

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

Date: Monday, October 2, 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, Foelker, Kelly, Payne, Nass (@ 9:34am)

Absent: None

Others Present: J. Nehmer, M. Nimm, K. Hutter, K. Wiesmann, B. Wehmeier, B. Ward, M. Watkins, P. Cicero, J. Schroeder (@10.20am)

F. Fuller – Friends of GHA

B. Burlingame – Town of Sumner

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

Wehmeier noted that the meeting was posted and noticed according to law.

**4. Approval of the agenda**

Agenda approved as written.

**5. Approval of Park Committee Minutes for September 11, 2017**

Minutes of September 11, 2017 approved as written. Payne/Foelker 4/0

**6. Communications**

N/A

**7. Public comment (Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time)**

N/A

**8. Discussion and Possible Action on Providing Assistance for the Cambridge Connector Trail – Bob Salov**

Payne – a group has been meeting to discuss options of where the current trail in Cambridge ends and how to connect to it the Glacial Drumlin Trail. Engineer submitted proposal to evaluate potential routes. \$10,000 -\$12,000 needed to fund the report. Group is questioning if Jefferson County has the ability to provide funds toward the report. Payne will bring the request back at a later date.

**9. Discussion and Possible Action on the Placement of Beehives near the Korth Park Community Gardens**

Nehmer – individual request is part of a Scout initiative in the Lake Mills Area.

Kelly – questioned the locations of the gardens at Korth and shared concerns of native pollinators versus honey bees as they relate to the spread of invasive plants.

Nehmer – suggested Laverne Jorgensen from UW- Ex speak about bees.

Burlingame - Jefferson County Bee Club

Nass/Foelker motion to consider with further education. 5/0

**10. Discussion and Possible Action on Farm Bid Package Kemmeter Farm Rental**

Nehmer – noted that the 3-year rental contract term ends this year, and asked the committee if we want to continue to rent the farm. Nehmer also questioned if the advertisement should be distributed with the County Farm contract.

Kelly – noted that he read the contract and the terms look good. Questioned if the request to graze the land had

resurfaced since the initial request.

Tietz – questioned if there is an advantage to combining the two agreements

Watkins – typically offer three-year cycles depending on how the farmer wants to operate the crops.

Nehmer – farm or convert to natural prairie?

Kelly – questioned where the revenue goes.

Kelly/Foelker motion to rebid the Kemmeter Farm concurrently with the County Farm bid package. 5/0

**11. Discussion and Possible Action on the Interurban Trail Project**

Nehmer – David Schroeder, Engineer at Baker-Rullman in Watertown offered to interface with Westbrook Engineering with a goal of saving Jefferson County money. Schroeder and Westbrook have come to an understanding that Westbrook will carry-out tasks 3 & 4 and utilize Baker-Rullman as needed.

**12. Discussion and Possible Action on Garman Nature Preserve Sign Implementation Plan and Vegetative Restoration Plan**

Nehmer – draft resolution, Marc/Ben/Blair – after review, resolution not necessary to accept the funds. The signage work and restoration work can be started with the approx. \$45k available and more funding available in future years.

**13. Discussion and Possible Action on Pohlmann Park Silo**

Nehmer – work has been completed per the proposal.

Ward – initial work estimate \$27,800, work done at \$2,000 – assumption that it is safe after \$2,000 work. Contacted the engineer who completed the work. Requested a safety/engineering certification that the repairs will address the safety concerns. Recommend more time for a response to consider and move forward. Is it safe at this point?

Nass – if safe, could the Historic Sites Committee designate it as a Historic Site?

**14. Discussion on Flood Mitigation Property Management Plan**

Nehmer – Public Officials workshop with approximately 12 people in attendance. Rebecca Kissinger returning on 10/25/2017 @ 6-8pm UW Ex for a public meeting on best management practices. Invites have been distributed who live within 2/10 of a mile from a Flood Mitigation Property as well as a media campaign. Also invited were Town Chair, Supervisor and Clerks for each of the townships. Agenda will be similar to Public Officials meeting. Looking for input to create a plan.

Nass – JC is unique as properties are located in numerous locations through the county. Nass questioned added criteria – contiguous property for management practices.

Burlingame – on/in Koshkonong – to be fair to the neighbors, can the neighbors mow the grasses to keep it like a mowed lawn.

Wiesmann – hope is that this process offers a decision matrix on how to deal with FMP lots.

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

No report at this time.

**16. Review of Financial Statements (August, 2017) and Department Update – Parks Department**

Nehmer – 2017 proceeding as planned. Chipper repair funding in 2017 and chipper under repair.

**17. Discussion on 2018 Parks Department Budget**

Nehmer – Agenda packet page 13, item 17, Capital Items for 2018 are listed in the Capital Budget

**18. Discussion on 2018 Dog Park Calendars**

Nimm noted that with the help of Hutter, Ostopowicz and Hart, the 2018 Dog Park Calendars are printed and ready for distribution. Hutter sought advertisers of \$75 for each month and a one-page \$500 advertiser. Ostopowicz did the design and layout while Hart printed and assembled. Calendars sales support the dog park and are for sale at \$10 each.

**19. Convene in Closed Session Pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(e) Wis. Stats. for Deliberating or Negotiating the Purchase of Public Properties, the Investing of Public Funds, or Conducting Other Specified Public Business, Whenever Competitive or Bargaining Reasons Require a Closed Session for the Purpose of Discussion and Possible Action on Acquiring Land from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation**

10:53am - Nass/Payne motion to convene in closed session – motion passes on a roll-call vote

**20. Reconvene in Open Session for Further Discussion and Possible Action on Items Discussed in Closed Session**

Foelker/Kelly motion to reconvene in open session at 11:03am. 5/0

**21. Adjourn**

Kelly/Foelker motion to adjourn at 11:04am. 5/0

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Mary Nimm, Program Assistant*