

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

May 7, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.

Committee: Glen Borland-Chairman, Mike Kelly, Rick Kuhlman, Steve Nass, Augie Tietz

1. Call the Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Borland at 1:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call

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

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

4. Election of Parks Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary

Committee held elections of officers:

Motion was made by Nass to nominate Glen Borland for Parks Committee Chairman. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Borland to nominate Augie Tietz for Parks Committee Vice-Chairman. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Nass to nominate Mike Kelly for Parks Committee Secretary. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Review of the Agenda – Approved

6. Approval of April 2, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Tietz, seconded by Nass, to approve the April 2, 2012 meeting minutes. Motion carried 3-0, Kelly abstained.

7. Public Comment - none

8. Communications

- a. Birding Habitat Program is Held – Daily Union
- b. Mason Cabin Restoration Project in Need of Volunteers – Advertiser
- c. Garman Nature Preserve – Advertiser
- d. The Dorothy Dash
- e. April 12th letter from Charlie Luthin, Natural Resources Foundation
- f. Rock River Trail Gains Momentum – Beloit Daily News

- g. Rockin on the Rock – Quad-City Times
 - h. Phone Call from John Parmley “why don’t we have more roads in parks?”
 - i. Letter from Town of Sumner regarding Flood Mitigation Properties in the Town of Sumner
 - j. Carnes Park Weed Pull May 5, 2012
 - k. Weed Pull at Dog Park April 14, 2012
 - l. Weed Pull at Garman Nature Preserve April 14, 2012
9. Joint Effort Marketing Grant – Janie Krohmer and Merri Oxley

Krohmer reported that they are finishing up the research component of the JEM Grant and working intently on consolidating the information. The final report will include the following four components:

- 1. Strategic planning information
- 2. Baseline data information
- 3. Qualitative research information
- 4. Quantitative research information

In addition, Krohmer and Oxley will produce a 10 page Executive Summary that will be easy to read.

10. Discussion and possible decision on thistle concerns at Dorothy Carnes Park

Wiesmann discussed the plan of action to control the thistle population at Dorothy Carnes Park. The committee was in agreement with the plan and asked Wiesmann to proceed.

11. Discussion and possible decisions on the following resolutions:

- a. Snowmobile Trails Aid Grant Program
- b. River Protection Grant Program
- c. Recreational Boating Grant Program
- d. Flood Mitigation Properties Donations
- e. Donations of logs to be used in the Mason Farm cabin restoration

The above resolutions were discussed with the Parks Committee.

Motion made by Nass, seconded by Tietz to advance the resolutions a, b and d, to the May County Board. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion made by Borland seconded by Nass, to advance resolutions c and e to the June County Board. Motion carried 4-0.

12. Discussion and possible decision on planning funding for GHA Projects

Nehmer informed the committee that the Quirk Foundation has given \$7,000 to the county for bicycle related planning in the greater Watertown Area. We now need \$7,000 match. This was not budgeted in the 2012 budget. Nehmer asked the committee to consider going to finance committee and ask for \$7,000 to match the \$7,000 from the Quirk Foundation for pre-engineering feasibility work.

**Motion made by Nass, seconded by Tietz, to approach the Finance Committee to request a \$7,000 match for the pre-engineering feasibility study.
Motion carried 4-0.**

13. Discussion and possible decision on County Hwy O & bike upgrades

Nehmer discussed County Hwy O and bike upgrades due to annual accidents reported. It was agreed to ask the Highway Department on costs. After talking to the Highway Department we will discuss this item further.

14. Update on Camping at Dorothy Carnes County Park

Wiesmann commented on the progress of the camping sites being developed. The permitting process has proved to be more challenging than anticipated. It is the recommendation of the department to budget for a water source and restroom facility in 2013 and open the camping in 2013. Discussion occurred.

15. Community Development Block Grant for proposed bike trails – Tietz

Tietz updated the committee on the grant and other grants pertaining to the bike trail development. The Community Development Block Grant is no longer an option.

16. Rock River Trail Initiative Update

Nehmer stated this initiative continues to move forward. The goal is to have an application in by November to the Department of Interior National Parks Service. Last week we spoke at the Wake-Up Watertown meeting that was attended by over 100 Watertown business people. We talked about GHA and Greg Farnham, from the Rock River Trail Initiative gave a brief talk on the progress of the Rock River Trail Initiative. The next Rock River Trail Initiative, meeting will this Friday in Illinois and Nehmer will be attending.

17. Glacial Heritage Update

Tietz informed the committee the next GHA meeting will be on May 21st in Lake Mills 3:30-5:30.

18. CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO S.1985(1)(E) for the purpose of deliberation or negotiating the purchasing of public properties

Motion to go into closed session at 2:20 p.m. Tietz/Nass, carried 4-0.

Roll call taken: Borland, Kelly, Nass, Tietz, Nehmer, Stanger, Wiesmann Petre, Ristow, Molinaro.

19. Reconvene in open session to take possible action on items discussed in closed session

Motion to reconvene into open session at 2:40 p.m. Tietz/Nass, carried 4-0.

Motion made by Nass, seconded by Tietz to authorize \$83,000 from the Carol Liddle Fund to allow Nehmer to negotiate the real estate sale of the property discussed and report back to the committee on negotiations. Motion carried 4-0.

20. Set Tentative Meeting Dates/Times for June 4, 2012 at 1 p.m.

It was decided to have July meeting on June 25, 2012 at 1 p.m. with a park tour included.

21. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn

Motion made to adjourn at 2:55 p.m. Tietz/Nass. Motion carried 4-0.