

## **Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes**

Date & Time of Meeting: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 at 3:30 p.m.

J.P. Coughlin Center, meeting room B

Present: Mike Norton, Rachael Dowling, Jim Ponzer, Karen Powers, Steve Binder

Also Present: Adam Breest, Tom McInnis, Justin DeJager, Dana Berger (4H Representative)

1. Call to order:

Mike Norton called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Karen Powers moved to approve the agenda and Rachel Dowling seconded.  
Motion carried 5-0.

3. Approval of June 27, 2022 Minutes:

Rachel Dowling moved to approve the minutes and Steve Binder seconded.  
Motion carried 5-0.

4. Public Comment:

No Comment.

5. **Discussion** – 4H Use of Sunnyview Exposition Center Agreement

Dana Berger explained what 4H does at the Expo.

Reviewed current policy statement between the Parks Dept. and 4H. The policy sets fees and terms for rental of the Sunnyview Expo Center for 4H events/activities.

Would like to eliminate policy of bumping the 4H for other events. Discussed fees.

6. **Discussion/Possible Action** – Access to Lake Butte des Morts - Town of Oshkosh

Jim Erdman, Town of Oshkosh Chairman - Discussed access options onto Lake Butte des Morts and parking lot areas.

Bill Demler, Town of Oshkosh Supervisor - Discussed access options onto Lake Butte des Morts and parking lot areas.

Would give more recreational opportunities to citizens. Sets precedence for other communities to request the same thing.

Discussed Town of Oshkosh's request for the Parks Dept. to allow ATV use from Nov-Mar along the Wiouwash Trail from Westwind Road to the first bridge for access to Lake Butte des Morts. Could Parks Dept. help put in a parking lot, but not allow ATVs on the trail.

Rachel Dowling made motion to initiate contact with the DOT on behalf of the Town of Oshkosh to find out if land can be acquired for the purpose of creating a parking lot on current DOT land

between the WIOUWASH Trail and Lake Butte des Morts Drive just north of Westwind Road. Mike Norton seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

7. Staff Updates:

Adam Breest – One of our seasonal employees recently passed away. Grundman boat landing grant presentation coming up. Working to replace sign at Expo. Asylum parking lot still needs work complete by Radtke. Lighting coming to Jerry Finch Dog Park in a couple weeks. Next agenda will include Expo utilities and Grundman Boat Landing budget request.

Tom McInnis – Lifest and Soccer Saturday went well. The Highway Department will no longer work on our equipment due to staffing issues. We'll have to do more in-house work and send jobs to other service companies. The July 23<sup>rd</sup> storm cause a lot of damage around park property, and we lost approx. 110 trees. Losing three seasonal employees next week.

8. Committee Member's Updates:

Mike Norton – Asked for questions from committee to ask to the County Board.

How do they use the parks?  
Greatest need at parks system?  
General feelings about parks in the county?  
Map for all boat landings and trails?

Would like ad hoc committee for arts in Winnebago County.  
Would like app for parks system in Winnebago County.  
Would like to have citizen member within the committee.

Rachael Dowling – No comment.

Jim Ponzer – No comment.

Karen Powers – Was not happy with actions of the Town of Oshkosh representatives during the committee meeting.

Steve Binder – Limited mechanics at Highway Dept. Roundabouts at Community Park needs work. We don't have enough man-power to keep up.

9. Next Meeting Date:

August 22 at 3:30 p.m.

10. Future Agenda Items:

- 2023-2024 Sunnyview Exposition Center Utility Fee
- BMX Five-Year Contract
- Citizen Member and Arts Committee

- Update on possible parking lot

11. Adjournment

Karen Powers made the motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Jim Ponzer. The motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Justin DeJager