

Parks Committee Minutes  
Jefferson County  
Jefferson County Courthouse  
311 S. Center Avenue, Room 202  
Jefferson, WI 53549

Date: Monday, March 7, 2016

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Committee members: Tietz, Augie (Chair) Christensen, Walt  
Kelly, Mike, (Vice Chair) Payne, Laura  
Foelker, Matt (Secretary)

**1. Call to order**

Tietz called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

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

Present: Tietz, Foelker, Christensen, Kelly, Payne

Staff: Nehmer, Wiesmann, Ward, Wehmeier, Schroeder

Others: Brian Udovich, Highway Operations Manager, Julie Engel, Bill Burlingham,  
Koshkonong Township, Frankie Fuller, GHA

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

Meeting posted according to Open Meetings Law

**4. Approval of the agenda**

Approved as written

**5. Approval of Park Committee minutes for February 1, 2016**

Foelker motioned to approve. Christensen seconded. Motion passes 5/0.

**6. Communications**

None

**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 comments.

**8. Discussion and Possible Action on Rotational Grazing at Dorothy Carnes Park**

Engle talked about a process and implementation plan on rotational grazing for cattle. She will email additional information to the committee and staff. She would like the committee to consider this option and give their feedback on this type of management system. Engle addressed questions from the committee and staff. No action taken.

**9. Discussion and Possible Action – Koshkonong Mounds Road at Indian Mounds and Trail Park**

Nehmer explained that they met with all of the parties involved to discuss changes. Burlingham explained that the Archaeologist and Engineer have developed a proposal. This proposal will go to the State Historical Society for their approval. Ward's recommendation is that the county do nothing at this time. The Town has statutory rights in this situation. The County will need more information on this in order to take any further action.

Payne motioned to approve. Kelly seconded. Motion passes 5/0.

10. **Discussion and Possible Action on License Agreement with the City of Watertown for Trail Maintenance on the Interurban Trail**

A resolution was provided for review. The City of Watertown would like to open the trail from Humboldt Street to the river. The City will provide the maintenance and the necessary signage. This will be an agreement with the City of Watertown, WE Energies and the county.

Christensen motioned to approve. Foelker seconded to approve this agreement and sent it to the County Board for their consideration. Motion passes 5/0.

11. **Discussion and Possible Action on Boat Launch Fees at Rock River Public Access for Cappie's Landing**

Nehmer said that all of the necessary paperwork is in place. The committee should consider whether or not they want to charge fees. There is not enough staff to enforce fee collection. It was suggested that a donation box be located at the launch site.

Foelker motioned to approve a donation box at Cappie's landing Christensen seconded. Motion passes 5/0.

12. **Discussion on Public Access Easement for Rock River Public Access for Cappie's Landing**

Nehmer said that the plan was approved and the easement has been signed.

Payne motioned to begin work on the site. Christensen seconded. Motion passes 5/0.

13. **Discussion and Possible Action on Special Permit Use Request(s) at Korth Park**

Information on area park fees was provided for review. A wedding event would like to put up two tents, run a generator for beverages and have a DJ for extended hours. He is looking for guidance from the committee. Kelly felt that it would be beneficial to limit this type of activity. There was a concern with the parking and being good neighbors of the park. Payne discussed developing a policy on these special requests. It was suggested that the security deposit be raised for an event of this magnitude. Wehmeier explained that it's not uncommon to require the party to pay for security for these types of events. Staff will develop a recommendation for revising the current policy for future events. No action taken.

**Discussion on Parks Endowment Fund**

Nehmer explained that they received checks in the amount of \$782 and \$617. Another information piece will be sent out for the endowment fund. No action taken.

14. **Discussion on Fundraising for Interurban Trail**

Nehmer said that approximately \$400,000 is available for the project and more grants and donations are being sought. No action taken.

15. **Discussion on Glacial Heritage Area (GHA) – Friends of GHA**

Frankie explained that there was a good turnout for the trailhead event. They are working with the Rock Lake Improvement Association, Rock River Coalition and Master Gardeners. Joe explained that they have meetings set up to move the GHA forward in cooperation and partnership. Friends of GHA are working on designing a website. No action taken.

16. **Discussion on Canoecopia 2016**

Weismann explained that they have a booth that will be set up at Canoecopia this weekend. They are still looking for volunteers to help run the booth. Contact Weismann if you can help out. No action taken.

**17. Review of Financial Statements (December 2015) and Department Update – Parks Department**

Financial statements were provided for review. No action taken.

**18. Adjourn**

Christensen motioned to adjourn at 11:11 a.m. Foelker seconded. Motion passes on a 5/0 vote