

MINUTES

JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS COMMITTEE

Jefferson County Courthouse
311 South Center Avenue, Rm 202
Jefferson WI 53549

October 6, 2014 @ 9:30 a.m.

AMENDED – ITEM #12 AMENDING PARKS ORDINANCE SECTION 8.07 (4)(C)

1. **Call to Order**

Chairman Tietz called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Present: Tietz, Kelly, Christensen, Payne (9:35 a.m.)

Absent: Foelker

Others Present: Nehmer, Wiesmann, Nimm, Wehmeier, Ward

3. **Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law**

Meeting was posted according to Open Meetings Law

4. **Review of the Agenda**

Agenda as printed.

5. **Public Comment**

No public comment.

6. **Approval of the September 8, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

Kelly motioned to approve. Christensen seconded. Motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

7. **Communications**

Nehmer reviewed the communications.

- a. Jammin' at The Jamboree – Daily Union
- b. Park Utility Easement Gets Nod – Daily Union
- c. Fayville Grove Sanctuary Helping Preserve Habitat Critical for Birds – Daily Union
- d. What is Lure Coursing?
- e. JCBC – Jefferson County Bicycle Club

8. **Discussion and Possible Decision on Pohlmann Park Playground Fundraising Proposal**

Eagle Scout, Troop 148, Austin Messerschmidt presented his fundraising project. Austin noted his plan is to add equipment to the existing swing set at Pohlmann Park. Austin's main goal is to add benches around the play area and possibly a spinning leaf seat and/or tree facts. On November 8 in Lake Mills there will be Bowl-a-thon with goal of raising \$2,000.

Wiesmann added that the Troop will also help with the install of already purchased parks equipment (budgeted for and purchased in 2014).

Christensen motioned to allow for the plan to fundraise and install park benches. Kelly seconded. Motion passes on a 4-0 vote.

9. **Discussion and Possible Decision on Naming of Crawfish River Park**

Nehmer noted that the park has not yet been officially named. The Didion Family, coordinators of the fundraiser to raise the \$50,000(+) needed to purchase the property for the park, have suggested the park be called *The Crawfish River Park*.

A plaque shall be installed to recognize the family and their contribution. Christenson motioned to accept the name as Crawfish River Park and give formal recognition to those who providing funding for the park. Payne seconded. Motion passes on a 4-0 vote.

10. **Discussion and Possible Decision on Plan to Fund Proposed Interurban Bicycle Trail Project**

Nehmer indicated that the DNR Stewardship and DOT TAP applications for 2014 awarding were unsuccessful, likely due to the anticipated cost for the entire project of 10.96 miles. DNR Stewardship applications will be accepted again in May, 2015. The attempt for the next application is to segment the trail, with each segment costs similar to the Platteville (awarded) project at \$1.4m. Platteville was awarded extra points as they also had a direct connection to a state trail. Platteville also demonstrated local support and had established a strong fundraising effort. Nehmer asked if the committee supported the concept of \$200,000 in to pledge to County support at \$200,000 in county funding to leverage \$1.25m additional funds.

Nehmer - noted that B. Ward is working with Julie Simmons/We Energies on a revised License Agreement for the first segment. The agreement allows for amendments for each additional segment which completes the proposed 10.96 mile route.

Payne – does the estimated \$1.4m have to be revised?

Nehmer – noted the figures hold true.

Kelly – questioned if Waukesha County and/or City of Oconomowoc are showing support.

Payne – questioned if Waukesha County would have any financial responsibility for segment 3.

Payne – asked where the department plans to find the needed \$500,000

Christensen – questioned what the current option(s) for bicycling between the two communities look like for safety, etc.

Tietz – noted that there are two bridges included in the proposed project, the bridge in segment 1 being a large portion of the cost.

Christensen – questioned department priorities and funding needs.

Wehmeier – commented that he is looking into 3 options as ways of the County supporting \$200,000.

Kelly - noted apprehension in moving forward without documented support from Waukesha County and the City of Oconomowoc.

Payne motioned to pursue segment1 of the Interurban Trail requesting a DNR

Stewardship Grant while looking for \$500k in additional funding and requesting \$200,000 from Jefferson County. Christensen seconded. The motion passes on a 4-0 vote.

11. Discussion and Possible Decision on the Purchase and Placement of Road Signs for the Rock River National Water Trail

Nehmer noted that included in the packet is a listing of suggested sign locations. There are three (3) components to the route – bike, water and road trails as part of the system. RRT is asking Jefferson County if they will assist with placement of signs in the county. Nehmer noted that there have been attempts to get Wisconsin DOT assistance and questioned if the DOT doesn't participate, does Jefferson County have \$1,500 to help? Nehmer suggested bringing this item back next month after DOT funding participation confirmation.

