

Parks Committee Minutes
Jefferson County
Jefferson County Courthouse
311 S. Center Avenue, Room 202
Jefferson, WI 53549

Date: Monday, March 6, 2017
Time: 9:30 a.m.

Committee members: Foelker, Matt
Kelly, Mike
Nass, Steve
Payne, Laura
Tietz, Augie

1. **Call to order**
Tietz called the meeting to order at 9:32am
2. **Roll call (establish a quorum)**
Present: Tietz, Nass, Kelly, Payne
Absent: Foelker
Others: Nehmer, Nimm, Hutter, Wiesmann, Wehmeier
3. **Certification of compliance with the Open Meetings Law**
Meeting was posted according to law.
4. **Approval of the agenda**
Agenda approved as written.
5. **Approval of Park Committee minutes for February 6, 2017**
Kelly motioned to approve the minutes. Payne seconded. Motion carries on a 4/0 voice vote.
6. **Communications**
No communications.
7. **Public comment (Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time)**
No Public Comment.
8. **Discussion and Possible Action on Altpeter Park – Town Supervisor, Randall Burdick**
Nehmer – town supervisor Burdick contacted the Parks department last week stating that the town of Sumner was interested in ownership of Altpeter Park. The Park and Recreation Open Space Plan calls for smaller parks to transfer to townships. The town of Sumner Clerk notes that the call to transfer the property was not approved. No discussion, no action.
9. **Discussion and Possible Action on the installation of a controlled dusk to dawn gate at Carnes East and ownership of Jones Lane as it pertains to the Town of Jefferson**
Wiesmann – Ward drafted the resolution for the Town of Jefferson for 3/6/17. The resolution will be approved at another meeting and the process of vacating the right-of-way would be in approximately one month later.
10. **Discussion and Possible Action on entering into a Lease with the WIDNR for Management of the Palmyra Environmental Learning Center**
Nehmer – meeting set up for Parks Committee to tour on 3/21 leaving courthouse at 8:45am.
Tietz – what are the expectations of WIDNR?
Fuller – would like to join the tour
11. **Discussion and Possible Action on Garman Sign Planning and Purchase**
Nehmer – Master Plan calls for interpretative signage (mounds, trails, vegetation, kiosk, etc.). Currently, educational

sessions are held at the preserve and signage is encouraged. Landesign has submitted a proposal for a sign plan @ \$1,700. Private funding is in place for the plan and signage.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Flood Mitigation Properties

Nehmer – Park Staff toured Blackhawk Island. Blackhawk Island and Lamp Road are the most heavily populated area. There are also FMP's spread throughout the County with five more acquisitions scheduled. A call was placed with concerns about people trespassing on private property. In addition, private property is being stored on FMP's, people are parking on them, driving through them, using at ATV tracks, marking as Private Property, throwing brush and trash onto the parcels. Property management is a challenge with current staffing and funding. Parcels do make nice places to picnic and fish. Staff is recommending that the committee, Corporate Counsel and County Administrator tour and then provide staff with guidance on how to manage the properties. Enforcement of management rules will be a challenge.

Wiesmann – observed a large number people and boats along Blackhawk Island Road. Use warrants a plan.

Kelly – questioned the interest/involvement the Town of Sumner. Kelly also suggested the placement of a donation box at the wharf.

Tietz – questioned ownership.

Kelly – questioned if a “club” would help with management and support of the properties.

Tour of Blackhawk Island and/or other Flood Mitigation Properties scheduled for: Wednesday, March 15 @ 8am
Land Info to print large scale map(s) for tour.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Historic Sites Preservation Council

Nehmer – Parks Committee representative shall be appointed to the Historic Sites Preservation Council.

Ward – will review ordinance for appointment procedure. Appointment by County Board Chair.

14. Discussion on Canoecopia

Canoecopia is this coming weekend. Still searching for volunteers to work Sunday.

15. Discussion on the Interurban Trail Project

Tietz – working hard on testing of the piers. Quirk Foundation is holding onto our grant request (\$100,000) for later review. Trailhead plans are finalized and trailhead should be in place soon.

Nehmer – WeEnergies does not allow donor recognition in the WE corridor.

16. Discussion on Event Planning for the Grand Opening of the Rock River Trail

Wiesmann – distributed flyer for event. There will be food, music, information booths.

17. Discussion on Glacial Heritage Area (GHA) –Friends of GHA

Fuller – most recent meeting was cancelled. Next meeting scheduled for week of 3/13/17.

18. Review of Financial Statements (December 2016) and Department Update – Parks Department

Nehmer – working on purchase of a truck and lawnmower.

19. Adjourn

Nass motioned to adjourn at 10:37am. Payne seconded. Motion passes on a 5/0 voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary S. Nimm, Program Assistant