

Parks Committee Agenda

Date: Thursday, July 23, 2026

Time: 10:30 am

Jefferson County Courthouse

311 South Center Ave., Room C1021

Jefferson, WI 53549

Committee Members: Joan Callan, Walt Christensen, Anthony Gulig, Kirk Lund, Meg Turville-Heitz

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/283062482090246?p=6qxIFOqmHL1pNMYL95>

Meeting ID: 283 062 482 090 246

Passcode: gx996dZ3

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call (establish a quorum)
3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Approval of Parks Committee Minutes for June 25, 2026
6. Communications
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 Special Use Permit to host Pilates Class at Korth Park
9. Discussion and Possible Action on Special Use Permit to host Run Event on Interurban Bike Trail as part of a Fundraiser for Silver Circle Sports Events
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Resolution Authorizing Grant Application to the Wisconsin DNR Surface Water Grant Program for Shoreline Protection work at the Blackhawk Island Fishing Wharf
11. Update on Jefferson County Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan
12. Update on Interurban Bike Trail
13. Discussion on Parks 2026 Budget
14. Field Staff Updates
15. Administrative Staff Updates
16. Historic Sites Council Update
17. Discussion on agenda items for the next meeting
18. Next Scheduled Meetings per the 2026 Proposed Meeting Schedule (4th Thursday, Monthly)
 - July 23, 2026 (Brew with a View)
 - August 27th, 2026 (Park Tour)
 - August 27th, 2026 (Brew with a View)
 - September 24th, 2026
19. Adjourn

A Quorum of any Jefferson County Committee, Board, Commission or other body, including the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors, may be present at this meeting.

Individuals requiring special accommodation for attendance at this meeting should contact the County Administrator 24 hours prior to the meeting at 920-674-7101 so appropriate arrangements can be made.

Parks Committee Minutes

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2026

Time: 10:30 am

Jefferson County Courthouse

311 South Center Ave., Room C1021

Jefferson, WI 53549

Committee Members: Joan Callan, Walt Christensen, Anthony Gulig, Kirk Lund, Meg Turville-Heitz

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Meeting ID: 283 062 482 090 246

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1. Call to Order

Christiansen called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

2. Roll Call (establish a quorum)

Members Present: Callan, Christensen, Turville-Heitz, Lund

Members Absent: Gulig

Staff Present: Wiesmann, Truman, Thompson, Luckey, Stolar (Remote), Zarwell (Remote)

Others: Mabel Schumacher – Terri Tinsley Memorial Sign, Perry Tinsley – Terri Tinsley Memorial Sign, James Kukkan - Watertown Daily Times (Remote), Heidi Putnam – Snyder & Associates, Inc (Remote), Andy Didion – Jefferson Community Foundation

3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law

Thompson confirmed compliance.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Approved as written

5. Approval of Parks Committee Minutes for May 28, 2026

Callan/Turville-Heitz motion to approve the May 28, 2026 minutes with the following corrections: Date Correction in the header, and upcoming meeting dates.

Motion passes 4/0.

6. Communications

N/A

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 comments.

8. Presentation by Andy Didion on the Jefferson Community Foundation

Wiesmann introduced Andy Didion as a friend of the Parks, and current Chair of the Jefferson Community Foundation. Didion introduced the Community Foundation to the Committee and stated that the funds currently held by the Foundation were likely established as a outlier of the Crawfish River Park development. The fund is currently at \$28,000+ and is available to all parks within the Jefferson County Park system. The funds are invested in a "safe area" (bonds/no market exposure) earning ~3%. Didion would like to transfer the funds into an investment fund (60% equity & 40% bonds). Funds requested, outside the normal funding process, are considered Donor advised funds. The board members are contacted for review when a project request is submitted outside of the normal funding process. Didion also noted that the foundation can accept endowments, and grants are provided upon review and as needed.

Wiesmann – noted that the fund has been used as a match to other grants.

