

Jefferson County Parks Committee Minutes

Date: Thursday, February 9, 2023

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Room: Jefferson County Highway Department Committee Room

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81764690750?pwd=TG9nUERZcnNRRRVoeHp5eHVZMlV1dz09>

1. **Call to order**

Christensen called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

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

Present: Christensen, Gulig, Johns

Remote: Callan, Richardson (9:10 am)

Staff Present: Wiesmann (remote), Truman, Klement, Westphal, Ward (remote), Udovich (remote)

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

Wiesmann confirmed compliance

4. **Approval of the agenda**

Agenda approved as written

5. **Approval of Parks Committee Minutes for January 5, 2023**

Gulig/Johns motion to approve the Minutes for January 5, 2023. Motion passes 4/0.

6. **Communications**

Wiesmann

- Minutes from the Friends of Rose Lake meeting are included
- Letter to Parks Director – re: expressing dislike for dogs running off-leash in county parks

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 Outdoor Recreation Aids Grant to Fund Snowmobile Trail Maintenance Program**

Wiesmann – noted this is an annual Resolution Authorizing the Parks Department to apply for funding for maintenance of the county snowmobile trails.

Gulig/Johns motion to pass the resolution. Motion passes 4/0.

9. **Discussion and Possible Action on Electric Bike Use Ordinance on Jefferson County Bike Paths**

Wiesmann

- Page 10: draft policy, highlighted in yellow are the modifications/additions
- Added 1B Fat Bikes – where posted and allowed, added fat bike definitions
- Added Sec 2c – passing warning verbal/bells/horns, etc.
- Added Sec 3 – definitions – electric bicycle “as defined by Wisconsin Statute”

Johns – 1d – fat tire bikes on groomed ski trails?

Wiesmann – limited window of time when the winter ski/bike trails are open. Staff recently installed new signs along the cross-country ski trails. The signs clearly identify how walkers/bikers/skiers are to use the trails.

Next steps – this document shall be converted to a resolution and go forth to the County Board for approval in March, 2023, replacing Parks Ordinance Sec. 8.09

No action taken.

10. **Discussion and Possible Action on Treatment of Spongy Moths at Indian Mounds County Park**

Wiesmann – large population of the spongy moth in fall 2022, will defoliate entire stands of trees and damage the trees, exploring options on how to control in cost effective and time effective manner, DiPel Biological Insecticide (fungus = foliar spray), caterpillars ingest and “explode”. Have spoken to the neighbors, plan is to potentially spray with drones as caterpillars emerge, of note this treatment is not exclusive to only this caterpillar. Could do systemic insecticide (time consuming and costly – approximately 10-12-acre park), treatment will be conducted from the tree tops down using drones. Estimated at approximately \$200/acre, plan to treat approximately 5 acres – treatment will be ‘exactly’ where the population exists (egg masses visual). Staff will monitor growth cycle of the moth and treat as necessary.

Johns – how do drones logistically spray large tree stands at both tree tops and lower branches?

Gulig/Johns motion to endorse the treatment for spongy moth infestations as explained by Wiesmann during today’s meeting as needed throughout the county park system. Motion passes 5/0.

11. **Discussion on Interurban Trail Phase II**

Wiesmann – No updates. Waiting to close-out the project after punch list review in May/June 2023.

Udovich – apply for an “award” for the project

No action taken.

12. **Discussion on Interurban Trail Phase III**

Wiesmann – moving forward with PIM, Thursday, March 2, 2023 Town of Ixonia Town Hall (Ixonia State Bank). Letters will be mailed this week to adjoining property owners and stakeholders.

Udovich – in process of getting WisDOT project ID.

No action taken.

13. **Discussion on 2022 Budget**

Wiesmann

- Working with finance on 2022 carry-forwards
- 2022 closed-out under budget

14. **Discussion on 2023 Budget**

Klement – Capital Items:

- Purchased three super duty trucks as part of the fleet program.
Anticipated delivery – Aug/Sept
- New skid loader on order
- Zero-turn mower on order
- 2022 chipper
Anticipated delivery - 2023

15. **Historic Sites Commission Update(s)**

Gulig:

- working on potential intern to help with data collection and story map creation.
- Mode announced upcoming resignation

Callan:

- Refining application process
- Developing a scoring method for application review

16. **Discussion on agenda items for the next meeting**

Spongy Moth

Bike Policy Resolution

17. Next Scheduled Meetings per the 2023 Proposed Meeting Schedule

- March 2, 2023
- April 6, 2023
- May 4, 2023
- June 1, 2023
- July 6, 2023
- August 3, 2023
- September 7, 2023

18. Adjourn

Gulig/Johns motion to adjourn at 9:48 am. Motion passes 5/0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary S. Truman

Adv. Program Assistant, Parks