

**JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
320 SOUTH MAIN ST, JEFFERSON WI 53549
ROOM 202**

April 2, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.

Committee: Glen Borland-Chairman, Paul Babcock, Rick Kuhlman, Steve Nass, Augie Tietz

1. Call the Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Borland at 1:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Committee members present included: Borland, Babcock, Kuhlman, Nass and Tietz.
Others Present: Joe Nehmer, Kevin Wiesmann, John Molinaro, Gary Petre, Phil Ristow,
Jane Stanger, Kim Buchholz, Krohmer, Oxley

3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law – In Compliance

4. Review of the Agenda – Approved

5. Approval of March 5, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Nass, seconded by Babcock to approve the March 5, 2012 meeting minutes with correction to Item 1.

6. Public Comment - none

7. Communications

- a. Whooping Cranes Spotted at Carnes Park 3/7/12
- b. National Water Trails System
- c. Parks Endowment Fund Update – Jefferson County Advertiser
- d. Support our County Parks – The Daily Union Opinion Page
- e. Mason Farm Cabin Restoration - \$4,000 grant approval
- f. Handicap Fishing Wharf Update
- g. Mason Cabin Restoration Project Public Meeting Set – Daily Union

8. Joint Effort Marketing Grant – Janie Krohmer and Merri Oxley

Krohmer distributed the Project Summary and reported on what has been done within the first six months of the JEM Grant Project. Oxley informed the committee that the hope is to have the work completed by August 1st. The next step is to apply for year 2 under the JEM Grant which requires a 50/50 match. In year three, 25/75 match is required. Both Krohmer and Oxley stated that the project needs to keep within the timeline of putting all the information together.

9. Flood Mitigation Property Update – Letter from Larry Skelly, Discussion and Possible Decision

The committee discussed an email from Larry Skelly regarding the flood mitigation properties on Oxbow Bend concerning the parking and trash. The association has offered to furnish rocks to put on the properties to keep cars off. The committee asked the Parks Supervisor to work with Mr. Skelly and his association on placement of the rocks and safety issues. When this has all been determined the Parks Department will formally go to the County Board sponsoring a resolution to accept the donation of the rocks and the association's volunteer assistance.

10. Garman Nature Preserve – Kevin Wiesmann

Weismann reported on the forest improvement project being done at the Garman Nature Preserve. The project objectives were to improve the stand by opening up the canopy to promote native species growth. In order to do a thorough invasive plant removal and management plan, the thinning of trees is necessary to promote forest health.

11. Community Development Block Grant for Proposed Bike Trails – Tietz

Tietz updated the committee on the Community Development Block Grant. The project has not been moving forward in the last two months. The original request was for \$25,000 for strictly doing testing and route planning. We will be talking to the Department of Commerce tomorrow. There is some indication that the project may still be a possibility.

12. Rock River Trail Initiative Update

Nehmer reported on the continuing good work of the Rock River Trail Initiative and Greg Farnham. They are establishing committees to give specific information to the National Parks Service. Joe has agreed to sit on the camping and trails and marketing and partnerships.

13. Glacial Heritage Area Update

Nehmer reported on last week's GHA meeting.

- a. A planning meeting was held for Holzhueter Park to develop a strategy to complete the master plan. The master plan will be developed prior to an MOU being completed.
- b. The Natural Resources Board voted unanimously to approve the acquisition of one of the inholding parcels of land at Holzhueter State Park. The other parcel is still being worked on by the DNR.
- c. GHA is putting together two new subgroups; horse trails and a river corridor. Augie Tietz has agreed to head the horse trails and the trails group.
- d. The Work Plan was discussed.
- e. Brochures for GHA are printed and are being distributed.
- f. The GHA Asset Map has been completed but not printed yet.
- g. The website is up and running.
- h. Work continues to develop bike trails. There is an emphasis on completing the feasibility study from Watertown to Waterloo and Waterloo to Lake Mills. Funding options, including a CDBG Planning Grant, are being researched.

14. Set Tentative Meeting Dates/Times

The next meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2012 at 1:00 pm.

15. Adjourn

Motion made to adjourn at 1:55 p.m. Kuhlman/Tietz. Motion carried.