Didion – noted that the amount previously dispersed (collectively) to the Parks Department is approximately \$20,000 +/- . He also noted that donors will often go onto the Foundation website and donate to the agencies listed. No action taken.

9. **Discussion and possible action on donation for Terri Tinsley memorial signage at the Jefferson County Dog Park**

Wiesmann stated the current signage is aging, and that the color photos that have faded overtime. Perry Tinsley donated funds in 2005 as a memorial to his wife. The resolution from 2005, included in the packet, authorized Tinsely naming rights at the Jefferson County Dog Park.

Schumacher – granite plaque with Terry and Owen (dog), more permanent solution acknowledging Terry’s legacy. Proud to be able to support the dog park.

Tinsley – in favor of the proposed granite sign nothing that it will withstand many years. This is a meaningful way to connect Terry’s legacy with the expansion of the dog park.

Turville-Heitz questioned the existing structural integrity of what currently exists, and questioned if weather would impact the longevity of the proposed granite sign and who would cover if damaged.

Christensen questioned why three signs are proposed.

Turville-Heitz/Lund motion to accept donation of the three proposed granite plaques to replace the former signs. Motion passes 4/0.

10. **Discussion and possible action on proposed Full Moon Yoga + Sound Program at Korth Park**

Wiesmann noted that proposal to host Yoga classes, for a fee, in the grassy area of Korth Park was submitted. The current Parks ordinance reads no operating of a business for profit in the parks without Committee approval.

Turville-Heitz – suggested a contract/special use permit with the vendor defining parameters – fees due, hours of operations, locations, etc.

Wiesmann – would like the latitude to negotiate times/locations/etc with vendors. Weekends at the park are often busy with shelter rentals and would like to prevent user conflicts.

Lund/Turville-Heitz motion to draft a special use permit with said vendor defining location/spaces, restricted times/dates, noise levels, fees.

Motion passes 4/0.

11. **Discussion and possible action on Resolution authorizing the purchase of a Snowmobile Bridge through the Wisconsin Motorized Recreation Aid Program**

Wiesmann stated that only one bid was submitted.

- Custom Mfg.
- Bid \$56,800 – nearly \$20,000 less than originally quoted.

It was also stated that Snowmobile bridges, 100% funded by the state, are owned by the County. If a landowner removed access to snowmobile trails, it is the County’s responsibility to remove the program funded bridge.

There are scheduled inspections, maintenance, and repairs – also funded by the program.

Next up – county staff will submit paperwork for permitting with WIDNR.

Lund noted a need to correct the dates in the resolution.

Lund/Callan motion to approve the resolution authorizing the purchase of a snowmobile bridge through the Wisconsin Motorized Recreation Aid Program. Motion passes 4/0.

12. **Discussion on the development of a Drone Policy for the Jefferson County Parks**

Wiesmann – stated that a witness expressed concern regarding recent drone use around the Osprey nest at Korth Park, and as a result, he would like to talk through logistics of drone use in the County Parks. Noise pollution and invasion of privacy are major concerns.

Drone flying regulations:

- State laws include no harassment of wildlife.
- Drone take-off and landing can be regulated.
- Flight patterns cannot be regulated.

Would like to consider if there are places and spaces that are suitable for drone flying activity. Would like the committee to review information that is included in the agenda packet and help recommend policy regulating usage.

Lund – questioned enforcement.

No action taken.

13. Update on Jefferson County Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan

Putnam – noted that the on-line survey closed on June 15, 2026. Putnam also provided a brief summary of progress to date noting that a link to the draft report will be provided to Wiesmann, and then the committee.

No action taken.

14. Update on Interurban Bike Trail

Wiesmann – next Thursday, general completion. Currently waiting on concrete aprons at Ski Slide & Rockdale.

Waukesha Co is mobilizing next week Monday. The department identified a need for a trailhead and safe connection to Ixonia. Department may be receiving additional funds for Phase III construction via the Stewardship program.

15. Discussion on Parks 2026 Budget

Wiesmann – budget is on track. Fuel will likely be higher than budgeted, based on current fuel prices.

