

JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
320 SOUTH MAIN ST, JEFFERSON WI 53549
ROOM 112
March 4, 2008 @ 8:30 a.m.

Committee: Glen Borland-Chairman, Paul Babcock, Amy Kramer, Rick Kuhlman, John Molinaro

1. Call the Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Borland at 8:35a.m.

2. Committee members present included: Chairman Borland, Babcock, Kramer, Kuhlman, Molinaro. Others present were: Nehmer, Ristow, Petre, Schmeling, Sumpter, Stanger, Milbrath, Hoeft, Koenig, Eberhardt, Raub, Orcutt, Cicero, Perkins, Henn, Miller, Plotz, Kelly, David, Gonzales
3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law – In Compliance
4. Approval of the Agenda – Approved
5. Minutes of the February 5, 2007 meeting

Motion to approve February 5, 2008 minutes. Kuhlman/Babcock, carried 5-0

6. Public Comment – None
7. Korth Park Shelter Project, Cedar Lane Residents – Jim Plotz

Plotz, representing his neighbors on Cedar Lane commented on the location of the Korth Shelter being built and how they feel it will disrupt their subdivisions standard of living and quality of life with noise and activities the shelter would bring into the park. Asked why Jefferson County is building the shelter there. Chairman Borland stated the shelter has always been in the Master Plan which had county resident input at various meetings and the Master Plan was created from public input as to where the location of the shelter would be.

8. Korth Park Shelter bid opening results and potential recommendations to County Board

Hoeft presented a tally sheet of the contractors and their bids in each of the categories and bid amounts. After discussion Koenig commented that the numbers on the bids all look really good.

Motion to accept all the low bids as designated on this bid sheet including optional for sewer lateral, utilities and well, and approve all the bids other than optional concrete work and finishing. Molinaro/Kuhlman, carried 5-0

9. Osprey nest platform at Korth Park – Mike Orcutt

Nehmer introduced Patricia Cicero, Land & Water Conservation Department and Mike Orcutt from the Rock Lake Committee who are asking the permission of the Parks Committee to establish an Osprey Platform in Korth Park. The Committee is in agreement with putting an Osprey Platform up and asked that they come back to the committee with specifics.

10. Discussion and possible action on Korth Park large Ash Tree

Hoelt reported on the large Ash Tree adjacent to where the new Korth Shelter is being constructed. Hoelt showed drawings where the original placement of the shelter was determined and the thought was the Ash Tree is going to be too close to the shelter. A discussion of whether to relocate the shelter or cut down the Ash Tree, and what impact the moving of the shelter would have. Nehmer explained at the time of the initial plan two landscape architects were hired and it was decided the best location of the shelter was at the location of drawing #1, which is the original placement.

Motion to leave the location of the shelter where it is and cut the Ash Tree down and replace it with many beautiful trees. Kuhlman/Babcock, lost, 2 ayes and 3 noes, Kramer, Molinaro, Borland

11. Discussion on ATC Power Line near Rock Lake County Park

Andy Eberhardt, Real Estate Department from ATC, introduced Charles Gonzales, Local Relations, and Terry Henn who is the Project Manager for the Jefferson County project. Eberhardt explained where the two poles will go and discussed the possibility of tree and brush removal in the area of the power lines and poles. Miller, a resident of the area asked what exactly do they mean regarding the cleared area and if they would be clearing into the park and what kind of a recourse will there be. Eberhardt stated there will more than likely be instances where either side trimming of trees, removal and over hang will be determined once they have dimensions of what the easements would look like on the park property they will be able to come out with their maintenance staff and determine which trees need to be removed or side trimmed. That is all taken into consideration prior to acquiring the easement so at that time if we find trees that will have to be removed that is something we will discuss with the Parks Department. Replacement trees may be provided to plant in the park for trees that have to come down. The Compensation from ATC to a landowner for an easement takes into account the value of the property and trees are part of the property appraisal. Eberhardt stated the area was staked a few months ago and he could take the parks staff out and view the area. The committee suggested as ATC progresses with the project to work with the Parks Department and in turn will report to the Parks Committee.

