

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Name of Committee: Parks & Recreation Committee
Date of Meeting & Time: Monday, October 16, 2017 at 1:30 P.M.
Place of Meeting: **Coughlin Building –Volunteer Rm.**
625 E. Cty. Rd. Y
Oshkosh WI 54901

PRESENT: Parks Committee – Jerry Finch, Tom Konetzke, Mike Norton, Larry Lautenschlager, Steve Binder

ALSO PRESENT: Rob Way, Vicky Redlin – Winnebago County Parks Dept., Bill Roh – Winnebago County Board Supervisor, Bob Schmeichel – Town of Neenah Chairperson, Debbie Rosenfeldt, Tom Rosenfeldt, Harrison Sturgis – Citizens of town of Neenah.

1. Call to order – Chairman Finch called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m..
2. Approval of Agenda – Chairman Finch called for a motion to approve today’s meeting agenda. Steve Binder moved to approve, Mike Norton seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
3. Approval of the Minutes of September 18, 2017 – Chairman Finch called for a motion to approve the September meeting minutes. Tom Konetzke moved to approve, Steve Binder seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
4. Public Comment Relevant to Items on the Agenda – Harrison Sturgis brought forth a question as to whether or not the Fox Crossings Landfill had been considered as a dog park? Mr. Sturgis then inquired as to what the appropriate size of a dog park should be? Tom and Debbie Rosenfeldt spoke against the use of the Glatfelter property for a dog park citing various reasons including, traffic concerns, noise and property values. Bob Schmeichel indicated that he was there as a representative of the Town of Neenah and he would be happy to answer any questions that would be directed towards the municipality. Bill Roh questioned whether fencing can be driven into a landfill and asked that citizens be notified well in advance of any new properties being considered
5. Discussion and Action on Further Consideration of the Glatfelter Property for Use as a Dog Park – Jerry Finch noted that the search for a dog park in the northern area of the county has gone on for 12 to 14 years and the Glatfelter property has been a front runner for the last 3 or 4 years with no negative input from citizens. However, with the negative comments from the last informational meeting as well as today’s he will not support that particular property. Larry Lautenschlager stated that the traffic concerns that have been brought up cause him to oppose the site as well. Steve Binder questioned the notification process and whether a notice is necessary for each property that is even looked at. Rob will look into what the specifications are for advance notice. He also noted that the Parks Committee did nothing wrong in holding the informational meeting last month as there was no contract agreement in place and no formal contract had yet been brought forward for acceptance. He went on to indicate that the provisions of the lease were still under negotiation so any move to hold an official public hearing on the matter would have been premature. Mike Norton stated that he does not favor pursuing this property. Tom Konetzke put forth that there were more people who seemed to support this property but after notice from the more vocal opposition he will not support this property. Steve binder moved to no longer consider the Glatfelter property for a north county dog park. Mike Norton seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

6. Approval of Funding Request for Asylum Point Park Walking Bridge Repairs – Rob went over the latest quote for repair of the bridge as is. He stated that the lease with the DNR is up for renewal again next year. We pay no rent on the lease and previously had a 20 year contract until the DNR switched to 5 year contracts for the properties they rent to municipalities. The idea of not repairing or replacing was discussed and noted that the DNR would then have to replace it. Since the DNR faces major budget cuts from the state legislature it was speculated that they would not repair or replace the bridge and either way the public would only note that the parks did not correct the problem. Since there is still a lease in place the county must do the repair as per that agreement. Rob explained that originally in house funding was planned for repair along with any insurance money that would pay for only replacing as is, not redoing as clear span. The P&F committee requested that a land bridge be looked into and did not approve the amount requested previously. The land bridge would cost \$125,000.00 which is considerably higher than the clear span cost of \$78,000.00. If the approval had been granted earlier then a grant could have been applied for that would pay 50% of the cost. Steve Binder stated that a clear span bridge would not have to be replaced for at least 60 years but repairing the bridge as is could be wiped out by ice shoves again in a year which would require another \$28,000.00 to repair it. It is more cost effective to do the clear span now instead of repeatedly pay for repairs whenever the ice destroys it. Mike Norton moved to approve the \$28,000.00 for repair. Larry Lautenschlager seconded. Further discussion ensued. Mike Norton moved to postpone the decision until the December meeting. Larry Lautenschlager seconded. It was noted that there is no monies allocated for this in house any more this year. There is another grant cycle coming up in the spring and if not then in August of next year for the DNR which could be applied for. Mike Norton withdrew his motion to postpone a decision. Mike Norton moved to amend his previous motion to approve a request to seek replacement of the bridge with a clear span bridge using a current estimate for such and apply for the next DNR grant cycle for 50% funding. Larry Lautenschlager seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

7. **CLOSED SESSION**

The presiding officer of the Parks & Recreation Committee at this point in the meeting shall entertain a motion of convene in closed session pursuant to the exemption provided in State Statutes Section 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public property and for conducting other specified public business, in that competitive bargaining reasons required closed session.

Mike Norton moved to convene in closed session. Larry Lautenschlager seconded. Roll call vote: Finch- aye, Lautenschlager-aye, Binder – aye, Norton – aye, Konetzke - aye. Motion carried 5-0. Closed session entered into at 2:19 p.m.

At the conclusion of the session, the presiding officer of the committee shall entertain a motion to reconvene in open session.

Larry Lautenschlager moved to reconvene in open session. Mike Norton seconded. Roll call vote: Finch-aye, Lautenschlager-aye, Binder – aye, Norton-aye, Konetzke – aye. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting reconvened in open session 4:25 p.m..

8. Approval of Amendment to General Code Chapter 19.16(3) to only Allow for Specific types of Boats to be used on the Ken Robl Conservation Park Pond - withdrawn until next meeting
9. Parks Director's Updates: Waukau Dam off-road bikes paths have now been approved to use the lower area over on the west side of the property for single track as well. There was a ride on the Mascoutin this past weekend and a report will be given next month on that.

10. Committee Chairman's Updates: none
11. Committee Member's Updates: Steve Binder requested that the next steps be taken to acquire the 30 acre property to the east of the expo as regardless of the need for Lifest camping the expo is currently landlocked and will not be able to expand in the future without additional land. Land to the east of the expo is available however there are currently offers being made on the property. Mike Norton questioned the Rocktoberfest event. Vicky noted that it has been cancelled by the promoter. Mike also asked if any additional marketing plans are being looked into with the city's approval of increased special events permit fees since the expo is exempt from most city fees. Vicky replied that the OCVB is actively marketing the expo with that in mind. Larry Lautenschlager has been advocating for expo usage in light of the new city fees. Tom Konezke asked if cluster piles could be put in to avoid more ice damage to the bridge at Asylum. Rob stated that there are pros and cons to such piles but there remains the chance for the ice to again demolish the bridge.
12. Staff Updates: none
13. Next Meeting Date and Future Agenda Items: October 30, 2017 at 2pm or 4pm, regular meeting November 20, 2017 at 1:30pm. Purchase of 30 acre property on next agenda.
14. Adjournment – Chairman Finch called for a motion to adjourn. Mike Norton moved to adjourn. Larry Lautenschlager seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m..

Respectfully Submitted,
Vicky Redlin
Program Manager