

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE & TIME: April 17, 2017 @ 1:30 p.m.

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

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

ALSO PRESENT: Rob Way, Vicky Redlin, Tom McInnis – Winnebago County Parks Dept.

1. Call to order – Chairman Finch called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m..
2. Approval of Agenda – Chairman Finch called for a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting. Mike Norton moved to approve the agenda. Tom Konetzke seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
3. Approval of the Minutes of March 20, 2017 – Chairman Finch called for a motion to approve the March meeting minutes. Tom Konetzke moved to approve the March 20, 2017 meeting minutes as submitted. Mike Norton seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
4. Public Comment Relevant to Items on the Agenda - none
5. Approval of Five (5) Year Media Sponsorship Agreement with Cumulus Broadcasting – This contract replaces the previous contract with Woodward Communications which was not renewed. Five years is the standard minimum sponsorship contract for media within the industry. Mike Norton moved to approve the contract. Tom Konetzke seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
6. Update on Pursuit of Asylum Point Bridge Replacement – Rob reported that the Personnel and Finance Committee turned down the Parks Committee's request for \$70,000.00 to replace the current damaged bridge with a clear span bridge and requested that a land bridge option be looked into. Previous questions regarding a land bridge to the WDNR did not garner the type of response that would indicate that it would be the first option that they would want us to pursue. There is a May 1 deadline for WDNR grant requests which will not be met due to the need to have all levels of County approval in place prior to applying. Therefore any new grant request for this project will have to wait until the next WDNR grant cycle which could push replacement of the bridge until 2018 at the earliest if the grant is awarded. Rob had the Highway Commissioner evaluate the site and provide an estimate for putting in a land bridge. This option must be 5' above the water line because it is a navigable waterway. Therefore a 30' long metal culvert or cement box culvert will be needed, which would then be 10' – 12' high with re-enforcements. The preliminary estimate from the Hwy. Commissioner put the project at upwards of \$75,000 with the culvert itself coming in at approximately \$20,000.00. Rob asked the WDNR informally to poll those officials who would approve such a project and the response was that a land bridge probably would not be approved by WDNR as the land bridge would occupy a spot popular for pan fishing. Rob will check if there are any other possible grants available earlier than the next cycle. There is an outstanding question of whether the County's insurance will cover the damage. The insurance would only cover the amount of repairing the damaged bridge. The results from the insurance company should be available sometime late next week. Once this results are known another grant may be applied for (after proper approvals from the P&F Committee and County Board) along

with the insurance money as this is allowed for grants. The project cannot move forward prior to the grant being given as per WDNR.

7. Discussion of Potential North County Dog Park Site – Rob went over the proposed Glatfelter (GF) site. A lease has been received and is presently in the County Executive's hands for review. There are some issues to take care of with the lease namely the rental cost and taxes total amount requested as noted above. GF states that amount will cover their costs; that is their objective with the lease price. They must also continue to monitor the wells, leachate and collector pumping, and consultant fees. After talking to Josh Rabe at Solid Waste the amount requested from GF was found to be reasonable in comparison to SW taking on the monitoring duties. GF is looking into a possible rate reduction in the requested per month lease amount that has been requested by the director. Rob then went over a map of the site and the necessary improvements to complete the park. Items discussed: insurance, amenities, fencing, water and electrical access, existing building, parking lot, naming rights, and sponsorships. The possibility of a public forum to determine public stance on landfill status was discussed. Also who is responsible for someone getting sick from 'contamination' while using the site? In meetings that took place several years ago involving the WDNR and GF, they indicated that they had now issues with the property being used as a dog park. Estimated costs - \$80,000.00 - \$100,000.00 for fence with special gates and ADA access @ \$13.00/linear foot, + a minimum \$100,000.00 for parking lot development (gravel surface). Operational costs may include some help from other municipalities in the area. Possibility of a small dog area was also discussed. Committee members were asked by Chairman Finch to supply dates of availability to have a public forum in the Neenah/Menasha area some time in July. Rob will talk to the County Executive and Corporation Counsel prior to scheduling any public hearings. A date to shoot for is July 10.
8. Approval of Memorial Bench Donation – Rob noted the new design of bench that will be used going forward. The prior design will not be continued with the engraving option so a new design is necessary. The cost of the bench with plaque is \$1,300.00+ without shipping. The donation amount given is \$1,375.00. Installation costs that the park absorbs is approximately \$1750.00 - \$2250.00. This bench is to be installed at the bridge next to the soccer shelter. Tom Konetzke moved to approve the bench donation. Larry Lautenschlager seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
9. Update on Tree Planting Projects within Community Park – Rob introduced the Rotary project of 'a tree planted for every Rotarian'. Vicky explained the program and that the Rotary club she is involved with has convened local stake holders to propose projects for tree planting, both signature projects and smaller projects. There are 3 projects within the Community Park that have made the final list. The next step is providing a plan with location, tree preference, and costs to the group. Those are: replacement of ash tree grove at soccer shelter, construction of a display arboretum for the public to see different tree species available for planting in our area, and the final planting area of The Natural Way which is an oak savanna. Planting would not occur until late fall.
10. Parks Director's Updates: Mascoutin Trail update – with some snowmobile funding from this year a parking area will be put in at the trail also the Audubon signage came out great and plans for the intersection of the trail with the Vine's and Rushes property are going forward. Lifest Update – there is a staff meeting scheduled for Wednesday to discuss where the project is at this time, and Navigation Aids Update – Besides managing the locks, responsibilities of the Lower Fox Nav. Authority may be expanded to include buoy placement and maintenance along the river. They are seeking this expansion of their authority through the state legislature and they are also seeking support from the legislature for a grant of approximately \$350,000.00 for buoys and figure about \$60,000.00 in operational costs. This will not affect

the current program in place in Winnebago County. In addition there is a group, Covey, that will be regularly renting Shelter #1 over the summer on weekdays.

11. Committee Chairman's Updates: Chairman Finch reported that he would like to have a few dates from committee members for a park tour and an additional boat tour. He would ask the dates be sent to Rob within the next two weeks for the months of July and August. Some dates considered; July 31 and August 7 as well as the regular meeting dates for July and August.
12. Committee Member's Updates: Steve Binder – would like an update on the Ken Robl Conservation Area progress. Rob stated the Eileen has met with him and they are working on an MOU to pin down which party is responsible for what as it relates to the development and eventual operation of the site. Mike Norton has had some requests from the ORD Softball Commission that he would like Rob to pass along to Al Wenig, also suggestion of bidding for an Olympic facility. Larry Lautenschlager – no report. Tom Konetzke suggested using the regular meeting dates in July and August for tours.
13. Staff Updates: Vicky Redlin gave an update on the progress of the 50th Birthday Celebration scheduled for August 19 in the Community Park.
14. Next Meeting Date (i.e. Parks Tour) and Future Agenda Items: May 22, 2017 @ 1:30 p.m. at the JPC to avoid conflict with the County Board tour taking place on the regular meeting date of May 15. Dogs at Waukau, Lifest update, Ken Robl Conservation Area update, tour dates, insurance update for Asylum bridge repair/replacement, outcomes of north area dog park discussion with County Exec and Corp Counsel.
15. Adjournment – Chairman Finch called for a motion to adjourn. Tom Konetzke moved to adjourn. Mike Norton seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned 3:54 p.m..

Respectfully Submitted,
Vicky Redlin
Program Manager