

Parks Committee Minutes

Thursday, July 24, 2025

Time: 10:30 am

Courthouse Room C1021

311 South Center Ave.

Jefferson, WI 53549

Committee Members: Joan Callan, Walt Christensen, Anthony Gulig, Cassie Richardson, Meg Turville-Heitz

Microsoft Teams Video Conference link below:

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Meeting ID: 216 816 092 968

Passcode: Gb6v43Yb

1. Call to order

Christensen called the meeting to order at 10:30AM

2. Roll call (establish a quorum)

Present: Callan, Christensen, Gulig, Turville-Heitz, Richardson (remote)

Absent:

Staff Present: Wiesmann, Truman, Klement, Westphal, Luckey, Thompson, Hameau, Stolar (remote)

Others: Wallace Sherlock – Hearty Gardens, Julia Ince – Hearty Gardens, Kelsey Clark – Hearty Gardens.

3. Certification of compliance with the Open Meetings Law

Luckey certified compliance.

4. Approval of the agenda

Agenda approved as written.

5. Approval of Parks Committee Minutes for June 26, 2025

Gulig/Callan motion to approve the Parks Committee minutes of June 26, 2025.

Motion passes 5/0 vote.

6. Communications

Wiesmann noted that the following information is included in the packet:

- Thank you from the ADRC noting that the Caregiver Picnic at Dorothy Carnes Park was a success – “the weather was perfect and as usual the grounds were pristine.”
- Anonymous donation for lunch with training

7. Public Comment (Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time)

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Community Gardens at Dorothy Carnes Park

Wiesmann noted that those in attendance speaking on behalf of the gardens should state name prior to speaking and that there is a gardens member who has stepped forward to help with management.

Julia Ince, gardener – recognizes the need to keep line of communication open with the gardeners; she appreciates the gardens and their significance; shows support for Chad, Kelsey, and Jim.

Kelsey Clark, gardener – joined Chad & Jim to take over gardens management. Action plan has been created and shared with the Parks Department.

Wallace Sherlock, gardener – expressing importance of the gardens and desire to keep the gardens available.

Gulig – noted that this is an excellent example of the communications between the residents and the department.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on enforcement of Flood Mitigation Property Non-Compliant Uses

Wiesmann – interest to move forward with progressive action towards those who are non-compliant.

Thompson – prior violations have been mailed a letter requesting voluntary compliance mailed first then noted options for moving

forward to include a citation and filing for forfeiture along with other processes. Each is somewhat time consuming, and may be costly. She recommend taking action on a case by case basis based on violation.

Turville-Heitz – stated her support of taking action.

Wiesmann – stated that there are numerous violations at this time.

Hameau – questioned which County Department will maintain future responsibility of the Flood Mitigation properties. She also noted that since the property has been surveyed and marked, perhaps a public notice shall be posted with information about property compliance, regulations, and discipline for failure to comply.

Elsner – state that Zoning could partner with the Parks Department on properties that have both zoning and trespassing violations.

Christensen – asked if perhaps another department could assist with management.

Thompson – stated that currently, the county board has, by Ordinance, assigned the rules of the Parks Department and management of the FMP property violations are Parks Department related.

Klement – questioning future budgets and funding.

Luckey – noted that a comprehensive flood mitigation plan is in the strategic plan and finance committee could include a line item in future budgets.

Gulig/Callan motion to give Parks Director direction to issue citations noting deadline for action, if refusal to comply, the Parks Department Director has direction to file action against the property owner, citations to be served by a law enforcement officer. Motion passes 4/0.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on 2026 County Conservation Aid Grant Resolution and Grant Application

Wiesmann – County Conservation Aids program is an annual grant program through the WIDNR. The proposed project outlined us for Carlin Weld County Park and that expenses will be over and above reimbursement.

Turville-Heitz/Gulig motion to approve the grant submission. Motion passes 4/0.

11. Update on Dorothy Carnes Park 25 Year Celebration Event

Weismann – this is an August 19, 2025 event sponsored by Friends of Rose Lake. Light refreshments will be available and there will be music in the background.

12. Discussion on Parks 2025 Budget

Wiesmann – still on track for 2025.

13. Discussion on Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

FMP violation process

Invasive species management – i.e. golden oyster mushrooms

Staff updates

Interurban Trail Updates

14. Next Scheduled Meetings per the 2025 Proposed Meeting Schedule (4th Thursday, Monthly)

- July 24, 2025 - Regular Committee Meeting
- July 24, 2025 - Brew with A View
- August 19, 2025 - Dorothy Carnes Park 25 Year Celebration
- August 21, 2025 - Brew with a View
- August 28, 2025 - Regular Committee Meeting
- September 6, 2025 – Light Up the Night Bike Ride

15. Adjourn

Gulig/Turville-Heitz motion to adjourn at 11:25AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary S Truman – Adv Program Assist., Parks