

## **PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

DATE & TIME: December 19, 2016 @ 1:30 p.m.

PLACE: JP Coughlin Center  
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... Emily Dieringer – Winnebago County Health Dept., Melissa Kramer Badtke, Kim Biederman - ECWRPC

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 the agenda. Tom Konetzke moved to approve the agenda. Mike Norton seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
3. Approval of Minutes from November 21, 2016 – Chairman Finch called for a motion to approve the November meeting minutes. Tom Konetzke moved to approve the minutes. Larry Lautenschlager seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
4. Public Comment Relevant to Items on the Agenda - none
5. Review and Approve: A presentation to the County Board on the Winnebago County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan – Rob introduced Emily, Melissa and Kim. He prefaced their presentation of the Winnebago County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan by saying that in the past there has been no cohesive plan to connect all the municipalities within the county who either have a plan of their own or no plan at all. So this plan is to connect these municipalities to each other and beyond to the adjoining counties. Emily stated that the plan is first being presented to the Hwy. Committee, Board of Health and Parks for a approval to send to the County Board for a presentation at the special orders meeting in January 2017. This plan is to be used as a guide for future planning and there is no dollar commitment. The Hwy. Committee has approved the presentation for the County Board special orders meeting and the Board of Health will be voting on the same at its January 6, 2017 meeting. This plan is recommendations not requirements. With that discussion ensued and questions were asked and answered. Chairman Finch called for a motion to approve sending the presentation to the County Board for presentation at the January special orders meeting. Larry Lautenschlager seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
6. Year-end Park/Expo Report – The year end 2016 report was passed out. A question was asked regarding progress on the arch project. The footing plans have just been received and are under review by the Hwy. Dept.. Otherwise the report is ok as is to be sent to the County Board in their January meeting packets.
7. Parks Director's Updates: WIOUWASH Trail Vegetation Maintenance Work - ATC will be working with Asplundth to clear cut the area under their power lines along the WIOUWASH from West Wing Rd. to north of Breezewood. This area is infested with invasive buckthorn. The plan is to cut the buckthorn and treat it with herbicide then come back in spring and treat the underlying weeds. The area would then be planted in field grass, or as staff has been working on, ATC would consider a grant to install prairie seed. ATC informed Rob that there was an objection from the Town of Oshkosh Chairman regarding the application of herbicide but as Chairman has not yet followed-up with the phone call that he indicated he was going to

- make to the Parks Director. Rob maintained that he felt it imperative that ATC proceed with these herbicide applications if there is ever to be a chance at trying to reclaim that area in a prairie setting instead of just buckthorn.
8. Committee Chairman's Updates: Jerry would like Mike to comment on the Bike/Ped plan when it is brought to the County Board for presentation as he is on the Board of Health as well. Also the Chairman mentioned that long-time Parks Ranger Gary Lortscher passed away last week. He will be greatly missed.
  9. Committee Member's Updates: Mike congratulated Rob on 20 years with the Parks Department and Winnebago County. He also asked staff to investigate a type of silicone ice rink surface that he has become aware of. Larry had no report. Tom asked for an update on the racetrack/stage project. Rob replied that there is a 1 year racing contract in place with Impact Motorsports and Lifest has started to approach parties who may be interested in sponsoring construction of the stage. Tom also provided some ideas for the future Ken Robl Nature Park area which shall be given to Solid Waste as they are heading up that project. Steve Binder asked to see a plan for the new Nature Park. He also questioned if the North Park Estates Neighborhood Assoc. has been in touch, which it has.
  10. Staff Updates: Expo/Com. Park Jan. User Group Meeting – Vicky reported that the annual user group meeting will be January 7, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. at the expo building south wing. The agenda has been posted for the committee and will be posted on the web site and Facebook next week for the public. She also provided a look at the new banners for the park's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration in 2017 along with some prizes for the party which is to take place August 19, 2017 from 2 p.m. -6 p.m. at the pavilion.
  11. Next Meeting Date and Future Agenda Items: January 17, 2017 at 1:30 p.m..
  12. Adjournment – Chairman Finch called for a motion to adjourn. Tom Konezke moved to adjourn. Steve Binder seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned 3:10 p.m..

Respectfully Submitted,  
Vicky Redlin  
Program Manager