

Jefferson County  
Parks Committee Minutes  
Monday, March 04, 2019

Committee members: Tietz, Augie (Chair) Nass, Steve (Vice Chair)  
Morse, Ed (Secretary) Lund, Kirk  
Johns, Jeff

**1. Call to order**

Tietz called the meeting to order at 8:31am

**2. Roll call (establish a quorum)**

Parks Committee members present: Tietz, Morse, Lund, Nass, Johns

Parks Committee members absent: None

Staff in attendance: Joe Nehmer, Mary Truman, Kaela Hutter, JR Klement, Ben Wehmeier, Blair Ward, Brian Udovich

Members of the public present: Walt Christensen

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

County Administrator Ben Wehmeier certified compliance with the Open Meetings Law.

**4. Approval of the agenda**

Agenda approved as written.

**5. Approval of Park Committee Minutes for February 4, 2019**

Nass/Lund motion to approve the February 4, 2019 minutes. Motion passes 5/0.

**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 2019-2020 Outdoor Recreation Aids Grant**

Nehmer – snowmobile grant application to be completed yearly. Grant in aid 190.7 miles worth of trail \$57,xxx. There will also be an application for new trail miles. Revenue is used to put-in and take-out trails, along with maintenance and grooming.

Nass/Tietz motion to approve the 2019-2020 Outdoor Recreation Aids Grant for approval by the County Board at the March County Board meeting. Motion passed 5/0.

**9. Discussion and Possible Action on State HWY 16 Wayside**

Nehmer – as request by the committee, Nehmer asked for comment from WiDNR. DNR Representative unable to join the meeting.

Zangl – maps distributed illustrating the property. Wetlands, not mapped as wetland – will need wetland ID and/or delineation. Floodplain – property falls under floodplain. Any structures/work performed will need conformation of the floodplain ordinance. Work will need to be approved and signed off by engineer. Setbacks – and structures will need to be 75 feet from ordinary high water mark. Piers, docks, boat landings may be acceptable. Expanding the parking lot would need engineer approval, DNR approval. Impervious surfaces will need mitigation. Maintenance and repair are acceptable. Walkways approved after/outside of the 75 feet mark, only 5 feet wide.

Nass - questioned septic permit. County will have to pay to pump waste.

No action taken.

**10. Discussion and Possible Action on Rock River Trail Initiative**

Nehmer – Wehmeier and Nehmer met with Farhnam. Wehmeier will send correspondence to communities along the river encouraging participation.

**11. Discussion on Holzhueter State Park**

Nehmer – draft implementation plan for the park is currently written. Challenge is access to the park. Park acquired with the thought that the driveway was purchased under the fee title. There is a join access agreement, and there is no public access.

Ward – Holzhueter had access to the homestead and other property. The easement cannot be used to allow public to access the land. Question remains on how public will be allowed to access the property.

Larry Holzhueter, Town of Watertloo – met with David Wise. Unfortunate that there is no access. Public is parking on the corner of the road, causing a safety hazard. Concerned about traffic and road parking.

No action taken.

**12. Discussion on Innovation Square as a Component of Wisconsin Farm Technology Days**

Nehmer – Farm Tech Days will be July 23-25, 2019. Innovation Square will have an Outdoor Recreation emphasis.

No action taken.

**13. Discussion on Increased Involvement with Facilities Maintenance**

Nehmer – the Parks Field Crew is experiencing challenges with time management and winter maintenance – the staff maintains all grounds, with exception of sheriff's shooting range. This is very time consuming. Trying to find a balance between parks maintenance and grounds maintenance.

No action taken.

**14. Discussion on Canoecopia, 2019**

Truman – informed the committee that Canoecopia is March 8, 9, & 10, 2019 @ the Alliant Energy Center.

Volunteers have offered their time and will staff the event.

No action taken.

**15. Discussion on Wisconsin Department of Transportation TAP Grant Request for Proposals Engineering Design Services Interurban Trail Segment II**

Nehmer – stated that the department received \$1.25m grant to build the interurban trail, Phase II.

Udovich – noted that a RFQ had been sent out 12 design engineering firms and 11 responses were received. Nine proposals are currently under evaluation. The selection team will short-list the proposals for further review and then interview 3-5 firms. A firm will be selected as the most qualified firm. State and Federal funds have additional requirements that must be met, adding time to the project. There are wetlands, environmental concerns, agricultural concerns, cattle crossings, etc.

No action taken.

**16. Discussion on Cambridge Connector Trail**

Nehmer – stated that Jefferson County is partnering with the Village of Cambridge. The project received a \$209,000 grant. The proposed trail will be crossing Highway 134, run north of Highway 12, pass through a subdivision (separated grade trail) past the winery, near the distillery to land owned by the Cambridge Community Foundation, to town road and low-volume road to connect to the Glacial Drumlin.

No action taken.

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

No report.

**18. Discussion on 2018/2019 Parks Department Budget**

Nehmer – 2018 is not yet final. Overspent on the Interurban bridge.

**19. Adjourn**

Nass/Lund motion to adjourn at 10:03 am. Motion passed 5/0.

*Minutes prepared by:  
Mary Truman  
Program Assistant  
Jefferson County Parks*