

**JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**320 SOUTH MAIN ST, JEFFERSON WI 53549**  
**ROOM 202**

**April 6, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.**

Committee: Glen Borland-Chairman, Paul Babcock, Amy Kramer, Rick Kuhlman,  
Steve Nass

1. Call the Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Borland at 1:00 p.m.

2. Committee members present included: Borland, Kramer, Nass, Babcock. Others present: Nehmer, Stanger, Buchholz, Heling, Ward, Dodge, Santi, Novitzke, Wallace, Erdman, Werner, Olsen, Gobel, Burrow, Cotting, Palm, Parker. Absent: Kuhlman

3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law – In Compliance

4. Approval of the Agenda – Approved

5. Approval of March 2, 2009 meeting minutes

**Motion to approve the March 2, 2009 minutes by Babcock/Kramer, carried, 4-0**

6. Public Comment – None

7. Discussion and possible decision on Garman and Knowlton Street Soccer Field joint Stewardship Grant Application – City of Waterloo, Laura Cotting

Laura Cotting, Ward 3 Alderperson for the City of Waterloo gave a brief presentation on the project. This project which we are calling “The Garman Nature Preserve/ Knowlton Field Trailhead Facility” is a good candidate for the Stewardship Grant Application because it involves creating a facility that will enhance the existing city and county property. Cotting gave a brief summary on the progress that has been made. The project is planned as a multi-phased project spread out over 5 years beginning with the facility which would make the whole area more user friendly. A meeting was held with the City of Waterloo, Jefferson County and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources also commented that the concept would meet 12 categories and was a great project and the City of Waterloo should apply for a stewardship grant. Cotting also commented there are private entities interested in the project but won’t commit to any donations until they see the final grant application.

**Motion to support the \$25,000 designated to proceed with the project. Amended motion to approve support of concept and apply for the stewardship grant. Nass/Babcock, carried 3-1, Kramer opposing.**

8. Request for funds regarding Jefferson County: The Official Guide – Dennis Heling, Jefferson County Economic Development Consortium

Paul Novitzke, Fair Park Director speaking for the Jefferson County Tourism Council requested funds from the county to help fund the guide. Nehmer reported that we do not have funds to support this in the Parks budget; in years past the funds were designated from the County Administrators Office to support tourism. Nehmer stated the question before the Committee is do you support funds going from the County Board level for this guide. This is our only guide in Jefferson County, it is a major way of advertising the Parks in Jefferson County.

**Motion to support funds from the County Board level, Administration and Rules Committee or Finance Committee for a budget amendment to the County to give \$5,000 to support the Tourism Booklet. Nass/Babcock, carried 4-0**

9. Discussion and possible decision on Community Gardens at Korth Park

Marion Ward has requested we have a Community Garden be established at Korth Park similar to the Hearty Gardens at Carnes Park. Nehmer presented cost figures to start up a garden at Korth; there are concerns about costs and how we get over this hurdle. Nehmer suggested the community approach different entities such as was done to fund the Osprey Platform with the concept and request might be met with a favorable response.

**Motion to approve concept and encourage gardeners' to solicit funding for startup costs, Parks will work to come up with any monies from budget they can use. Nass/Babcock, Carried 3-1, Kramer opposing**

10. Discussion and possible decision on date of Grand Opening for new Terri Tinsley Dog Exercise Area

Stanger reported the Parks Department has been in contact with Perry Tinsley and suggested having the Grand Opening June 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00AM. Nehmer suggested the Chairman give a few comments, the Board Chair and Perry Tinsley. It was agreed by the committee to have the Grand Opening on June 6<sup>th</sup>, the Parks Department will follow up with planning.

11. Discussion and possible decision on extending park closing at the new Korth Park Shelter

Stanger reported the Parks Department has had inquiries requesting extending park hours for wedding receptions at one of the parks. Nehmer reported we have allowed extended hours for certain events and it proved to be unsuccessful.

**Motion to leave closing as states in Parks Ordinance Section 8.11 Park Hours Nass/Kramer, carried 4-0**

- 12 Discussion and possible decision on erecting structures at Korth Park

Stanger reported the Parks Department has had an inquiry asking permission to put up an extra tent for a wedding reception at Korth Park.

**Motion to allow erecting structures such as tents with a refundable deposit for any damages. Babcock/Nass, carried 4-0**

13. Discussion and possible decision on new position at Dog Park

Nehmer reported the department has discussed ways to increase compliance at the Dog Park. This position is one idea; funding would be through funds generated from the yearly and daily fees at the Dog Park. The purpose of this person would be to monitor the dog tags, do general cleanup and collect registrations from the drop boxes and stock applications and monitor park for vandalism. It would be a working person to assist modestly to begin with. Another way to help for a limited term would be the economic stimulus program which seems to be potentially coming down to our level and Jefferson County Parks Department. Terri Palm updated the committee on what has developed so far regarding to the Stimulus Project and will keep us updated on the project. Palm will be working with Workforce Development and Opportunities, who is coordinating the program. Nehmer reported one park employee has agreed to work 2 hours on the weekend at the dog park monitoring registrations. Also the question of using inmates for park work will be looked into with the Parks Department and the Sheriffs Department.

**Motion to approve 2010 part-time maintenance worker for the Dog Park and funds taken from the proceeds from the Dog Park. Babcock/Nass, carried 4-0**

**Motion to pursue stimulus monies for summer youth employment for park maintenance Nass/Babock, carried 4-0**

14. Discussion and possible decision on Park Tour

The committee agreed to leave this item open and will discuss at a later date.

15. Update on negotiations with American Transmission Company relating to Rock Lake Park

Nehmer reported the access easement has been completed and signed by Jefferson County and ATC for access purposes while installing the transmission line and explained the terms of the agreement.

16. Update on Glacial Heritage Area Tour – Steve Nass

Nass reported on the tour which included the Natural Resources Board to show them the proposed Glacial Heritage Area project. Schmeling, Nehmer and Nass met them at Korth Park, toured Faville Prairie and Holzhueter property. The Board was very favorable and excited as to what Jefferson County has already established, our land use plans, our working lands, our nature based parks, long term plan which was done 15 years ago. We have done a number of public and private cooperative projects, with city and towns which scored very highly with them and the board seemed very excited about moving this forward.

17. Update on Ten Year Forest Stewardship Management plan for Kanow County Park

Nehmer presented the results of the ten year forest stewardship plan for Kanow County Park as he will be doing for the other county parks from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. This is what he is recommending we do next year which would establish a healthier forest and commission on sale of timber.

**Motion to continue with forestry plans. Nass/Kramer, carried 4-0**

18. Update on County Bike Plan steering committee meeting

Nehmer reported another meeting was held at Trek Bicycle headquarters. The committee identified the best connecting routes and the planners are working on that aspect.

19. Correspondence

- a. Court case regarding dog incident in Dog Park
- b. CNN – “Recession Gardens” trim grocery bills, teach lessons

Correspondence items were discussed by Nehmer, and Captain Parker Stanger reported on a volunteer project at Dorothy Carnes County Park. Our former Volunteer Coordinator Peggy Sunquist has organized a work day with her present company to pull Garlic Mustard as their volunteer project.

20. Set Tentative next meeting date/time: May 4, 2009, 1:00pm – Room 202

21. Adjourn

**Motion to adjourn at 2:55 pm by Kramer/Nass carried 4-0.**