

JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

JEFFERSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 311 South Center Avenue, Room 202 Jefferson WI 53549

April 7, 2014 @1:00 p.m.

Committee: Glen Borland, Mike Kelly, Ed Morse, Augie Tietz, Steve Nass

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Borland at 1:03 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Committee members present: Borland, Kelly, Morse, Nass and Tietz. Others present: Joe Nehmer, Jane Stanger, Ben Wehmeier, John Molinaro, Phil Ristow, Greg David, Andrew Nicholson, Tony Nicholson, Laura Challoner, Frankie Fuller.
3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law: - In compliance.
4. Review of the Agenda: Approved as written with the exception of moving Item 9 before Item 8.
5. Public Comment: None
6. Approval of the March, 2014 Meeting Minutes:

**Motion to approve the March 3, 2014 minutes by Tietz, seconded by Morse.
Motion carried, 5-0.**

7. Communications:
 - a. Diamond in the Rough – Opinion Page Daily Union
 - b. Not an Inside Job – Daily Union
 - c. A Felled Oak Continues to Thrive – Wisconsin State Journal
 - d. Giant Oak to Become ‘Giving Tree’ – Watertown Daily Times
 - e. Thank you note from Catherine Desmond
 - f. Emails in Support of Bicycle Trails
 1. Paul Zdroik
 2. Shane Brown
 3. Dr. R. Steven LeGrow
 4. Steve Board, Director Maranatha Baptist University
 - g. Thank you note to Glenn Borland from J. Hamann
 - h. From Little Acorns – Daily Jefferson County Union

8. Discussion and Possible Decision on Biomass Planting in County Parks

Supervisor Greg David updated the committee on the project of Biomass Planting in the County Parks he would like to see undertaken in the future. He stated this is an informational presentation, something we should all be aware of for the future of Jefferson County.

9. Eagle Scout Project Presentation – Andrew Nicholson

Andrew Nicholson, who is a resident of Fort Atkinson, presented his Eagle Scout project proposal. He would like to build a wildlife viewing blind at Dorothy Carnes County Park at the southern end of Rose Lake. He estimates the project will cost around about \$880. He has raised about \$800 so far. He will be recruiting friends and fellow scouts to help build the structure. He has gone over safety issues with Kevin. He will have tools donated by friends and a few will be borrowed from the Parks Department.

Motion by Nass, seconded by Tietz to approve the Eagle Scout Project presented by Andrew Nicholson, Carried 5-0.

Motion by Nass, seconded by Tietz to fund \$200.00 for materials, since the Parks Department will be taking possession of this blind. Carried 5-0.

10. Discussion and Possible Decision on Watertown Outboarders Property

Nehmer discussed an email sent to us from Pam Phelan from the DNR talking about the Wisconsin Department of Natural perspective on what our options are regarding the Watertown Outboarders Property regarding use or elimination of the building, and what the restrictions are. We need to decide to move in one direction or another as it relates to the project. A lengthy discussion ensued and the Parks Committee agreed to let the DNR develop the area as a water access area and they will raise the existing building and develop the property. Also having the Parks Department note the DNR recognizes the Quirk Foundation on this property. Kelly noted we could always go back to the DNR in future and request that the Parks Department would like to take over management of this area.

Motion by Morse, seconded by Nass to hand the Watertown Outboarders Property over to the DNR for development of a water access with agreement to give recognition to the Quirk Foundation, and in the future we may like to take over management from the DNR. Carried 5-0.

11. Discussion and Possible Decision on Stewardship Grant Applications

- a. Crawfish River Park
- b. Dorothy Carnes Park
- c. Rock River Park

Nehmer discussed the Stewardship Grant Applications as listed above.

Motion by Nass, seconded by Tietz to move the grants to the County Board for Resolutions. Carried 5-0.

12. Discussion and Possible Decision on Dog Park Rules

Nehmer discussed the revision of the Dog Park Rules which the parks department has been working on.

Motion by Nass, seconded by Kelly to make the change of “owners must carry leashes with them at all times” and “Dogs must wear a collar or harness, and have a current dog license and current rabies vaccination.”

13. Update on 2014 Parks Department Budget

Nehmer updated the committee on the 2014 Parks Department budget.

14. Update on Glacial Heritage Area (GHA) Project

Tietz commented there haven't been any updates other than the bike trail grants have moved forward. There is no meeting this month as originally planned. Nehmer noted there is an education outreach and economic development sub team meeting today at 3:30 to 5:30 at UW Extension and he will be attending. The first meeting of the general implementation committee was also cancelled. Our big push will be getting our marketing plan out to our business leaders to make them aware of what the GHA has to offer from an environmental, economic and public health standpoint.

15. Set Tentative Meeting Dates/Times for Next Meeting: May 5, 2014 at 1 p.m.

16. Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn at 2:30 pm by Nass, seconded by Kelly. Carried 5-0.