

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

March 2, 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, Kuhlman, Nass, Babcock. Others present: Nehmer, Stanger, Buchholz, Petre, Schmeling, Cicero, Ristow, Stampfl, Heinz

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

4. Approval of the Agenda – Approved

5. Approval of February 2, 2009 meeting minutes

Motion to approve the February 2, 2009 minutes by Nass/Babcock carried, 4-0, Borland abstained because of absence at February Meeting.

6. Public Comment

Nehmer read an email from Supervisor David regarding his support for the County forest management plan.

7. Presentation on installing the rain garden portion of the Rock Lake Park parking lot project – Jim Heinz, Town of Lake Mills.

Jim Heinz, Town of Lake Mills Chairperson, presented the Town of Lake Mills' offer to contribute the full amount to have the rain garden installed at the Upper Rock Lake Parking Lot Project. The resolution will come before the Town of Lake Mills next Board meeting and he will inform us if it has been passed.

Motion to authorize working with the Town of Lake Mills to install the Rain Garden Project, based on the Town of Lake Mills' commitment to donate full amount. Authorize Nehmer and Heinz to work out details for the project. Kuhlman/Babcock, carried 5-0.

8. Discussion and possible decision on American Transmission Company's request to close Upper Rock Lake Park

Nehmer reported he has not heard back from American Transmission Company on the matter as of this date.

9. Discussion and possible decision on Glacial River Bike Trail agreement violation – Enbridge Energy Inc.

Nehmer discussed safety rules not being adhered to by Enbridge Energy Inc. while using part of the Glacial River Trail to move construction equipment over trail. Nehmer asked the committee what if anything the committee wanted to do regarding safety rules being not adhered to as it relates to the pipeline crossing the bike trail. Ristow advised we could sue them, talk to them, or write them a letter stating the problem.

No action taken on this item at this time.

10. Discussion and possible recommendation on harvesting trees on county owned property – Randy Stampfl, DNR Forester

Randy Stampfl, DNR Forester presented a talk on what role the DNR Forestry could do to help Jefferson County establish and sustainably manage our County woodlands. He spoke on what the DNR could do for us by assisting in tree inventories, offering recommendations, creating management plans, marketing of cut trees and sales at no cost to the County. Stampfl noted an actively managed forest can manage competition, take out undesirable trees and leave the best, create a healthier stand, encourage natural regeneration and diversify the species.

Motion to authorize the DNR Forestry to do the inventory and the management plan on park woodland. Nass/Kuhlman, carried 5-0.

11. Discussion and possible decision on contract and caterers for the new Korth Park Shelter

Ristow reported the contract is being worked on and final copy should be completed shortly.

12. Review and possible decision on Stimulus Project items

The committee reviewed the items listed and agreed to list 3 engineered projects first; Korth paving, Lower Rock Lake Parking Lot finish mat and Bicentennial Park paving, but not to eliminate any of the projects listed at this time.

13. Approval of Facility Grounds Maintenance summary for distribution to the Jefferson County Board

Nehmer reported summary is not ready for distribution at this time.

14. Review Department carry forward requests

Nehmer reported on items approved and items not approved for carry forward.

15. Discussion on Strategic Plan

Nehmer commented on Strategic Plan and how the steering committee was established. Petre commented on At Large (Workgroup) and how they would be serving the committee, and will also represent other committees. Schmeling commented that these are open meetings so anyone interested can attend and also the public.

16. Update on Jones Lane/Banker Rd funding, Town of Jefferson

Nehmer reported he checked with Don Bigelow, Town of Jefferson Chairperson, whether they had put funding in their 2009 budget to assist with improving the sight line at that intersection; they did not. Nehmer then worked with Dave Ehlinger on the proper way to word the carry forward request in light of the fact that the Town of Jefferson did not fund it. We requested the total amount of \$45,000. A recommendation that it be removed from the budget for carry over was proposed by the Finance Committee on Friday; currently that is where it is at.

17. Update on FEMA reimbursements

Bucholz reported on two requests written by Chad Dallman, Parks Operations Supervisor, for the flood damage from the parks and have submitted the request, one for \$2,240.85 the second for \$23,121.02. We have received one check back at 75% reimbursement for \$20,248.39 that was put into the 2008 budget, and are still waiting for the second payment. The monies will go back into the category that the clean up was out of, such as Dog Park, Kanow Park, Rock River; they were broken up into expenses and went back into the correct accounts.

18. Update on request to Finance Committee to utilize the \$9,300.00 for replacement trees at Upper Rock Lake Park

Nehmer reported Finance Committee allowed the \$9,300.00 to come out of the \$11,300.00 for tree replacement at county owned facilities.

19. Update on County Bike Plan steering committee meeting

Nehmer reported a kick off meeting was held on the 18th of February at Trek Headquarters in Waterloo, very well attended, over 20 people in attendance. Rick Kuhlman has agreed to serve as a Park Committee representative. All the communities were represented and we discussed time line for working on plan and data collection. Kuhlman reported it was brought up about the Mac Fund ride moving from Waukesha County to Jefferson County and hosted by the City of Waterloo and Trek.

20. Update on Community Gardens at Dorothy Carnes Park and potentially Korth Park

Nehmer reported Community Gardens at Carnes for 2009 is currently over subscribed, there is a waiting list. Parks Department met with Heart of the City which has been our partner in the Hearty Gardens concept with interested parties at Korth Park and we looked at various areas and identified a few areas where we could potentially start a garden without going into the prairie areas. We are now putting together costs to the parties interested in the Korth Garden.

21. Correspondence

- a. Watertown Daily Times Article “Osprey nesting platform is placed near Rock Lake”

22. Set Tentative next meeting date/time: April 6, 2009, 1:00pm – Room 202

23. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 2:20 pm by Nass/Kramer, carried 5-0.