

PARKS & RECREATION MEETING COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: June 8, 2009
PLACE: J.P. Coughlin Building – Volunteer Room
625 E Cty Rd Y, Oshkosh WI
2:00 p.m..
PRESENT: Parks Committee - Jerry Finch, Mike Norton, Nancy Barker, Tom Konetzke, Arlene Schmuhl.
ALSO PRESENT: Rob Way, Vicky Redlin, Bob Lohry – Winnebago County Parks, Merry Mitchell – citizen, Lance Treptow - WQHA

- 1.) Meeting called to order by Chairman Finch at 2:05 p.m.
- 2.) Approval of May 2, 2009 & June 2, 2009 Minutes – Mike Norton moved to approve the May 2, 2009 minutes. Arlene Schmuhl seconded. Tom Konetzke questioned the meeting date for Hwy., DOT, and Lifest. Meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.. Motion carried 5-0. Arlene Schmuhl moved to approve the June 2, 2009 minutes. Tom Konetzke seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
- 3.) Discussion of WIOUWASH Horse Refuse Issue – Rob Way noted the email he received which is included in committee members packets. The refuse was also noted on the committee tour of the trail on June 2. Merry Mitchell passed out a survey that her husband took regarding the areas of refuse on the trail. It seems from the data that the horse refuse is located at specific areas along the trail adjacent to riding stables and farms. She also stated that there is an area of the trail in Outagamie County that has a sizeable amount of refuse as well. Rob Way then went on to make note of the written materials that he had sent-out and posted in previous years; both were included in the packet. The two documents were addressed to the general population of horseback riders who use the trail. Rob Way continued by explaining that the narratives used a persuasive approach to solicit their support in trying to come-up with solutions for the horse refuse problem. Rob Way went on to point-out that on the average there are about 2 to 3 complaints a year regarding this issue, usually in the early summer months just before the mowers begin the task of bi-monthly cutting alongside the trail. Jerry Finch stated that it should be the responsibility of the horse owner/rider to take care of the refuse emitted by their animal much as the owners of dogs who use Parks facilities are responsible for the refuse from their animals. However, there is not a specific ordinance noting horses as there is for dogs. Merry Mitchell stated that because of the height of some of the horses, it would not be possible for some riders to be able to remount their animal once they had made the attempt to remove the horse refuse off the trail. Jerry Finch stated that if this becomes more of a problem horses may be banned from using the trail. It was suggested that Rob Way contact the stable owners and farmers in the area and ask them to post a memo asking for riders to be considerate and clean up after their horses on the trail, or possibly to walk the trail every other week to move refuse to the side. Signs to 'curb your horse' will also be added to areas of the trail. A posting will also go up on the trail message board concerning this issue. Merry Mitchell will

mention it to the 4H Horse group of which she is a member as well. Merry Mitchell excused.

- 4.) Approval of Budget Transfer to Apply \$11,873.00 WQHA Donation towards Expo Electric Service Upgrades – Rob Way explained the ongoing need for more electrical hook ups for campers during horse shows. A description of the proposed project is included in a memo sent to the Facilities Dept. that was included in the Committee packets. The Facilities electrician must be used for some of this work. Lance Treptow stated that it is becoming more of an issue that is hindering growth of horse shows as well as bringing in more shows without the added capacity for electrical hook ups for campers. Mr. Treptow also stated that WQHA is interested in working with the Parks Dept. to install more electrical in the future and doing fundraisers to fund the projects. The current project is able to go ahead because of the addition of the new electrical lines along Hwy. Y done during the road re-construction. The addition of these electrical hook ups will be beneficial to all groups using the facility. Arlene Schmuhl moved to approve the budget transfer. Mike Norton seconded. Mike Norton stated that he would like a deadline given to the Facilities Dept. to finish the project. The work order sent to the Facilities Dept. stated a deadline of before the County Fair. M.C. 5-0.
- 5.) Consideration of placement of Commemorative Bench along WIOUWASH – Jerry Finch stated that he would like a bench placed along the trail to commemorate the filming of Public Enemies in the area between Breezewood and Oakridge Roads. He suggested contacting the Town of Clayton to see if they would like to fund half of the bench. The cost is approximately \$1,000.00 for a bench like the ones currently installed at the Cty. Rd. Y trailhead parking lot. Tom Konetzke stated that he would like info on the bench or sign to emphasize the historic significance of the film rather than the Hollywood aspect. Mike Norton indicated that he thought it more beneficial to utilize a sign rather than a bench to convey the premise for marking the trail at that spot. Nancy Barker said she would prefer a bench rather than a sign because of the ability for it to provide a two fold benefit. Rob Way will look into the types of benches and signs available and contact the Town of Clayton to see if they are interested in participating.
- 6.) Discussion of Parking Needs for County Fair – Previous to the Committee meeting, Tom Egan Fair Board President discussed with Rob Way the option to use the County Park for Fair parking if necessary due to the re-construction of Cty Hwy Y. The request will be put into writing as per past practice to secure the necessary area for Fair use if necessary.
- 7.) Examination of Options for Development of a Marketing Video Featuring County Parks Properties – Mike Norton brought up the idea of a marketing video for the Parks as he has info of one being done by the UWEX for Oconto County. Bob Lohry arrives 3:00 p.m.. Rob Way checked with Catherine Neiswender of the UWEX to see if she knows of any other parties within the UWEX System that have the capability to produce such a video. She will get back in touch when she finds out the particulars. Rob Way explained how Catherine had indicated that the UWEX can only do educational subjects and that the material expenses would

- undoubtedly be paid for by the Parks Department. Rob Way went on to point-out that it seemed as if this type of project would be more centered on being a piece used for marketing purposes. Mike Norton passed along information about the Oconto County UWEX and their making of a video for the Oconto County Sheriff's Department. Arlene Schmuhl suggested an intern or class from UWO or UW Fox Valley put together the video. She also has an option of checking on doing a segment for Discover Wisconsin on PBS for a 10 minute segment funded by an ITDBEC grant. Rob Way will investigate the possibilities discussed.
- 8.) Parks Director's Updates: Rob Way reported that the Memorial Day Hmong Festival went smoothly. However the event has grown to a point where it will have to reflect the current Labor Day Hmong Festival in future permits.
 - 9.) Committee Chairman's Updates : none
 - 10.) Committee Member's Updates: Nancy Barker reported on the LWCD Conservation Expo held at the Sunnyview Expo Center. Mike Norton, Tom Konetzke and Jerry Finch all complimented staff for the great June 2 Parks tour. Mike Norton asked that Chairman Finch report on the tour at the next County Board meeting.
 - 11.) Staff Updates: Vicky Redlin reported on the successful Memorial Day Rummage Sale event, and the project taken on by the Expo Center's summer intern to list the Sunnyview Cemetery and Asylum Point Light House on the National Register of Historic Places. Bob Lohry reported that the bollards are going in at Asylum Point boat landing. He also mentioned that the boot brush has been installed along the WIOUWASH trail at the Allenville parking lot.
 - 12.) Community Park tour cancelled due to rain by Chairman Finch.
 - 13.) Not necessary as tour was cancelled.
 - 14.) Future Agenda Items – bench/sign commemorating Public Enemies, horse refuse letter for posting, options for marketing video, August tour of park and Expo.
 - 15.) Next Meeting Date – July 6, 2009 at 2:00 p.m..
 - 16.) Adjournment – Chairman Finch called for a motion to adjourn. Tom Konetzke moved to adjourn. Nancy Barker seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned 4:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vicky Redlin
Asst. Expo Mgr.