

## **Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes**

Date & Time of Meeting: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Location: J.P. Coughlin Center

Present: Josh Belville (via Online), Steve Binder, Rachael Dowling, Jim Ponzer, Karen Powers

Also Present: Adam Breest, Justin DeJager, Rick Helms, Kyle Vergin, Jon Doemel

1. Call to order:

Karen Powers called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Steve Binder moved to approve the agenda and Jim Ponzer seconded.  
Motion carried 3-0.

3. Approval of October 10, 2023 Minutes:

Steve Binder moved to approve the minutes and Jim Ponzer seconded.  
Motion carried 3-0.

4. Approval of October 24, 2023 Minutes:

Ponzer Binder moved to approve the minutes and Steve Binder seconded.  
Motion carried 3-0.

5. Public Comment:

David Kane, Oshkosh citizen – Spoke about the boat landing fee increase proposal. Does not agree with the fee increase. The numbers used to justify the increase are not typical. Increases are excessive and make Winnebago County more expensive than neighboring communities. Would like the fee increases to be tabled for a year.

Jon Doemel, Oshkosh citizen – Spoke about the boat landing fee increase proposal. Fees need to be increased to keep up with improvements needed at Winnebago County boat landings. There are many of other services in the county that need funds as well and it need to be distributed as well as it can be.

Jim Erdman, Town of Oshkosh Chairman – Town purchased parcel along WIOIUWASH Trail, near Westwind Road, from DOT. Created access for public to park on this parcel. Would like ATVs to have access to the WIOUWASH Trail for ice fishing access during winter.

6. **Discussion/Action** – 2024 Boat Landing Trailer Parking Fee Schedule Modification

Adam Breest gave an overview of the fee increase proposal. There are several issues and projects at other Winnebago County landings that need to be corrected/improved. Winnebago County has a similar number of landings as other local communities like Oshkosh and Brown

County. Winnebago County is unique in that a three-year permit is offered. Last increase was in 2018, before that was 2003. Main reason for increase is to keep up with these projects and provide quality services.

Committee would like to raise the senior status to 62 and older. Fees should keep up with inflation and increases seem reasonable. Inquired about one boat landing permit for all boat landings in Winnebago County.

Steve Binder commented that there is a lot of money in the spirit fund to do these boat landing projects. Does not think it is fair to charge the boat landing users more fees. Would like to table it for a year. Made a motion to table it for a year. No second.

Racheal Downing made the motion to amend Winnebago County General Code Chapter 19.24-11 "Boat Landing Trailer 3 Parking Permit Fees" to Include the Proposed Fee Schedule for the Winnebago 4 County Public Boat Landings. Seconded by Jim Ponzer. Motion carried 3-1. Binder opposed.

Amend the senior status to 62 and older.

Amend the annual resident supplement fee to \$10 and the annual non-resident supplemental fee to \$30.

7. **Discussion/Action** – Budget Transfer – Camera Installation at Grundman Boat Landing

Infrastructure for the cameras was in the project. Four cameras total. \$18,000 for the cabling and cameras.

Jim Ponzer made the motion to recommend to the Finance Committee to authorize the budget transfer for the purpose of installing four cameras, over 1000 feet of cable, and the server to support the installation of security cameras at the Grundman Boat Landing. Seconded by Racheal Dowling. Motion carried 3-1. Binder opposed.

8. **Discussion/Action** – Budget Amendment – Disc Golf Basket Replacement/Fundraiser

The old disc golf baskets will be sold on WI Surplus and the money from the sales will be used to purchase new baskets.

Racheal Dowling made the motion to recommend to the Finance Committee to authorize the budget amendment for the purpose of accepting revenue and increasing expense to purchase 36 new disc golf baskets. Seconded by Jim Ponzer. Motion carried 3-1. Binder opposed.

9. **Discussion** – ATVs on the WIOUWASH Trail

The Town of Oshkosh is requesting the Parks Department to allow for ATV use from November to March along the WIOUWASH Trail from West Wind Road to the first bridge for access to Lake Butte des Morts.

County Code Chapter 19 currently does not allow ATVs on the WIOUWASH Trail in Winnebago County. The State Master Plan for the WIOUWASH Trail would also need to be revised as it currently does not allow for ATVs on the trail.

The committee is not totally in favor of allowing ATVs on the WIOUWASH Trail. Would like to do a trail run this winter to see how it goes. The more people that can access the trail the better.

Committee agreed to add language to the ordinance code 19.27.4.B. to give the Parks Director and/or County Executive the ability to allow temporary use of ATVs on the WIOUWASH Trail. The Committee will meet to vote on this at 5:30 p.m. on November 21, before the County Board meeting.

10. Park Director Updates

- Grundman Boat Landing Construction Update – Bathroom installed last week, getting winterized soon. Putting up more informational signs around the landing. Ribbon cutting next year. Project is in budget.
- Netzer Home Project Update – Tentative day to tear down is November 20. House has asbestos and mold has grown throughout the house. It might be an extra cost to dispose of the house.
- Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan – Working on drafts of master plan for the Community Park. MSA will be back to speak to committee in December. A public informational meeting will be set for December 5.

11. Next Meeting Date:

Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 10 a.m.

12. Future Agenda Items:

Would other communities be receptive to a boat landing permit that could be used for all boat landings in the county?

Comments from the committee.

13. Adjournment

Racheal Dowling made the motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Jim Ponzer. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Justin DeJager