

**JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
320 SOUTH MAIN ST, JEFFERSON WI 53549
ROOM 202**

November 7, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.

Committee: Glen Borland-Chairman, Paul Babcock, Rick Kuhlman, Steve Nass, Augie Tietz

1. Call the Meeting to Order - The meeting was called to order Chairman Borland at 1p.m.
2. Roll Call

Committee members present included: Borland, Babcock, Nass and Tietz. Kuhlman absent. Others Present: Joe Nehmer, Kevin Wiesmann, John Molinaro, Gary Petre, Phil Ristow, Kim Buchholz, Rob Klotz, Jan Roo, Martine Koeppel, Roger Dupler, Brian Pehl, Sue Marx, Jim Welsh and Mark Watkins.

3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law – In Compliance
4. Review of the Agenda – Approved
5. Approval of October 3, 2011 Meeting Minutes - **Motion made by Tietz, seconded by Nass, to approve the October 3, 2011 meeting minutes; motion approved.**

6. Public Comment

Patricia Cicero gave the committee an update on the study being conducted by the Rock Lake Improvement Association on the sources of sediment flowing into Rock Lake. Students will be placing mini-wells on the Korth Park property to test the groundwater for contaminants. Each well is marked with a stick that comes 1-2 feet above ground. Patricia will keep the committee informed as to the progress of the study.

7. Discussion and possible action on potential property transfer from Drumlin Area Land Trust:
Sue Marx

Sue Marx stated that she had visited with the committee earlier in the year to see their interest in taking ownership of the Loeb property; 14 acres of land located along the Rock River in the Town of Watertown. The Jefferson County Land Trust would give it to the county. There has been nothing done to the property since it was purchased. The advantage of the property is that there is river access. Discussion occurred. Jim Welsh was present to assist the committee with questions. He stated camping on the site would need the state's prior approval which is done quite commonly. It would also need to go before the county board.

Motion made by Nass for the Parks Committee to not accept this parcel as a gift from the Drumlin Area Land Trust; not a lot of utility as a park. Seconded by Babcock. Unanimously approved.

8. Interurban Feasibility Study Presentation – Yaggy Colby

Yaggy Colby recently completed the feasibility study for the Interurban Bike Trail between Oconomowoc and Watertown; an 11 mile stretch. Roger gave an overview of the project which was completed in the last three months. The entire stretch was driven by ATV and documented with photos as well as points itemized. The summary document and price estimates were distributed to committee members. Roger explained that they looked at three major categories: soils, wetlands and traffic crossings. The pricing given is conservative. Discussion occurred. Roger suggested that more analysis be completed on the additional segments as well as the Oconomowoc to Watertown segment for greater detail and feasibility of the project. The department will continue to work on the project and keep the committee updated.

9. Discussion and possible action on We Energies Agreement for the Interurban Trail right of way

Phil gave an overview to the committee on how the agreement has gotten to the point we are at today. Discussion occurred. Committee elected to put the item on hold for six months and then revisit.

10. Discussion and possible action on County' weapons policy

Phil invited the committee to look at this topic and how it will affect policy within the parks department. If changes are necessary, Phil recommends them being funneled through the Infrastructure Committee. The Parks Ordinance needs to be amended to remove the word "carry" regarding handguns.

11. Discussion and possible action on camping procedures

Kevin distributed a draft camping policy that he put together based off of various walk-in camping procedures he researched. It was stressed to the committee that this is the first year of camping so the policy may need to be tweaked as the season proceeds. If necessary, the policy would be brought back to the committee at that time.

12. Discussion and possible action on crop land lease procedure for Dorothy Carnes Park farm parcel

Joe reported that currently the land is being rented by Stelse at \$200 per acre; 80 acres. This year we need to follow County policy for bid of the land rental.

Motion by Nass to pursue the crop rental per County policy, seconded by Tietz. Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

13. Discussion and possible action on Glacial Heritage Area

Joe reported that there is \$1.45 million allocated to GHA for land acquisition for the next fiscal year. The subcommittee met this morning and has prioritized five properties to be preserved within the next 18 months.

We are still working on the Glacial Heritage Area memorandum of understanding. John asked that the committee be given a draft copy of the MOU.

14. Discussion and possible action on Bike System Update

Interurban Trail was discussed in item number 8. There is also a committee forming to look at uniform signing for the complete Glacial River Trail.

15. Discussion about a future four-season structure at Korth Park

Joe handed out a copy of the 2011 shelter rentals for Korth Park to the committee. Joe explained that there has been an increased demand for the Korth Lane shelter and the department feels based on these requests that the committee needs to consider the construction of a four-season facility. Discussion occurred.

Motion by Nass for the department to look into the feasibility of a four-season facility within the parks system, seconded by Tietz. Motion approved.

16. Mason Farm Implementation Update

Kevin gave a brief overview on the updates that have been done out at the Mason Farmstead. The log cabin has been exposed and approximately 75% of it is still intact. Kevin has met with two different individuals regarding the restoration process. One gentleman would coordinate the restoration for a stipend while the other one would charge around \$35-50,000 to complete the project.

John stated that the Wisconsin Historical Society is very anxious to come and look at the building. Also, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, whose Wisconsin office is located in Lake Mills, may have a matching grant available for project management. They do not offer brick and mortar grants. The next grant period is due in February.

John gave the forms to Joe to list the property as landmark status for the Jefferson County Historic Preservation committee.

17. Endowment Update

A brochure is being worked on. John stated that Amy could assist with the brochure development. Kim will work with Amy to finish the brochure. John has a press release for Standard Process's donation that will be released once the brochure is finished.

18. County Conservation Grant Award

Kim reported to the committee that we have received the annual County Conservation grant which will be utilized to continue the woodland restoration at Carnes Park.

19. Glacial Heritage Area Update

Joe and Augie will meet with the Quirk Foundation regarding funding for the GHA. Kim is working with a committee on a placemat that will be to local restaurants. The first printing will be a pilot to determine if restaurants like using them and how they feel they are received. A copy of the placemat was given to committee members. On Wednesday in Room 205, tourism will be announcing the JEM grant.

20. Correspondence

- Jefferson County Finds another Historic Treasure article distributed.
- Disabled Hunter Program planned: Kim reported that there were two inquiries but no applications received.
- Carnes Park Signage photograph distributed.
- Pictures from cross-country meet at Holzhueter property distributed.

21. Set Tentative Meeting Date/Time

The next meeting is set for Wednesday, November 30 at 10 a.m. to review the draft Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update PowerPoint. Additional monthly meetings were set as: December 5, 2011 at 1 p.m. in room 202; January 9, 2012 at 1 p.m. in room 202.

22. Adjourn

Motion made by Tietz, seconded by Babcock, to adjourn at 3:30 p.m. Motion carried.