

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

Date: July 17, 2018

Time: 8:30 a.m.

**Committee Members:** Ed Morse, Steve Nass, Gregg Patrick, Augie Tietz (Chair), Lloyd Zastrow

**Other Present:** Eric Compass, Frankie Fuller, Marc DeVries, Ben Wehmeier

1. Call to order  
Augie called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.
2. Roll Call (establish a quorum)
3. Certification of compliance with the Open Meetings Law
4. Approval of the agenda  
Motion by Nass; Second by Zastrow to approve the agenda as presented. (Ayes-All) Motion Carried.
5. Approval of Park Committee minutes for June 4, 2018  
Motion by Morse; Second by Zastrow to approve the Park Committee minutes from June 4, 2018. (Ayes-3 Abstain-1) Motion Carried.
6. Communications  
None
7. Public Comment  
None
8. Discussion on 2018-2019 Snowmobile Maintenance Grant  
Information for the grant was provided for review. Nehmer discussed the grant. There was a reserve from the grant in the amount of approximately \$12,000. No action taken.
9. Discussion on Jefferson County Flood Mitigation Management Plan  
Nehmer has a received a draft plan from Rebecca Kisslinger, from Environmental Law Institute for consideration. He asked the committee to think about whether or not the public should be involved in this process and the possibility of hiring a consultant. This will be discussed in August. No action taken.
10. Discussion on Glacial River Trail South of Fort Atkinson  
Nehmer explained that approximately \$6,700 has been spent on diagnosing the sinking issues. He discussed the process. This may be costly to fix. No action taken.
11. Discussion on Brew with a View  
Nehmer said the weather was perfect and it was very successful. The next event is scheduled for Thursday, July 19th! \$4,171.75 was received. Profits from all three events will be put towards the road improvements on Korth Lane. No action taken.

12. Discussion on Interurban Recreational Trail

Nehmer said that there have been many meetings on this project. Minimal bids were received for this project. Bridge \$174,300 and Installation \$439,900.

Staff is waiting for information on the grant applications that we currently have out there. There was also a meeting with Tina Crave, from the Watertown Health Foundation to discuss additional grant funding. Staff is working with Ed Kraemer, North America, LLC, to discuss other options to possibly reduce the cost. No action taken.

13. Discussion on Historic Sites Preservation Council

Morse explained that he was approached by Nicole Tesch, Medical Examiner, to find ways to take care of indigent deaths in Jefferson County. It was suggested to place a crypt in Potter's Field. The Historic Sites Preservation Council supports this and will likely have a recommendation at their meeting in August. No action taken.

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

Frankie explained that there is a Paddle coming up on August 11th. Compass is the Treasurer for the GHA and said that the goal is to have a Paddle at least once a year to promote the GHA. No action taken.

15. Discussion on 2018 Parks Department Budget

Nehmer explained that camping, shelter and dog park permits are up and may set a record this year.

16. July Parks Tour

a. **Crawfish River Park** (17 Acres)

W6013 US Highway 18 in Jefferson

The Glacial River Bike Trail runs through this park. Picnic areas, signage and trail markers have been added. Future camp sites are planned. Currently this park is only accessible to pedestrians, bikers and boaters.

b. **Glacial River Trail** (54 Miles)

This trail runs along the river and is a part of the Glacial Heritage Area (GHA)

The Mountain Bike Park (24 acres – 1 Mile)

This Park has features including a roller bridge, ride over bridge, The "Blue" easy trail and the "Green" moderately difficult trail. There is a good group of volunteers who help build the trails. The Parks Department maintains the trails.

c. **Dorothy Carnes Park** (East - 517 Acres)

N3299 Banker Road, Fort Atkinson

Dorothy Carnes Park (West)

N3220 Radloff Lane, Fort Atkinson

The Parks Department created a butterfly habitat in cooperation with NRCS. This park is popular for cross country skiing, home of the garden project and pioneer log cabin home. It is also heavily used for weddings, family reunions and corporate events. There are numerous bird & bat houses located through the park. It is very popular for blue birds.

d. **Korth Park** (89 Acres)

W8282 Elm Point Road, Lake Mills

A new road and additional parking was constructed in partnership with municipalities. It's located on Rock Lake and connected to a bike trail. It also has two pavilions and a playground.

e. **Lower Rock Lake** (23 Acres)

W8050 Park Lane Road, Lake Mills

This park has a pavilion, playground and a boat launch with a very large area for parking boat trailers. There is a pedestrian tunnel under the road that connects the park with the parking area.

f. **Upper Rock Lake**

N6999 Rock Lake Road, Lake Mills

This is smaller park with a playground and pavilion.

g. **Dr. J.S. Garman Nature Preserve** (45 Acres)

701 Fox Lane, Waterloo

This park is home to Indian Mounds and is connected to the Regional Trail Head. It includes small shelters, picnic areas and walking trails. An anonymous donation will be used for wayfinding and identification signage and restoration.

h. **Holzhueter Park** (172 Acres)

The state purchased this property as part of a GHA acquisition. Since then, the DNR has temporally pulled back and development of the park has been stalled for the last 4+ years. It is located near the Waterloo Wildlife Area. There is hope that work will continue on the proposed plan which includes hiking trails, mountain bike trails and a pavilion near the Crawfish River.

i. **Hubbleton Recreation Bridge**

This bridge is a multipurpose recreational bridge used primarily for snowmobiling, biking and fishing along the Crawfish River.

j. **Cappie's Landing**

This park provides public access to the Rock River. It has a pier, a small shelter, picnic area and two camping sites. It is part of the GHA and the Rock River Trail.

k. **Interurban Bridge**

The City of Watertown has constructed a new trailhead with signage at the entrance to the Interurban Trail. Construction of a shelter and restrooms are planned for this year.

l. **Rock River Park**

This is a popular boat launch and fishing spot. There is a pavilion and restrooms located at this park.

m. **Dog Park**

The dog park is ranked #1 in Wisconsin and #34 in the Country. This property was formerly Jefferson County's Solid Waste Facility and Bicentennial Park. There are pavilions, restrooms and wells. The park is also equipped with security cameras.

17. Adjourn

Motion by Nass; Second by Patrick to adjourn 2:30 pm. Ayes-All (Motion Carried)