

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

OCTOBER 3, 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 1:03 p.m.
2. Roll Call

Committee members present included: Borland, Kuhlman, Nass and Tietz. Babcock absent. Others Present: Joe Nehmer, Kevin Wiesmann, John Molinaro, Gary Petre, Phil Ristow, Kim Buchholz, Rob Klotz.

3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law – In Compliance
4. Review of the Agenda – Approved
5. Approval of September 6, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Tietz, seconded by Kuhlman, to approve the September 6, 2011 meeting minutes; passed 4-0.

6. Public Comment - None
7. Discussion and Possible Decision to Establish Conditions for Issuance of Camping Permits at Carnes Park East

Nehmer read Section 8 of the Parks Ordinance to the committee. Ristow stated that the Parks Committee can issue a permit for camping within the Parks System through their established standards. The Jefferson County Zoning Ordinance also accepts camping within parks. Discussion occurred. The consensus of the committee was that the language within the ordinance does not need to be changed at this time to allow camping. The committee asked the staff to develop draft camping standards for the parks system and put it on the next agenda for discussion.

Motion made by Nass to allow primitive camping in the campgrounds according to established ground rules. Nass amended his motion to allow primitive camping in the campgrounds according to the established ground rules and proceed with the permit process. Seconded by Kuhlman. Passed 4-0.

Rob Klotz left the meeting after this agenda item.

8. Discussion & Possible Decision on Public Request to Address Safety Issues on County B

Nehmer distributed the letter received from the property owners on County B requesting the rerouting of County B to the committee. Molinaro explained that this is not a new request. The original request was to Bill Kern, Highway Commissioner. Per Kern there is no money budgeted for this project for the current year or in 2012. Nass stated that if this project would come to fruition, he sees the Parks Department as a property owner with interest. Other members agreed. Discussion occurred. If this project would be done, the Parks Committee does not have an issue with it as long as access remains to Lower and Upper Rock Park, boat launch, parking lot and a bike trail is maintained along the lake. Buchholz will forward the committee's comments to Bill Kern for his response to the property owners.

9. Discussion and Possible Decision on 2012 Parks Department Budget

Nehmer stated that the department went to the finance committee and requested that the money for the barn come from tax levy as opposed to Carol Liddle as requested by the committee. The Finance Committee adopted the proposed County Administrator's budget that finances the roof with \$6,000 from Carol Liddle and \$14,000 from tax levy. Nass, Tietz and Kuhlman were present at the Finance Committee meeting.

10. Thefts at Carnes and Korth Gardens Update

Wiesmann reported to the committee that at Hearty Gardens (Carnes) and Harvest Gardens (Korth) there has been reported theft of garden produce. Wiesmann described the situation where he actually escorted an individual out of the garden after he had lied to him multiple times. Wiesmann reported that instance to the Sheriff's Department. Wiesmann suggested that the gardens are short on signage. Hearty Gardens has requested signage be installed. Harvest Gardens has requested the signage as well as the gate be locked.

Motion made by Tietz, seconded by Nass, to install signage at the gardens to keep out individuals from pilfering vegetables. Motion carried 4-0.

11. Rock River Trail Initiative

Nehmer stated that Greg Farhnam has asked him to serve on the council for the Rock River Trail Initiative. Nehmer agreed to the position. Nehmer distributed an email communication he had received from Farhnam to the committee. Discussion followed.

Motion made by Nass, seconded by Tietz, to forward a resolution to the County Board to approve the concept of the Rock River Trail Initiative with the note that there is no fiscal impact at this time. Motion carried, 4-0.

12. Mason Farm Implementation Update

Wiesmann reported that work on the ½ moon shed has been completed. Staff was able to utilize reclaimed lumber from the loafing shed to complete the project. Dirty Ducts has been hired to complete the asbestos abatement on the house; that will be completed tomorrow. Operations staff will then begin to demo the house to expose the log cabin. The loafing shed has been knocked down. Wiesmann volunteered to give interested supervisors tours of the site if they were interested. Molinaro asked that Supervisor Braughler be contacted for a site visit. Nehmer will contact.

13. Glacial Heritage Area Update

Nehmer reported that he has received word from the DNR that they have allocated \$750,000 for this fiscal year and \$700,000 for next fiscal year for GHA acquisitions. The priority acquisitions at this time are the two in-holdings at Holzheuter Park.

14. Bike System Update

Nehmer reported that the department has been working hard on the TIGER grant; the pre-application was submitted on Friday for \$10.3 million bike trail from Oconomowoc to Waterloo. Tietz stated that he has also approached the Quirk Foundation in Watertown for a \$10,000 grant to support this project. Tietz also broached the subject with the Quirk Foundation that naming rights may be available for a bridge at a larger support amount. He should find out additional information by the end of October.

Ristow asked the committee to reaffirm their decision last month to proceed with the We Energy agreement for the Interurban Line without the Stewardship language included at this time. Discussion occurred. The committee would like to proceed without the stewardship language included in the agreement at this time.

15. Endowment Update

Molinaro stated that there is currently \$6,300 that has been received for the endowment to date. On October 11, Molinaro will be meeting at Standard Process to receive their matching donation of \$5,000. Molinaro stated that the \$10,000 goal has been accomplished in a short time frame. At this point, we need to get the word out to the public. A brochure needs to be developed based off of the example provided by the Natural Resources Foundation. Buchholz will work on the brochure.

16. Correspondence

- Nehmer distributed the article and pictures on the Glacial River Trail Grand Opening from the Daily Jefferson County Union.
- Tietz asked about RMA payments received by the Highway Department annually for maintenance of bike trails. Nehmer will discuss with Kern.
- Nehmer pointed out the three editorials that were in the Daily Jefferson County Union on the new bike trail. Committee members received copies in their agenda packets.
- Wiesmann stated that Kanow Park is 50 years old; there was a write up in the paper.

17. Set Tentative Meeting Date/Time

The next meeting is set for Monday, November 7, 2011 at 1:00pm in Room 202 of the Jefferson County Courthouse.

18. Adjourn 2:15 pm

Motion made by Kuhlman, seconded by Tietz, to adjourn at 2:15 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.