

Jefferson County
Parks Committee Minutes
Monday, May 6, 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 8:33 am.

2. Roll call (establish a quorum)

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

Parks Committee members absent: None

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

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 April 1, 2019

Nass/Johns motion to approve the minutes for April 1, 2019. Motion passes 5/0.

6. Communications

Nehmer – included these communications: note from Gramley regarding the land donation to Indian Mounds Park, the grass fire at Dorothy Carnes Park south, and the note in the most recent SCORP regarding Jefferson County's healthy parks designation

Morse – report on behalf of Historic Sites Commission

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 Bingham Road Boat Launch and Parking Lot – Partnership Opportunity – Walt Christensen

Christensen – the Rock Koshkonong Lake District would like to expand and improve the Bingham road boat launch. Looking for support, and possibly funding from the Jefferson County Parks department. The project is still under design. In general, it will provide two boat launches, pier, breaker rock, and a parking area/turn around. Benefits: additional access for emergency services, improved lake access for motorized boat use. Conflicts: joint/overall management.

Nehmer – water depth is low in the other access areas and do not offer deep enough access.

No action taken

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Stewardship Grant Application for Repair of the Glacial River Trail

Nehmer – request for 50% match from Wisconsin DNR for repair of the Glacial River Trail. Estimated repairs costs are approximately \$30,000. Attempts to have WisDOT to repair and or contribute to the repair costs have failed.

Nass/Lund motion to accept submittal of the Stewardship Grant Application to repair the Glacial River Trail. Motion passes 5/0.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Stewardship Grant Application for Handicapped Accessible Trail to Rose Lake

Nehmer – noted a desire to pave the trail to Rose Lake from the parking lot for those who are less capable.

Nass/Johns motion to accept submittal of the Stewardship Grant Application to pave the trail to Rose Lake. Motion passes 5/0.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Ordinance to Prohibit Fishing from Bridges over the Rock River on the Interurban Trail

Nehmer – with the anticipated traffic across the trail bridges and overhead power lines, it is desirable to prohibit fishing from the bridge(s) and the bridge underpass/side accesses.

Morse/Nass motion to prohibit fishing from the bridges and prohibit fishing access from the bridges on the Interurban Trail.

Motion passes 5/0.

12. **Discussion on Cash/Donation Box thefts**
Wiesmann – cash boxes in several of the parks have been cut into. WIDNR, the City of Jefferson have also had donation boxes cut into.
No action taken.
13. **Discussion on Farm Technology Days, July 23-July 25, 2019**
Nehmer – Parks has been assisting with Innovation Square, a space designed to feature Outdoor Recreation Meets Small Town Living. Parks will have an information table in Innovation Square during Farm Tech Days.
No action taken.
14. **Discussion on Brew with a View**
Nehmer – four event dates for the summer of 2019, with the first event to start on the last Thursday evening of May.
No action taken.
15. **Discussion on Lure Coursing**
Nehmer – Lure Coursing event was May 4 & May 5.
No action taken.
16. **Discussion on Drone Use in County Parks**
Nehmer – there was an exercise event at Korth Park, in small area by the gate. Wisconsin State Patrol, Dane County Emergency Management, Capital Police, & Wisconsin DNR. Neighbors expressed concerns about privacy as they relate to drones in general through the park.
No action taken.
17. **Discussion on Rock River Landing**
Nehmer – first joint City/County Park at the former Highway Department. Focus group formed to offer input and provide commentary on park design.
Wehmeier – finalizing scope of the project. Three phases, clean-up/rough grading, construction of new street, and park grounds construction.
Monday, June 17 joint City/County meeting at City Hall.
18. **Discussion on Hiring Seasonal, Part-time, and Temporary Parks Department Employees**
Wiesmann – getting applicants to apply has been challenging.
19. **Discussion on Holzhueter State Park**
Nehmer – nothing new to report at this time.
20. **Discussion on completion of Segment I of the Interurban Trail**
Nehmer – waiting for DNR Permit to rock the east abutment to the new bridge. County Highway Department will complete the last section of Segment I, from the bridge to River Road.
No action taken.
21. **Discussion on Wisconsin Department of Transportation TAP Grant Request for Proposals for Engineering Design Services Interurban Trail Segment II**
Nehmer – scheduled interviews with four (of nine) firms for May 15, 2019.
22. **Discussion on Glacial Heritage Area (GHA) –Friends of GHA**
Fuller – participating in Farm Technology Days, helping to publicize BWAV's, looking for a paddle location, talking about a Bio Blitz (hoping to track species information), as well as a series of speaker presentations at the Fort Atkinson Club.
23. **Discussion on 2019 Parks Department Budget**
Nehmer – no news to report.
Wiesmann – truck trailer mower replacements.
24. **Discussion on Parks Tour**
Tentative – Monday, July 8 @ 8:30 am

25. **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 accepting offer to lease Flood Mitigation Property for Private Use**

Nass/Morse motion to convene in closed session at 9:50 am. Motion passes 5/0.

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

Staff present: Nehmer, Ward, Wehmeier, Wiesmann, Truman

Others present: Christensen

26. **Reconvene in open session for discussion and possible action on leasing Flood Mitigation Property for Private Use**

Parks Committee members present: Nass/Lund motion to reconvene at 10:14am. Motion passes 5/0.

27. **Adjourn**

Johns/Lund motion to adjourn at 10:15am. Motion passes 5/0.

Minutes prepared by:

Mary Truman

Program Assistant

Jefferson County Parks