

Jefferson County Parks Committee Minutes

Date: Thursday, November 2, 2023

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Room: Jefferson County Highway Department Committee Room

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81764690750?pwd=TG9nUERZcnNRRVRoeHp5eHVZMVV1dz09>

1. Call to order

Christensen called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

2. Roll call (establish a quorum)

Present: Callan, Christensen, Gulig, Johns, Richardson (Remote)

Remote:

Absent:

Staff: Wiesmann, Truman, Toro, Westphal, Wehmeier, Luckey, Thompson

3. Certification of compliance with the Open Meetings Law

Wehmeier certified compliance.

4. Approval of the agenda

Agenda approved as written.

5. Approval of minutes from the October 5 2023 meeting

Gulig/Johns motion to approve the October meeting minutes. Motion passes 5/0.

6. Communications

Johns announced that this is his last Parks Committee meeting and he will no longer serve on the County Board.

Wiesmann stated that the packet included:

- a photo of students performing volunteer work at Carnes Park
- a letter from former (seasonal) staff thanking the department for her experiences
- an article about the top 50 dog parks in the US that highlights the Jefferson County Dog Park as the number 1 dog park in Wisconsin
- a memorial for Mrs. Theo Garman is scheduled Saturday, November 4, 2023 at the Waterloo Regional Trailhead followed by a hike at Garman Nature Preserve
- Staff installed a bike trail counter @ Farmco Lane Glacial River Trail – counts included. Data provided from the counter will be helpful moving forward.

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 Dog Park Fence RFP

Wiesmann noted that the department received bids for an 812' (long) section of 6' (high) fence and a new 4' gate. Deer were accessing the park over this section, creating extra staff time to mitigate the situation and extra time with park section closures in this area of the park (Area 2). Five bids were received. The winning bid was awarded to Century Fence, Pewaukee and was lower than anticipated @ \$23,280. The original fencing was repurposed fencing from other parks/areas.

Gulig/Johns motion to accept the bid from Century Fence. Motion carries 5/0.

9. Discussion and Update on Interurban Trail Project

Wiesmann met with The Wanasek Corp regarding replacement of the culvert in Phase III. The culvert replacement is scheduled the week of 11/2/2023. Wiesmann also noted that Phase III bridge final design and bid documents are anticipated to be ready January/February 2024.

10. Field Staff Update – Klement

No staff report

11. Admin Staff Update – Truman

Truman noted that she has been working on the content/design for the new website and the site is expected to go live in the next few weeks.

12. Natural Resources and Forestry Update – Toro

Toro noted the following:

- transitioning between summer/fall/winter
- Garman Nature Preserve treatment of invasives: buckthorn, honeysuckle, burning bush
- Carlin Weld Prairie and woodland spraying in September
- Carnes East/West – herbicide application
- Carnes North – prairie planting is progressing nicely, will need future monitoring
- Korth – herbicide application 2-acre memorial site
- And, removal of various dead ash trees amongst all parks in the park system

13. Park Shelter Rentals, Dog Tags, Boat Launch, and Special Use Agreements – Westphal

Westphal stated that there are no updates.

Dog park tags continue to arrive for 2023.

Shelters are done for 2023. Camping continues.

Frosty Rock Run @ Carnes Park in November.

14. Historic Sites: Update

Truman noted that there will be a number of action items at the Council's December meeting.

15. Discussion on Parks September 2023 Budget

Wiesmann stated that the department budget is on track, however a few line items are higher than expected (inflation).

16. Discussion on Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

No requested items.

17. Next Scheduled Meetings per the 2023 Proposed Meeting Schedule

- December 7, 2023
- January 4, 2024
- February 8, 2024 (First Thursday is WPRA Annual Conference)

18. Adjourn

Gulig/Callan 5/0 motion to adjourn at 9:36 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary S. Truman

Adv. Program Assistant