12. Law Enforcement County Parks (Sheriff Milbrath – Captain Brown)

Milbrath reported he spoke to the JCEC's and they will be helping patrol the parks and he is getting the scheduling together. Reported he is looking into ways of increasing extra patrol and is working on that.

13. Request to transfer \$50,000 recreation improvements designated reserve money in 2008 budget to Parks Department budget.

Nehmer reported on the request to transfer \$50,000 for recreational improvements has already been through the Finance Committee and approved. He has a resolution drafted to go to the County Board for approval. A packet was prepared for members to look at to see what is included in the improvements for the parks.

Motion to recommend the transfer of funds to the County Board. Kuhlman/Babcock, carried 5-0

14. Update and possible decision on Bike Plan

Nehmer updated the committee on funds donated to the updating of the Jefferson County Bike and Pedestrian Plan. Nehmer introduced John Raub, from the Jefferson County Bike Club who is also an employee of Trek Bicycle and has been a strong advocate of biking in the area. Raub stated that once the plan is in place they can go after grants, not just from county or state funds but from private grants as well.

Motion to proceed with the updated bike plan to the limit of \$43,000 or of total donations that may come in. Molinaro/Kuhlman, carried 5-0

15. Discussion and possible decision on Hearty Gardens expansion – Chad Dallman

Dallman reported his staff has expanded the gardens and have used up all the fenced in area. He stated he didn't feel expanding further was a good idea until the Master Plan is completed for the Mason Farm. Nehmer commented on looking into establishing gardens in some of the other parks around the county, feeling the key is to have the gardens where people live.

16. Discussion on 2007 Wisconsin Act 44

Imposes fees for acquiring public park land, dedicating storm water treatment facilities to the public, changing the time relating to when impact fees must be paid and used, regulating the costs of certain professional services provided through a political subdivision.

Ristow gave a brief summary of Act 44 and the impact it has on the county and if it would be feasible for our county to look further into this as how it would affect our county.

17. Discuss current park projects and operations

Dallman reported snow removal was still the big precedence the past couple of weeks, and they are doing park maintenance as well and grooming of the ski trails. He stated he is still working on the Carol Liddle Plaque and will have it installed in the shelter by Memorial Day weekend. Hoef reported he has been working primarily on development projects, Korth Park Shelter bids were being worked on and completed. Regarding the Dog Park he is in the process of preparing letting contracts for the service building, wells, pumps and will have the paper work out shortly. Highway Department did the first phase of gravel. He has the forestry work done with some major tree work to do along the fence line on the north side of the property. Also he is working on bike trail expansion and working on a plan to do forestry and trail installation at Garman. At Indian Mounds there are still 2 Indian Mounds to be cleared and forestry will be done weather pending.

18. Glacial Heritage Area Update

Nehmer reported he and Molinaro attended a Glacial Heritage Area meeting last week in Waterloo and the meeting was well attended, 25 or 26 members of the external advisory team were there and had good discussions. The concept of connecting Cambridge with the DNR's Glacial Drumlin Trail is a first leg of what you might see through the Glacial Heritage Area.

19. Correspondence

20. Stanger reported the Parks Department received a \$100 donation for the Hearty Gardens for tools and equipment and a letter with a \$70.00 donation and offer to do volunteer work at the Dog Park. CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO S19.85(1)(E), STATUTES, for the purpose of deliberation or negotiating the purchasing of public properties

a. Roll Call – Chairman Borland, Babcock, Kuhlman, Kramer, Molinaro
Others present: Nehmer, Schmeling, Stanger, Hoeft, Dallman

Motion to enter into closed session at 11:15 a.m. Kuhlman/Molinaro, carried 5-0

b. To confer with legal Counsel for the purpose of deliberation or negotiating the purchase public properties

Motion to reconvene into open session at 11:45 a.m. Molinaro/Kramer, carried 5-0

21. Reconvene in opensession

22. Set tentative next meeting date/time: April 1, 2008, 8:30 a.m. – Room 202

23. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 11:47 a.m. Kuhlman/Kramer, carried 5-0