

Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date & Time of Meeting: Monday, September 20, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

JP Coughlin Center – Meeting Room B

Present: Tom Konetzke, Steve Binder, Larry Lautenschlager, Mike Norton, Don Nussbaum

Also Present: Adam Breest, Tom McInnis, Rick Helms, Justin DeJager, Ethan Hollenberger (Winnebago County), Jim Erdman (Town of Oshkosh Chairman), Members of Public

1. Call to order:

Steve Binder called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Chairman Konetzke was not present at the start of the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Mike Norton moved to approve the agenda and Larry Lautenschlager seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Approval of August 16, 2021 Minutes:

Mike Norton moved to approve the minutes and Steve Binder seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Public Comment:

Jim Erdman: Would like the DNR to remove section of the Wiouwash Trail from funding by Westwind Rd./Lake Butte de Morts Dr. to the bridge for ATV access. Wants it on next agenda.

5. **Update** – Sunnyview Expo Bid Results and Construction Update

Bids opened a week and a half ago. Two bids – excavating and electrical. Had three bids for electrical work and one bid came back within budget. Only had one bid for excavation and did not accept the bid. Going to re-bid the excavation portion of the project. There was scheduling issues with a lot of contractors. Will extend contract to include work days from Monday through Wednesday into June.

6. **Discussion/Action** – Budget Transfer – Two Donor Benches

Two memorial benches have been donated. One will go in the Community Park and one will be along the Wiouwash Trail. It's \$1,730 for each bench.

Larry Lautenschlager made the motion to approve and it was seconded by Mike Norton. Motion carried 5-0.

7. **Discussion/Action** – Three-year Sunnyview Exposition Center Rental Agreement for the Oshkosh South West Rotary Club

Potential agreement would allow the Rotary Club to either pay \$1,000/year for three years or donate 175 volunteer hours to the Netzer Nature Area.

The committee stated that the Rotary Club is not being charged enough and they should be charged full price for use of the expo and also table and chairs. Managing volunteers can be time consuming and will require staff to help as well as potential insurance issues. Staff will review the contract and bring it back in during the October meeting.

Steve Binder made a motion to send the contract back to staff for revisions and it was seconded by Mike Norton. Motion carried 5-0.

8. **Discussion/Action** – Application for County Conservation Aids Application and Grant Agreement

The Parks Department wants to apply for a yearly grant program with DNR that awards \$1,300. This grant will have to be matched by the Parks Department.

Mike Norton made the motion to apply for the grant and it was seconded by Don Nussbaum. The motion carried 5-0.

9. **Discussion/Action** – Modifying Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Day

The Parks Department would like to move monthly committee meetings from the third Monday of the month to the fourth Monday of the month. It would save time and improve the approval process of items sent to P&F and the County Board; however, the date change would sometimes run into scheduling conflicts with legislative meetings.

Steve Binder made the motion to accept with flex scheduling for legislative meetings and it was seconded by Mike Norton. The motion carried 5-0.

10. **Discussion/Action** – Fees for Events, Programs, and Clubs

The new fees will be for large, special events, which are only held at the County Park or other park property, excluding the Expo Center. These fees will cover expenses that go above and beyond what is normally needed. This new fee would take effect next year. Fees will be consistent with State of Wisconsin rates. Rental fees will still be charged. Work is needed to define what a special event is. It was noted that the soccer clubs do currently put in a lot of money to help maintain fields.

Larry Lautenschlager made a motion for staff to reach out to current event holders and invite them to the next committee meeting for discussion and it was seconded by Mike Norton. The motion carried 5-0.

11. **Discussion/Action** – Funding for the Buoys in Winnebago County

Roger Roth's office is proposing legislation for the State of Wisconsin to fund buoys on the Lake Winnebago system. Parks Dept supports the concept of this proposal and believes it should be broader.

Mike Norton made a motion to support the concept of this funding and it was seconded by Don Nussbaum. The motion carried 5-0.

12. **September Park Tour** – Begin tour at 12:30pm Following Lunch

13. **Parks Director's Updates:**

- a. October Park Tour
 - a. Waukau Dam – Will be the only spot visited during the next park tour.
- b. Asylum Point Bridge Replacement Project – The fabricator is a little behind. We are still hoping for mid to late October ribbon cutting.
- c. Bahling Arbor
 - a. Trail Work – The trail around the pond has been completed.
- d. North County Dog Park
 - a. Ribbon Cutting – Tentatively scheduled for Oct. 8. This will be a soft opening as there are still other things to do at the dog park.
- e. WIOUWASH/City of Oshkosh trail swap – The city and county will continue to have monthly meetings to work out details. Would like to finish in the coming months.
- f. Grundman Boat Launch – Submitted NRDA grant. Asked for \$200,000. We should know if we get the grant on/around October 29. Will meet with DNR on site to discuss possible fish sticks location.
- g. Waiting on information from DNR about ATVs on the trail and funding. This is associated with Jim Erdman's request.

14. **Committee Chairman's Update:**

Location of memorial benches are discussed with the person/group donating the bench. It is ultimately up to Parks Department to OK a location.

We are on good terms with soccer clubs now and need to be careful not to alienate them.

15. **Committee Member's Updates:**

Mike Norton – No comment.

Steve Binder – Requested to know how much revenue the boat launches have brought in this year. Need to make sure we are working toward getting the buoys off the Parks budget.

Larry Lautenschlager – No comment.

Don Nussbaum – No comment.

16. **Staff Updates:**

Vicky Redlin – Not present.

Tom McInnis – Received the new tractor/mower. Dog park fence went in last week. Working on landscaping and signs for the dog park.

Rick Helms – Still short staffed and the Parks crew is helping out at expo once and a while. Might have to focus on just getting more full-timers and being less reliant on seasonals next year.

The new Futurity Horse Show went well overall. It was largest horse show of year and we have a three-year contract with them. At this time, testing and vaccines will continue at the expo through December.

17. Next Meeting Date and Future Agenda Items:

Monday, October 25, 2021 at 10 a.m. with the tour to follow. Alternative date is October 26.

18. Adjournment

Larry Lautenschlager made the motion to adjourn for lunch and it was seconded by Don Nussbaum. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned for lunch at 11:35 a.m.

Meeting resumed at 12:50 p.m at the Sunnyview Exposition Center. for the park tour. Supervisor Nussbaum left at 1:50pm. Larry Lautenschlager made the motion to adjourn and was seconded by Michael Norton. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm from the dog park in Fox Crossings.

Respectfully Submitted,
Justin DeJager
Admin. Asst.