

Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date & Time of Meeting: Monday, February 15, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

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

Also Present: Vicky Redlin, Tom McInnis, Justin DeJager, Jim Erdman (Town of Oshkosh Chairman), Pat O'Brien (Solid Waste Management Board)

1. Call to Order:

Chairman Konetzke called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda:

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

3. Approval of January 18th, 2021 Minutes:

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

4. Public Comment:

No comments.

5. Discussion of property for sale adjacent to east side of Lake Butte des Morts as may be appropriate for future parking for lake access.

Jim Erdman would like the Winnebago County Parks Department to purchase property located near the intersection of Ryf Road and Lake Butte des Morts Drive. This property would be used for parking for people who are accessing the ice off of Edgewood Drive. Castle Piece owns this property. He is not sure how much the property is being sold for. No problems now that the ice is frozen. Steve Binder mentioned there is a piece of land owned by the State DOT (Near Westwind Road and Lake Butte des Morts Drive) that could be usable and it may be available at little to no cost. The property adjacent to Castle Pierce is probably too expensive, unless they are willing to donate property. We need to wait until new director is in place to address this. Until then, Jim Erdman can talk to Castle Pierce to see if they will donate the land. Now that that ice is frozen, parking is not a problem. Since this proposed parking lot will mainly be used during the winter, when land is frozen, it should probably be a low-budget parking lot, used only six weeks out of the year. Larry Lautenschlager commented that most problems are in winter and for only about six weeks. This is not an official county boat landing, it's only a lake access spot. Why is it the County's responsibility to make this parking lot? Jim Erdman will gather more information about the land by Castle Pierce for the next meeting.

6. Approval of Resolution to bond for funding of Phase 1 Expo Improvements. *Attached document.*

Vicky mentioned that we don't actually have to have resolutions at committee levels. Nothing has changed since last time. This will go to P&F March 4. Don Nussbaum made the motion to approve and it was seconded by Steve Binder. Motion carried 5-0

7. Approval of Resolution to bond for funding of Field Mower.

This will also go to P&F March 4. Larry Lautenschlager made the motion to approve and it was seconded by Steve Binder. Motion carried 5-0

8. Discussion of 2020 Boat Launch Trailer Parking Permit Program year-end revenue report.

Vicky said the boat launch revenue was down significantly during the 2020 boating season. Covid was a big factor and the Grundman boat launch was not accessible for a while due to road construction. The Parks Department also did not start charging fees for first three weeks of boating season and people are not spending as much as usual due to the economic climate. The Parks Department needs to have \$120,000 in reserve boat launch funds, but currently has significantly less than that. \$120k is about a year's worth of permit revenue. Steve Binder mentioned that this reserve should be increased to \$130,000 based on the last five years of revenue averaging around \$130k. Vicky said this reserve was set up by the Finance Dept. and it's been \$120k since a fee structure was instituted. She will talk to Doug and Vicky about that limit. Online boat launch stickers will be ready for purchase March 1. Fish Tales and Festival will also be selling permits again.

9. Discussion of next steps regarding Grundman Landing Master Plan including adding renaming to the final plan.

Vicky said that after consulting with Vicky F., we are not meeting the \$120,000 reserve. Currently, we have under \$50,000 left in that fund. DNR requires that we have the matching % amount in hand when applying for grants. We could start on engineering for parking in 2021. Backing up has been major problem at Grundman and Tom McInnis has a plan to make it safer for backing up, thus solving the initial problem identified by concerned neighbors. Tom McInnis made simple solution for a turnaround near the entrance to the parking area, placing tear-drop turn around area so boaters can approach ramps going forward, not in reverse. It does not add parking spots, but makes it so people don't have to back up. This work would not be wasted when we move forward with the master plan since the area is to be paved and the gravel would be used as a base. Vicky said \$120,000 is not enough to do the total project. We need to apply for DNR grants. It's possible that we would be eligible for an 80/20 grant, but not a guarantee. Could be 50/50 or nothing at all. There are other possible grants to look at as well. The total amount for the whole project is projected to be \$1.62 million. Don Nussbaum mentioned the possibility of cutting out some things such as ramps or break-wall relocation from the master plan to save money. Committee members agreed that we should move forward with the master plan and ask the Winnebago County Board for \$300,000. Steve Binder moved to request \$300,000 from the general fund for this project. Mike Norton seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Vicky will discuss with the Finance Dept. to put a resolution together and work on preparing a presentation for the March 2 Special Orders Board meeting.

