

Parks Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, November 1, 2021

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Jefferson County Courthouse, Room 202 and virtual via

<https://zoom.us/j/99587095043?pwd=VW96SVhDVUxLdm9DV0VXQ3UvckpPdZ09>

1. **Call to order**

Johns called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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

Present: Jeff Johns, Jeff Smith (via ZOOM), Walt Christensen, Mike Kelly (9:05 am)

Absent: Greg David

Staff Present: Ben Wehmeier, Kevin Weismann, Mary Truman, JR Klement, Kelley Westphal, Whitney DeVoe, Brian Udovich (via ZOOM)

Other's Present: Frankie Fuller (via ZOOM)

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

Wehmeier confirmed compliance

4. **Approval of the agenda**

Christensen/Smith motion to approve the agenda. Motion passes 3/0.

5. **Approval of Park Committee Minutes for October 4, 2021**

Christensen/Smith motion to approve the minutes. Motion passes 3/0.

6. **Communications**

New FB page – many positive interactions

Jeff Mason – fundraiser for barn @ Carnes East

Plat for subdivision adjacent to Garman Nature Preserve in Waterloo – buffer strip

Historic Sites Preservation Commission - working on web update, historic sites

7. **Discussion and Possible action on Interurban Bike Trail Construction Administration Proposal**

Wiesmann – page 5 in packet, KL Engineering, contract for construction administration/oversight, TAP funding requirements for administration and reporting. Staff recommends extending contract terms for management and construction oversight, and recommends seeking County Board approval in November, 2021.

Christensen/Kelly approve contact as presented. Motion passes 4/0.

8. **Discussion and Update on the Interurban Trail Project (WiDOT)**

Wiesmann – 85% construction plans for DOT approval. Goal is to be ready by January, 2022 DOT approval.

Wiesmann/Udovich met with the Town of Watertown – board members were supportive with positive interactions.

No action taken.

9. **Discussion and Update on Upper Rock Lake Mountain Bike Trail(s) Project**

Johns – volunteer group working on the trails

Wiesmann – county surveyor double checked park boundaries to ensure the project is within the property boundaries.

Trek World Headquarters – trail manager – traded chainsaw training/trails building training – great partnership/relationship.

No action taken.

10. **Discussion and Possible Action on Flood Mitigation Property Lease Application draft and Phase I lease properties (design lease and provide maps for review)**
Draft letter included for committee review
Christensen – 2 & 3 principal interests of ours, move those ahead of mowing in the order of the draft letter.
Questioned camping types/terms.
Wiesmann – this is simply a notification letter to landowners, there will be an individual contract for each parcel.
Johns – would like to set lease terms at no more than one year.
Wehmeier/Ward – ***draft resolution to give Parks Committee authorization to set policy for the vacant parcels. Review at December meeting.***
Wiesmann – would like to seek public comment prior to formalizing procedure/policy. Direct mailer to all neighboring property owners.
Johns/Kelly motion to approve as stated (***see above - draft resolution to give Parks Committee authorization to set policy for the vacant parcels. Review at December meeting***). Motion passes 4/0.
11. **Discussion and Update on County Conservation Aids Grant Award CC22-28WH**
Wiesmann – obtained a cash match from Friends of Rose Lake to maximize the grant funds for the project.
No Action Taken.
12. **Discussion and Update on Jefferson County Recognized with Gold Star in Community Health**
Wiesmann – working with local partners, two of the nine parks initiatives were listed in the applications as initiatives that tie into the overall County Community Health and Recreation.
Wehmeier – would like to do a recognition at the County Board meeting.
Christensen/Johns – motion to place on the next county board agenda recognizing Jefferson County’s health designation. Motion passes 4/0.
13. **2021 Budget Report**
Wiesmann – budget on track, end of season staffing, prepping parks for winter.
No Action Taken.
14. **Adjourn**
Next meeting – 12/6/2021
Johns/Christensen motion to adjourn at 10:03 am.
Motion passes 4/0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary S. Truman
Jefferson County Parks