamie Swisher

VOTE: Aye (Unanimous vote of all members present)

No (None)

Motion Caries

Secondary motion by member Dan Lofy : to have Chairperson Brunow continue investigating and working with Mount Mary College as an alternative site in case the Wisconsin Lutheran site becomes non-viable, and to approve without additional meeting if necessary.

2nd to motion by member William (Brit) Swisher

VOTE: Aye (Unanimous vote of all members present)

No (None)

Motion Caries

2. Memorial Day update [26-0615](#)

No report.

3. Parade update [26-0616](#)

Report by Commission Chairperson Robert Brunow

Question where things stand regarding the float situation. We have a credit union that is willing to donate \$3000.00 if they can have their name on a float.

Discussion on options in the event we are not able to secure a float took place. Discussion on parade funding also took place.

4. Afternoon program update [26-0617](#)

Nothing new to report.

5. Services for Independence Day celebrations [26-0618](#)

Report by member Wendy Venske

Nothing really new to report. Still waiting on things to be finalized regarding the fireworks location. Once the fireworks location is determined, we can then determine the locations for the portable toilets and the number needed. Can then get back to Arnold's with the final numbers. We have a tentative reservation on units. The radio rentals are all set, and working on breakfast options.

6. Discuss strategies for promoting July 4th activities [26-0619](#)

No report.

7. Recruit new members and find event volunteers [26-0620](#)

Discussion postponed to future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 P.M.