10. Discussion of MOU between Winnebago County Solid Waste Management board and Winnebago County Parks and Recreation Committee regarding Ken Robl Conservation Park maintenance. *Attached document.*

Vicky said the dollar amount of maintenance is not included in the MOU. Parks bills SWMB \$3,000 annually for grass cutting. Steven Binder said we should consider giving the maintenance duties back to the SWMB and terminate MOU. Pat O'Brien, chair of SWMB, said Rob Way's vision was to have pavilion, sledding hill, trail connecting to Sunnyview. All agreed that the park is a great way to honor Ken Robl. Steve Binder mentioned that we should split maintenance 50/50 with Waste Management in perpetuity, and will not accept 100% of the maintenance at the park. According to the current proposal provided by SWMB, by 2025 Parks we will have to accept 100% of the maintenance on the park. Pat O'Brien will relay this information to the SWMB to open lines of communication. Discussion will continue at a future meeting.

11. Acting Parks Director's Updates:

- a. North Cty. Dog Park - The land is officially ours. In the process of working with Corp. Counsel on lease agreement with Fox Crossing. Just need a driveway permit, no others needed. Once done, Highway will put us on schedule for late April. Tom McInnis is getting proposals for fence.
- b. Asylum Point Bridge Replacement Project - We had issues with being over-budget. Radke was able to keep price the same. Right now, we are waiting on them to sign the contract.
- c. Bahling Arbor - We have specs and design for the project. Looking to see if we can install or if we need someone else to install. Bids due March 18. Could start project as soon as it's built.
- d. Winchester Lions donation - \$1,000 donation for maintaining Wiouwash Trail. Sent thank you letter to them.
- e. Update on computer software for credit card and online rentals/permits - RecDesk software is on track to be ready to go by March 1. We will be using it to sell boat launch parking permits this year.
- f. There is a venue management company interested in Sunnyview Stadium. They focus on smaller communities and are affiliates with Live Nation and have a long-standing contract with City of Racine. Last Tuesday, we put an RFP out for a venue manager of stadium. Waiting to hear back from them. Would most likely be a revenue sharing agreement.
- g. Getting an Oshkosh youth baseball tournament this summer.
- h. Two more horse shows signed up, and a cat show. Looking at alternative dates for other events.
- i. Advertising is set through March.

12. Committee Chairman's Update:

Generators – Mike Elder is in the process of getting info from WPS. Had meeting two weeks ago. Working on dollar figures on what needs to be done to current buildings before a generator can be installed. Will have another meeting in March. \$800k is budgeted within Facilities Dept. to fund the project. Sunnyview is an evacuation center for the entire county. Because of the pandemic, some issues came up and Sunnyview did not meet necessary FEMA requirements.

13. Committee Member's Updates:

Mike Norton – None.

Steve Binder – Would like to see a generator on the Sunnyview site.

Larry Lautenschlager – None.

Don Nussbaum - On the mower resolution, make sure the committee chair is listed first, not Don.

14. Staff Updates:

Tom McInnis – Eight of the buoys have been finished, hope to get 15 years out of the new paint job.

Snow plowing is going very well this year. Track Skid Loader and Toolcat have been ordered and should be here by spring. The current Toolcat is 16 years old and falling apart.

Next Meeting Date:

March 15, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. #3 & #4 MP, BdM MP, Fox Crossing Lease, Grundman MP, Bahling Arbor, Stadium Venue Manager RFP, SWMB MOU.

Adjournment:

Motioned by Mike Norton. Seconded by Larry Lautenschlager. Meeting adjourned 11:54 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Justin DeJager
Admin. Asst.