16. Field Staff Updates

Lower Rock Lake – shelter/restroom upgrades:

- motion sensor lights to restrooms
- shelter lights on timer – shut-off 10 pm
- additional electrical outlets added inside shelter

Invasive plant work – spot spraying/wild parsnip

Six volunteer events

17. Administrative Staff Updates

Light Up the Night planning

AKC Small Dog definition Updates for Areas 3 & 4

18. Historic Sites Council Update

Story Map is near completion

19. Discussion on agenda items for the next meeting

Wiesmann – not here in July

Park Tour – August 27

20. Discussion and possible action on scheduling site visits as part of an upcoming meeting schedule

Possible tour at August meeting.

21. Next Scheduled Meetings per the 2026 Proposed Meeting Schedule (4th Thursday, Monthly)

- July 23, 2026
- July 23, 2026 (Brew with a View)
- August 27th, 2026
- August 27th, 2026 (Brew with a View)
- September 24th, 2026

22. Adjourn

Turville-Heitz/Lund motion to adjourn at 12:24 pm.

Motion passes 4/0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary S. Truman – Adv. Program Asst., Parks

DRAFT

Agenda Summary – Proposed Pilates Classes at Korth Park

Applicant: Malorie Bartz, Ember Wellness Collective

Request: Approval to offer outdoor Pilates classes at Korth Park.

Proposed Schedule: Thursday evenings at approximately 7:00 p.m. once per month while weather permits, with the potential to add Saturday morning classes if demand exists.

Participants: Approximately 10–20 participants per class.

Program Details: Classes would be open to the public with a registration fee of approximately \$10–15 per participant. Participants would provide their own yoga mats. A small portable speaker would be used for music at a respectful volume. No additional equipment is proposed.

Purpose: To provide an accessible outdoor wellness program that encourages community members to enjoy Jefferson County parks while promoting movement and healthy lifestyles.

Staff Review: Because the classes are a paid service being offered within a county park, the proposal requires Parks Committee review. Staff has reviewed the request with the Parks Director and has received the information needed from the applicant.

Committee Consideration: The committee will determine whether to approve the request, any Special Use Permit requirements, and whether to require a vendor fee. Staff recommends consideration of a 10% fee based on registration revenue, consistent with other businesses offering paid programming on county park property.

Applicant Attendance: The applicant has been invited to attend the July 23, 2026 Parks Committee meeting in person or virtually but is not required to attend.

Agenda Summary - OconoWattaWoc Special Use Permit Request

Applicant: Sean Osborne, Silver Circle Sports Events, LLC

Request: Approval of a Special Use Permit for the OconoWattaWoc run, walk, and ruck event scheduled for Sunday, November 1, 2026.

Location: The event will take place on the Interurban Recreation Trail.

Event Schedule: Packet pickup begins at 8:00 a.m., followed by a children's 1K at 8:45 a.m. and the 5K, 10K, and Half Marathon events beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Estimated Attendance: The original Special Use Permit application estimated approximately 250 participants.

Event Details: The event includes running, walking, and rucking divisions. The course will use the paved Interurban Recreation Trail, and participants will be instructed to remain alert at road crossings, follow course signage, and share the trail with other users.

Road Crossings and Safety: The applicant stated that Rockvale Road is the only road crossing for the primary route. Depending on final registration numbers, the crossing will be staffed by either event personnel or the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office. The Half Marathon route will only proceed with support from the Sheriff's Office because it requires crossing Highway F.

Coordination: The applicant has contacted the appropriate neighboring jurisdictions and is working through any additional permit or coordination requirements.

Permit Status: A Special Use Permit application has been submitted, and the required \$10.00 Special Use Permit fee has been paid.

Committee Consideration: The Parks Committee is asked to review the request and consider approval of the Special Use Permit, subject to any conditions the Committee determines are necessary.

Applicant Attendance: Sean Osborne plans to attend the July 23, 2026 Parks Committee meeting virtually to answer questions from the Committee.

