

PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Monday, December 7, 2020 @ 9:00 a.m.
Jefferson County Courthouse, Room 205 and virtual via zoom.us/952 7284 4210

1. Call to order

Johns called the meeting to order at 9:02

2. Roll call (establish a quorum)

Present: Johns, Smith, David, Kelly

Absent: Tietz

Staff Present: Kevin Wiesmann Parks Supervisor, Mary Truman Parks Program Assistant, Benjamin Wehmeier County Administrator, Blair Ward Corporation Counsel

3. Certification of compliance with the Open Meetings Law

Wehmeier confirmed compliance.

4. Approval of the agenda

Smith requested switching agenda items 8 & 9

5. Approval of Park Committee Minutes for November 2, 2020

David/Kelly motion to approve the minutes. Motion passes 4/0.

6. Communications

Wiesmann noted the article/Letter to the Editor in the Jefferson County Daily Union regarding a staff (Pat Heffron) retirement.

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 Kemmeter Farm Lease

Wiesmann – stated that the department received a single bid @ \$310/acre – did not specify crop, open to farming either corn or soybeans for 2021. He also noted that restoration notes and maps were included in agenda packet.

It was noted that the workplan had this property farmed for an additional 3 years (2021, 2022, 2023)

It was also stated that there should be an update DCP master plan to include improvements for the site. Leasing the property for farming provided an income source for improvements.

A quote for a boardwalk at the north end of the property to make the connection from Carnes West north is also in the packet.

Requesting the committee continue farming for an additional three years so that the department can plan appropriately

Smith – consider growing sunflowers?

Wiesmann – site prep – farming helps control weeds with corn/bean production and leads to a successful restoration

David – agricultural buffer in place to protect the rose lake/wetland area?

Kelly - possible to put in a buffer yet for next year?

Johns/Smith – motion to forward lease to county board for approval with an extension of 2-year lease. Motion passes 4/0.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Live Viewing Cameras of Rose Lake at Dorothy Carnes Park

Justin Clarke – Madison Audubon, small security company Dallas, TX – broadband connection necessary – point-to-point connection, may also go cellular, solar is possible for power (larger battery bank = more power)

Johns – will need to prepare a budget prior to moving forward

Smith – would like sponsors to “pay for and provide an alternative revenue source”

No action taken.

10. Discussion on Replacement Tree at Korth Park

Wiesmann – neighbor to Korth Park cut down a park tree, and placed construction materials on park property. Working with the neighbor to resolve the issue with a “like” species of fair value in early spring to replace the tree.

No action taken.

11. Discussion on Glacial Heritage Area (GHA) – Friends of GHA Activity Update

Fuller - applied for two trips with the National Resource Foundation – both accepted (dates will be: 5/22 & 10/8).

12. Discussion on 2020 Parks Department Budget

Wiesmann – stated that the budget on target

Truman – two grants closed out and reimbursement should be soon

13. **Adjourn**

Johns/Kelly motion to adjourn at 9:49am. Motion passes 4/0.

14. **Next scheduled meeting:** January 4, 2021

Minutes prepared by: Mary Truman

Program Assistant

Jefferson County Parks