

JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
320 SOUTH MAIN ST, JEFFERSON WI 53549
ROOM 202
October 5, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

Committee: Glen Borland-Chairman, Paul Babcock, Amy Kramer, Rick Kuhlman,
Steve Nass

1. Call the Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Borland at 1:05 p.m.

2. Committee members present included: Borland, Kramer, Kuhlman, Nass. Others present: Nehmer, Stanger, Schmeling, Grabow, Bill Kern, Larry Chwala, John McKenzie, Margaret Burlingham, Kim Buchholz. Absent Babcock

Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law – In Compliance

4. Approval of the Agenda – Approved
5. Approval of September 2, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the September 2, 2009 minutes. Nass/Kramer, Kuhlman abstained, carried 3-0.

6. Public Comment – None
7. Discussion and possible decision on naming of Hubbleton Snowmobile Bridge – Larry Chwala

Chwala requested permission to install a plaque on the Hubbleton Snowmobile Bridge reading: THIS BRIDGE IS DEDICATED IN THE MEMORY OF CHARLIE WOLLIN AND ALL THE SNOWMOBILE CLUBS IN JEFFERSON COUNTY.

Motion to put a plaque on the bridge saying: THIS BRIDGE IS DEDICATED IN THE MEMORY OF CHARLIE WOLLIN AND ALL THE SNOWMOBILE CLUBS IN JEFFERSON COUNTY. Kuhlman/Karmer, Carried 4-0.

8. Discussion and possible decision on Town of Lake Mills offer to turn over control of Korth Lane to the County Highway Department – Bill Kern

Kern, Highway Commissioner reported he has reviewed the road, looking at both the dimensions and conditions. He stated that if the county were to consider taking over the road it would need to be reconstructed and brought up to the county highway standards, Kern stated this is not feasible for the Highway Department at this time.

Motion to have Joe Nehmer draft a letter to the Town of Lake Mills saying we understand the problem but cannot commit to anything at this time and will visit the item at a later date. Nass/Kuhlman, carried 4-0.

9. Discussion and possible decision on Dog Park Signage on Hwy 26

Nehmer reported the current signs we have there now read “Bicentennial Park, Dog Exercise Area” and were put in by the Highway Department. The DOT guidelines state these type of signs are to designate the official county park name. “Bicentennial County Park”. Therefore the signs would read “Jefferson County Dog Park”

Motion to present to the County Board a request to rename Bicentennial Park to Jefferson County Dog Park. Kuhlman/Kramer, carried 4-0

10. Discussion and possible decision on Mountain Biking at the Dog Park

Nehmer reported we received a complaint from dog park users about people riding their mountain bikes at the dog park. It scares and excites the dogs and the park users are concerned about safety.

Motion to prohibit Mountain Biking within the identified dog exercise areas at the Dog Park. Nass/Kuhlman, carried 4-0.

11. Discussion and possible decision on Dorothy Carnes Master Plan 2010 Budget – Margaret Burlingham

Burlingham presented the proposed budget for implementation of Dorothy Carnes Master Plan; the master plan and executive summary were previously presented and accepted.

Motion to advance Dorothy Carnes Master Plan to the County Board. Nass/Borland, carried 4-0.

12. Consideration and possible action to recommend the acceptance of grant money to fund a Limited Term Cooperative Weed Management intern in the Parks Department

Nehmer reported this item was taken to the Human Resources Committee and was approved by the committee. We have an opportunity to participate with Tall Grass Prairie Restoration on a Cooperative Weed Management Area, to hire an intern to work 2 years; all wages and equipment are covered by the grant. The Cooperative Weed Management Association covers areas of Jefferson, Rock, and Green Counties. The group, working with Tall Grass Prairie Restoration, identified Carnes Park and Rose Lake State Natural Area as the test pilot area for an invasive removal squad working with a federal grant. Carnes provides a very high quality ecosystem containing prairie, woods and wetland and all three of those have invasive species in them. It is publically owned so it can be used as a demonstration and education site on how to address best management practices, invasive species and an education site right there on the 450 acres. County contribution would be oversight of the individual, a desk, probably out at the park shop. Transportation; computer and cell phone will be paid by the grant.

