

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE & TIME: January 16, 2017 @ 1:30 p.m.

PLACE: JP Coughlin Center - Volunteer Rm.
625 E. Cty. Rd. Y
Oshkosh WI 54901

PRESENT: Parks Committee – Tom Konetzke, Mike Norton, Larry Lautenschlager, Steve Binder. Excused – Jerry Finch

ALSO PRESENT: Rob Way, Vicky Redlin – Winnebago County Parks Dept., Emily Dieringer – Winnebago County Health Dept./ReThink

1. Call to order – Vice-chairman Konetzke called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m..
2. Approval of Agenda – Vice-chairman Konetzke called for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Steve Binder moved to approve the agenda. Mike Norton seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
3. Approval of Minutes from December 19, 2016 - Vice-chairman Konetzke called for a motion to approve the 12/19/16 minutes. Larry Lautenschlager moved to approve the minutes. Steve Binder seconded. Correction to be made to #5 to include that Mike Norton made a motion to approve the county bike/ped plan to send to the County Board for a presentation, Larry Lautenschlager seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
4. Public Comment Relevant to Items on the Agenda - none
5. Approval of Resolution Recognizing Acceptance of Winnebago County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan – Rob gave an update of the process the plan is going through. Parks' role is not direct in that most of the proposed bike/ped lanes are on the shoulders of county roads. Some bike/ped lanes will interconnect with current park trails, and parks would provide upkeep on those lanes, however most maintenance activities would be undertaken by the Hwy. Dept.. Mike Norton moved to approve the plan as presented. Steve Binder seconded. Mike Norton advised to stress the transportation aspect of the plan and that it will benefit the rural areas of the county. Emily Dieringer added that the county municipalities with their own bike/ped plans will also benefit from this document as they will have available information about the county's preferences in developing bike/ped facilities which may help them in their planning. She also noted that the Hwy. Committee did not approve this resolution as their previous meeting was cancelled and rescheduled for after the County Board meeting at which approval will take place. They did however approve the plan to go to the County Board for presentation as presented to them at a previous meeting. Motion carried 4-0.
6. Approval of Resolution Allowing Submittal of Grant Application for County Conservation Aids Funding – Rob explained that this grant is similar to a previous DNR grant awarded to the county 2 years ago. He went on to explain that the funding would again be directed towards fish restocking efforts in Community Park Pond #2. He noted that the pond in question has also been treated for invasive plant species millefeuille as well as stocked with fish including flathead minnows, walleye, bass and perch. This pond is an integral part of The Natural Way as an educational component. Mike Norton moved to approve the grant application. Larry Lautenschlager seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
7. Approval of Resolution Allowing Submittal of Grant Application for ATC Community Planting Program Funding – Rob stated that this grant has been applied for in the past and is in conjunction with the ATC work clearing under their lines along the WIOUWASH currently taking place north of Westwind Road. Crews are in the process of clearing and next fall will be applying herbicide to the area in order to eliminate regrowth. Thereafter it is the department's intention to utilize the maximum \$5,000 grant award to install prairie plantings within the cleared areas. If the grant is not received another approach will be taken to introduce ground cover into that section of trail. Mike Norton moved to approve the grant application. Steve Binder seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

8. Approval of Resolution Allowing Submittal of a Grant Application to acquire Funding from the Sustain Our Great Lakes Organization – Rob pulled this as the time frame for the grant deadline proved to be too tight for completion of all the necessary documentation in time. This grant, should it be available, will be considered next year.
9. Discussion of Button Fund Raiser – Mike Norton asked if outlets for button sales can be looked into. Can the Clerk's office sell buttons? Rob will check with Sue Ertmer. Mike would like to revisit this issue when the summer season gets closer regarding selling buttons at events and committee members selling buttons.
10. Parks Director's Updates: - 1.) Lifest is still looking for sponsors for the stage project. A meeting is to be scheduled this month with Lifest representatives to discuss progress. 2.) The cross country ski trails within the park are now groomed for both traditional and skate skiing. 3.) The Waukau Creek mountain bike trail project is undergoing a delay due to insurance requirements. In order to accommodate the insurance requirements the Oshkosh Cycling Club (OCC) would need upwards of \$3,500.00 for insurance policy. Staff will be meeting with OCC representatives to explore how the Parks Department might be able to assist in this matter. 4.) Outagamie County is leaving their portion of the WIOUWASH Trail open continuously for snowmobile access. Winnebago County is not, therefore some questions/conflicts may arise. 5.) Rob has been attending navigational aids meetings regarding the need for buoys along the lower Fox River. No current system is in place, though there is a need with the locks opening up. Some headway is being made with having, a state agency be responsible for administrating the program. Given his background with the Winnebago County Navigation Aids Program, Rob is attending these meetings to provide advice as need. Future meetings have been scheduled. 6.) Code violations regarding aspects of the Expo milkhouse and its use during the fair were brought to the committee's attention. There is a crack in the floor that Parks will look at repairing, however there are other items that have been brought to the attention of Darryl McCauley of UWEX who is in charge of the 4H Meat Animal Project. Those items center on use of certain equipment during the fair and not the milkhouse structure itself. Darryl will be contacting sources to find out about rectifying of the issues brought up.
11. Committee Chairman's Updates: Vice-chairman Konetzke reported that he attended a meeting with Solid Waste regarding the future of the Ken Roble Nature Area. This subject should be put on the next agenda. Vice-chairman Konetzke also noted that he appreciates the good job that is done with the meeting minutes and the agenda overview provided for each committee meeting.
12. Committee Member's Updates: Larry Lautenschlager – none. Steve Binder – requested an update on outdoor fitness equipment. The apparatus will be installed in spring with poured in place surfacing. The surfacing installer is already under contract. Mike Norton – requested an update on WI Bike Week. Vicky provided a timeline of the issues regarding the City of Oshkosh special event permit for this event. The promoter is going to contact her if the newly approved date will work for an event.
13. Staff Updates: Expo/Com. Park Jan. User Group Meeting – Vicky reported that the turnout for the user group meeting was sparse and probably due to the severe cold weather. The minutes from the meeting will be available this week on the web site and Facebook page, and will also be included in next month's meeting packet.
14. Next Meeting Date and Future Agenda Items: February 20, 2017 at 1:30pm. Milkhouse items, Lifest update on stage funding, Ken Roble Nature Area, use of synthetic ice rinks.
15. Adjournment – Vice-chairman Konetzke called for a motion to adjourn. Steve Binder moved to adjourn. Mike Norton seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned 3:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicky Redlin
Program Manager