

Commission says yes to dog park, memorial, club addition

Written by KRISTYN HALBIG ZIEHM
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The Port Washington Plan Commission last week gave the green light to three prominent projects in the city.

Commission members approved site and operational plans for Lucky Dog Park submitted by Bob and Ellen Paulus, who plan to run the park on roughly one acre of land next to their 1270 Mineral Spring Dr. printing shop.

The Common Council is currently in the process of revising the city's ordinances to allow dog parks as a conditional use on land zoned for industrial, agricultural and public and utility uses.

A public hearing on the ordinance is slated for 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 9, the same night aldermen are expected to vote on the measure.

After that, they will take up the Pauluses' request for a conditional use permit for the park.

Commission members also gave conceptual approval to plans for a gazebo at Coal Dock Park that will also serve as a memorial to those who have lost their lives on Lake Michigan, including 15-year-old Tyler Buczek and 24-year-old Peter Dougherty, who drowned last year.

The octagon-shaped, open-air pavilion features a second floor lookout offering 360-degree views of the city and Lake Michigan that would be lit at night. A sign mounted on a plaque nearby will designate the structure as a memorial.

Jim Buczek, Tyler's uncle and a member of the city's Waterfront Safety Committee, said the memorial was designed to be functional, something the teenager would have wanted.

"He was the kind of kid who wouldn't want a statue," he said.

An addition to the Port Washington Yacht Club was also approved.

The roughly 600-square-foot addition to the east side of the building will provide additional meeting space for the club and a unisex, handicapped-accessible restroom. A new patio will also be constructed on the south side of the building.

The addition was designed to smoothly blend with the existing structure, which once was the city's bathhouse.

"The club members want to maintain the look of the building," John S. Willhard of Computerized Structural Design said.