

Parks Committee Minutes
Jefferson County
Jefferson County Courthouse
311 S. Center Avenue, Room 112
Jefferson, WI 53549

Date: Monday, July 10, 2017

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Committee members: Foelker, Matt
Kelly, Mike
Nass, Steve
Payne, Laura
Tietz, Augie

1. **Call to order**

Tietz called the meeting to order at 9:32am

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

Present: Tietz, Foelker, Nass, Kelly, Payne (@ 9:34)

Absent:

Others Present: Nehmer, Nimm, Hutter, Wiesmann, Ward, Wehmeier, Saxby

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

Meeting was noticed and posted according to law

4. **Approval of the agenda**

Nass/Foelker motion to approve the agenda as written. Motion passes 4/0

5. **Approval of Park Committee minutes for June 5, 2017**

Foelker/Nass motion to approve the minutes. Motion passes 4/0

6. **Communication**

Wehmeier – letter from Friends of Rose Lake

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 Request to Rent Cappie's Landing**

Tim Brown – Founders Float Paddle, Cappie's to RR. Shelter @ Rock River Park is rented. We would like to rope off a corral at Cappie's and are requesting to rent part of the park 7am-10am for mass boat launch at 9:30am. Would like Committee blessing to use or rent a large part of the park/launch out of courtesy to public use of the park.

Ward- cannot limit use of the park and would like the park to remain open for all to use.

Nass – 'warn' public about heavy use, do not close park

Ward – issue a group meeting permit (group larger than 20ppl)

Tietz – cars will not be parked at Cappie's?

Brown – we will shuttle users from the Johnson Creek High School

Ward – applicant disclose # of persons, arrangements of sanitation and garbage disposal, amplified sound system

Tietz – questioned timing of boat launch project

Nass/Payne motion approve the issuance of a group permit for the event. Motion passes 4/0

9. **Report from the Jefferson County Historical Site Preservation Council**

Foelker – walked Potter's Field and are requesting the Parks Committee to ok the designation of Potter's Field as a Historical Landmark.

Nass – Council has met twice. Working on a work plan for the Council. Questioned report frequency by Council to Committee.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Nominating Potters Field as a Jefferson County Historical Landmark

Payne/Nass 4/0 (Kelly out of room)

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Rock River Park Boat Launch Bid Results

Wiesmann – RFP for boat launch project. Selecting lowest bidder - Viola. References are favorable.

Nass/Payne motion to accept the lowest bid by Viola for the Rock River Boat Launch improvements. Motion passes 5/0

Wiesmann – project takes about two weeks to complete once started, and is dependent on water levels and weather.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Bee Hives on County Property

Nehmer – UW Ex/Workforce buildings, request to locate bee hives in Jefferson/Jefferson County. Dane County Parks has pollinator permit for Natural Resource Areas.

Nass – does Dane County charge a fee?

Wehmeier – concerns about location and access to the people.

Kelly – are honey bees a native species? Do they fit within the native pollinators?

Nehmer – parameters for placement

Nass, Payne, Foelker – no problem

Kelly – research effects on indigenous species already in existence.

Nehmer – will do more research

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Participating as a Pilot Community Setting Priorities and Management for the use of Acquired Flood Lands

Nehmer – same item as June Meeting discussion. Should attempt to participate in the project. Will aid Jefferson County Parks with a plan and public input process for management of the properties.

Wehmeier – property complaints, great opportunity. Less funding available for studying and setting management plans.

Payne – great opportunity

Tietz – get the group to help organize a plan for management

Wehmeier – plan will help with new property acquisitions

Payne/Foelker motion to participate. Motion passes 5/0

14. Discussion and Possible Action on Flood Mitigation Property W2745 Rock River Paradise

Nehmer – Parcels E/SE of Watertown. Nice parcels, good fishing, nice old oak trees. Newest complaint of partying, 4-wheelers, tree cutting and lawn mowing on the FMP. Question is – can the county sign it as “no trespassing”, could the town sign it as “no trespassing”? Yes and yes – quit claim deed to township with transfer of property restrictions.

Nass – is there public access to the river?

Concerned about increased traffic that goes onto the parcel. Property 21-3 is taking part of 21-4 and have hauled in large rocks. Town has been mowing the vacant lots.

Nass – delay making decision on property management until the plan is completed. Perhaps we can post “no vehicles, no dumping, no fishing, no hunting...” until the management plan is completed, and we will work with the Township on maintenance.

Nass/Foelker – motion to post signs (staff to create wording – complying within existing parks ordinance) to control misuse and to work with Township to discontinue mowing. 5/0

15. Discussion on the Interurban Trail Project

Nehmer – survey work Land Info Surveyor, Westbrook onsite last week, inspection of abutments and caissons and facings. PILOT test next Tuesday am. Watertown public works great partner assembled staff and boat in less than 24hour notice to complete the testing.

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

No Friends of GHA to comment

17. Discussion and Possible Action on 2018 Parks Department Budget

Nehmer – Cap finance plan in packet. Interurban Trail engineering in request, Korth Lane @ \$100,000 proposed as joint partnership between county and township. Town Chair would like to have the County do the surveying as for the road ROW. Large part of road use is by Korth Park users.

Nehmer – 2018 Levee goals/guidance 2017 @ \$761,111, 2018 @ \$762,716
Nass/Payne – motioned to move forward as presented. Motion passes 5/0

18. **Review of Financial Statements (May, 2017) and Department Update – Parks Department**
Nehmer – financials look good. Wiesmann in process of Capital truck and lawnmower purchase(s). Finally fully staffed.
 19. **Discussion on the Mason Farm Jamboree**
Wiesmann – 6th annual event. 250 attendees (approx.). Continued interest in wildlife/bee keeping/basket weaving displays. Log home interpretative panels are installed.
 20. **Discussion on Brew with a View**
Nehmer – Had the most successful event as of yet. Funds raised that night will be committed to the Natural Resources Foundation.
Tietz – great music
Payne – great night
Nimm – next event on July 20
 21. **Convene in Closed Session Pursuant to s.19.85 (1)(e), Wis. Stats. for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session to discuss the purchase of real property to expand the footprint of a Jefferson County park**
Nass/Foelker motion to convene in closed session at 10:50am.
Ayes: Nass, Payne, Foelker, Kelly, Tietz
Nass/Foelker motion to reconvene in open session at 10:55am.
Ayes: Nass, Payne, Foelker, Kelly, Tietz
 22. **Reconvene in open session for possible action on items discussed in closed session**
Kelly/Foelker motion to not pursue purchase but would consider acquisition otherwise. Motion passes 5/0
 23. **Adjourn**
Nass/Foelker motion to adjourn at 11:03am. Motion passes 5/0
- Next scheduled meetings: August 7, 2017 – keep as scheduled
 September 4, 2017 – move to 9/11
 October 2, 2017

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Nimm, Program Assistant