

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

January 9, 2009 at 8:30a.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 Babcock, chairing the meeting in Borland's absence at 8:40am.

2. Committee members present included: Kramer, Nass, Babcock. Others present: Nehmer, Stanger, Petre, Schmeling, David, Miller, absent: Kuhlman, Chairman Borland arrived at 8:55am.

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

4. Approval of the Agenda – Approved

5. Minutes of the December 1, 2008 meeting

Motion to approve the December 1, 2008 minutes Nass/Kramer, carried 3-0

6. Public Comment

Jerry Miller, resident of Lake Mills commented on concerns he has regarding the cutting of trees by American Transmission Company (ATC) regarding the construction of the two towers being installed at Upper Rock Lake Park, and the road going to the park. Nehmer explained ATC will be responsible for any damages to the park and parking lot, and will reimburse for any tree replacement which they will be cutting down during the construction of the towers.

7. Discussion and possible decision on Upper Rock Lake Park Appraisal

Nehmer reported on the appraisal of the permanent easement that was completed by American Transmission Company (ATC) regarding the strip of land which is 16/100th of an acre easement and appraisal of trees being cut down which is \$11,300.00, noting \$9,300.00 of the appraisal is for tree replacement. We did have a second appraisal done and that appraisal is consistent with the \$11,300.00. The fee for the second appraisal will be paid for by ATC.

Motion to recommend approval of easement to American Transmission Company (ATC) with second appraisal concurred, and second appraisal paid for by ATC. Babcock/Nass carried 3-0

8. Discussion and possible decision on ATC request to close Upper Rock Lake Park

Nehmer reported American Transmission Company (ATC) has not been able to determine when they will start construction on the towers to establish closure dates at this time, and recommended to the committee that they do not establish fees for park closures until we receive the closure dates from ATC.

Motion to authorize staff to negotiate price for the park closures when the dates are established by American Transmission Company (ATC) Nass/Kramer carried 3-0

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

Stanger reported the contract is in the process of being developed and caterers are being contacted to determine if they would be interested in being on our catering list. Will report back in February on progress of contract.

10. Discussion and possible decision on Pepsi Machine at the new Korth Shelter

After a brief discussion, the committee decided to take no action on this item at this time.

Note: Borland took over chairing the meeting at 8:55am

11. Discussion and possible decision on offering to give Joy Park to the Town of Concord

Nehmer reported that our current Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan speaks to the fact that we are to be a parks system that focuses primarily on a natural resource based type parks and a larger park, typically 100-200 or more acres in size. To that end, it recommended a number of the small parks be given away to other units of government which has been done in the past. Nehmer asked if the committee at this time would want us to pursue forwarding a letter to the Town of Concord stating the mission of our Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan and offering them the park if they should decide to take it.

Motion to approach the Town of Concord to see if they would accept the transfer of Joy Park from Jefferson County to the Town of Concord Babcock/Kramer, carried 4-0

12. Discussion and potential recommendation on economic stimulus projects

Petre discussed the stimulus projects which were requested by the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA). The Governors Office had requested the list and the WCA is coordinating responses by all 72 counties. Petre has created a resolution to be on the agenda to be approved by the County Board on Tuesday night and we will send the approved list to the WCA on Wednesday. Nehmer commented all the park projects listed are all planned capital projects. They are all in our Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan, the Countywide Bike and Pedestrian Plan, the Dorothy Carnes Master Plan, Korth Master Plan, and Dog Park Expansion Plan; they are all planned projects.

13. Discuss Carol Liddle Fund – Paul Babcock

Nehmer reported Paul Babcock had asked him to report on this fund. Nehmer gave a brief explanation on how the fund is used and how it is invested.

14. Update on Dorothy Carnes County Park Master Planning Process

Babcock reported he is pleased to see the work that has been done and the results of the survey and the questionnaires. Responses seem to be stressing the public would like to see the park remain natural, which is our goal, enjoyment of nature. We have 80 acres that we can work with and the survey shows the public would like to see hiking trails, maybe a biking trail, and more encouragement of the communitygardening. We had 43 people show up at the last meeting from all over the county giving input, a lot of ideas presented. Nehmer reported camping was mentioned and tent camping was discussed; they didn't like the idea of a rustic building for youth camping or families. The next meeting will be January 19, 2009, which we will start looking at conceptual designs.

15. Update on park projects

Nehmer reported we had a limited staff during the holidays, did trail grooming when we had snow. Snowmobile trails, when we had snow, have been open and very heavily used. The crew has been helping facilities with snow removal, salting, sanding and trucking snow. The new areas at the dog park are now open and as you suggested at the last meeting we will have a grand opening sometime in the spring when the weather is warmer. Nehmer commented on progress of the building of the new Hubbleton Snowmobile Bridge.

16. Correspondence
 - a. Theo Garman Letter
 - b. Dog Park Donations
 - c. Email from Megan Laws
 - d. Email from Marion Ward
 - e. Email from Rudy Bushcott
 - f. Email from Josie Gobel – Hearty Gardens
 - g. Holzheuter Property email – Joe Nehmer
 - h. News article, “Ethicist Helps City Make Tough Cuts”
 - i. Email from Jerry Miller – Upper Rock Lake Park

Stanger commented on 2009 Dog Park Tags and on donations for 2009. Nehmer commented on Holzheuter property. No further comments on other articles of correspondence.

17. Set Tentative next meeting date/time: February 2, 2009, 1:00pm – Room 202
18. CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO S. 1985 (1)(E)
For the purpose of deliberation or negotiating the purchasing of public properties.

Motion to enter into closed session at 9:50am Babcock/Nass, carried 4-0

- a. Roll Call – Borland, Babcock, Kramer, Nass
Others present: Nehmer, Schmeling, Petre, Stanger
19. Reconvene in open session to take possible action on the items discussed in closed session

Motion to reconvene into open session at 10:07am Nass/Babcock

- a. Roll Call – Borland, Babcock, Kramer, Nass
Others present: Nehmer, Schmeling, Petre, Stanger

Motion to draft letter of support to Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources regarding the Schultz Property (JCMS LLC), staff will draft letter for committee member’s approval and signature. Nass/Babcock, carried 4-0

20. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 10:15am Borland/Nass, carried 4-0