Motion to approve creation of a limited term intern through the Cooperative Weed Management Association Grant, upon acceptance of grant approval starting April of 2010. Nass/Kramer, carried 4-0.

13. Notice of Wisconsin Park & Recreation Association (WPRA) 2009 Park Section Design Award of Excellence for Korth County Park Shelter project.

Nehmer announced we have won the 2009 Park Section Design Award of Excellence for Korth Park Shelter project in the \$125,000-\$350,000 category. The award will be presented on November 4th at the WPRA Annual Fall Conference. Borland requested we have a plaque made to install at the shelter.

14. Paddling Committee Update – John McKenzie

McKenzie gave an update on what the paddling committee has been working on; identifying put in and takes out sites along the waterways in Jefferson County and to make sure these sites are useable. The goal of the committee is to create a map for canoe and kayak enthusiasts, and have it done and published by March of 2010 for the Canoecopia event in Madison which is the largest paddling event in the Midwest. Also the committee is working on signage to alert paddlers as they are going down the rivers of the put in and take out sites. McKenzie noted cost issues which are printing of the maps and signage. The committee is actively seeking donations to cover the projects.

15. Update on Capstone Project at the Mason Farm component of Dorothy Carnes County Park and Holzhueter Property through the School of Landscape Architecture at UW Madison – Steve Grabow

Grabow updated the committee on the Capstone Projects. Dorothy Carnes Park project will be done by Novella Pui Yan Man. She is using the master plan to do her foundation work and doing inventory findings and literature research and review. The focus will be on the main cluster of buildings. The other project is at the Holzhueter Property. Darin Newman, will be refining the master plan. Trek Bicycle expressed a lot of interest in the area as a major mountain bike center, so that will be looked at that as well as a connection between Watertown and Waterloo via this park site to see what concepts could be used for off road trails. Also, the Holzhueter property will be considered for a high end cross country running trail system. A student project is a great time to explore all of these aspects.

16. Park Activity Report

Buchholz reported on the Jefferson County Parks Department Activity Report which she has compiled, copies will be handed out to the County Supervisors at the next County Board Meeting.

17. Hubbleton Snowmobile Bridge Celebration

Chwala announced the ribbon cutting celebration for the bridge will be held October 10th at noon and extended an invitation to all park committee members.

18. Update on Hubbleton Snowmobile Bridge Final Inspection Punch List

Nehmer reported on the Final Inspection Punch List; they are down to the bottom of the list and final inspection by the engineering firm will be done.

19. Update on disc golf at county parks

Nehmer has spoken to quite a few people and looked at aerials of the parks. It has been decided the best place in our parks system would be at Carlin Weld County Park. Nehmer reported he feels the Parks Department could raise the monies to get a course put in. The question is will it be harder to do out in Palmyra than in Fort Atkinson or Jefferson which do not have any. Nehmer also stated he is exploring partnering with local communities for a Disc Golf Course; and also, the County Farm area is being considered. Nehmer will continue investigating all aspects discussed.

20. Discussion on 2010 Budget

Nehmer reported no changes on the 2010 Budget since last meeting.

21. Update on Glacial Heritage Area

Nehmer reported the Natural Resources Board meets on October 21st in Madison. The agenda has not been developed yet and should be posted in the next couple of days. There is a desire that we present on behalf of Jefferson County and have good representation from the County Board as well as having some of the community members that presented to our County Board available to present to the Natural Resources Board.

22. Correspondence

Watertown Daily Times, 9/12/09 – GROWING A GARDEN AND A
COMMUNITY
RIDE THE ROCK – 9/25/09 Daily Union
Email: Cross Country Meet at Korth Park
Various Photos

23. Set Tentative next meeting date/time: November 2, 2009, at 1:00pm – Room 202

24. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 2:35 Kramer/Kuhlman, carried 4-0.