12. Discussion and Possible Decision on Amending the Jefferson County Parks Ordinance (Ordinance No. 1998-27)(Section 8.07 (4)(c))

Nehmer noted that currently the ordinance talks about county resident and non-resident fees for use of the dog park.

B. Ward suggested more specifics, noting licensing of dog location. Suggested changing wording “dogs licensed in and dogs not licensed in Jefferson County” to reflect residency/non-residency.

Kelly noted a Language change: “No dog shall be allowed into the dog park without a license and a permit.”

Christensen moved to have B Ward to finalize the ordinance to reflect the changes. Kelly seconded. 4-0.

13. Update on Share the Road Event in Watertown

Tietz noted what the event supported and highlighted the need for safer biking routes. Strong support for the proposed Interurban Trail was shown and contacts were made.

14. Update on Youth Hunt Program

Wiesmann – last 2 years a Youth Hunt Program has been in place. Two first time youth hunters are selected with supervising adult. Applications are currently being accepted. An orientation takes place and a section of the park is designated for the hunt.

15. Update on Surplus Wood Sale

Wiesmann – started removal of trees/wood from the parks. Five lots of wood are available at the Parks Building for view and the intention is they will be sold using the process of sealed bids.

16. Update on Mountain Biking Facility at Human Services

Nehmer – noted the Human Services Board meets and will discuss the mountain biking concept at their next meeting on October 14 at 8:30 a.m. and that public attendance is welcome.

17. Update on Dog Park Events

Nehmer noted that thanks to the Friends of the Jefferson County Dog Park these

events took place: Lure Coursing held in September, Bark at the Moon on October 14 and Howl-O-Ween is scheduled on October 25.

18. Update on Permanent Utility Easement at Korth Park

Nehmer –noted the easement is completed.

19. Update on 2015 Jefferson County Parks Budget

Wehmeier provided information on practices by the neighboring counties and the WiDNR as they relate to the (allowed) Administrative Fees.

Nehmer noted the 2015 Parks Budget was approved by finance committee.

Wehmeier – noted a discussion on maintaining the Administrative Fee for the Snowmobile Grant Program and how it relates to the Snowmobile Alliance.

Nehmer noted the annual snowmobile meeting normally occurs in November allowing all parties to meet and discuss the program and trails.

Nehmer noted the department caps the administrative fee and noted the committee can suggest a change to how/if the fees are changed at any point.

Payne asked if the department spends more \$\$\$ than actually charged to the grant program.

Christensen noted that the department does provide a service to the program and that service does cost the department.

Kelly noted that the Parks Department, as a partner, is in the best interest of the program.

Wehmeier noted the County has the discretion as to where the snowmobile funding goes – designated to snowmobile maintenance issues.

Item remains status quo until further notice.

20. Update on Park Areas for Special Needs Individuals

Nehmer noted no progress has been made.

Christensen had contact with a parent's group member and will attend an upcoming meeting.

21. Update on Farm Bid Package Kemmeter Farm Rental

Nehmer questioned Kelly and status of the Bio-Mass Grant possibility.

Kelly noted no grant funding will be forth-coming at this time, requesting a 5-10 acre piece at a reoccurring 1 year lease.

Christensen noted there is current availability of bio-mass.

22. Update on Watertown Outboarders

Nehmer noted that a proposal for Operations Agreement has been sent and parties are in agreement.

Tietz noted a meeting with the Quirk Foundation is scheduled for 10/15/2014.

Property is on Cty HWY Y, adjacent to the river and next to the HWY 26 by-pass.

23. Update on Potential Master Plan Models for Crawfish River County Park

Nehmer spoke with Steve Grabow. Grabow has been working with Tom Jennings, Margaret Burlingham and Tom Mortensen – 3 landscape architects willing to host 2 charrette Meetings to develop a plan for Crawfish River (County) Park. Beginning as soon as mid-November.

24. Update on 2014 Parks Department Budget

Nehmer noted the 2014 budget is proceeding as normal, however the Grounds account (1840) has contributed a considerable amount of time and money into the Courthouse Grounds landscaping.

McKay did the design work. In-house costs were approximately \$6,500 (under budget)(including plantings purchased from McKay and Parks staff labor).

25. Update on Glacial Heritage Area (GHA) Project

Nehmer noted an upcoming meeting on 10/20/2014.

26. Update on HWY 26 by-pass & Glacial River Bike Trail

Nehmer noted the bike trail is now paved to the County Line.

Christensen noted that perhaps a scout troop will be planning plantings along the trail.

Wiesmann noted that areas along the trail have been identified designated areas and plantings have been identified.

27. Set Tentative Meeting Dates/Times for: November 3, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

28. Adjourn

Christensen motioned to adjourn at 11:21, Kelly seconded. Motion passes on a 4-0 vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary S Nimm
Program Assistant