



ROCK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Highways & Parks

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Public Works Committee – Parks Minutes
Tuesday, July 9, 2019 – 8:00 a.m.
Public Works Department- Committee Room
3715 Newville Road
Janesville, WI 53545

Call to Order. Chair Bussie called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 8:02 a.m.

Committee Members Present. Supervisors Bussie, Driscoll and Zajac.

Committee Members Absent. Supervisors Fox and Richard

<u>Staff Members:</u>	John Traynor	Parks Manager
	Amy Friend	Community Coordinator
	Amy Hartley	Secretary II
	Duane Jorgenson	Public Works Director

<u>Others Present:</u>	Floyd Finney	Parks Advisory Board
	Dean Paynter	Parks Advisory Board
	Tom Presny	Parks Advisory Board
	Terri Carlson	Risk Manager, Corporate Counsel

Approval of Agenda. Supervisors Zajac and Driscoll moved today's agenda. MOTION CARRIED.

Approval of Minutes of June 11, 2019. Supervisors Zajac and Driscoll moved the minutes. MOTION CARRIED.

Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements. Mr. Jorgenson stated that bids were received for DPW renovations. A bid was accepted under budget. Renovations at DPW will begin August 5, 2019 and are tentatively expected to be completed by October 31, 2019. During this time, Committee Meetings will be held at alternate locations. The Highway Meetings will be held at the Southern Wisconsin Regional Airport, 1716 West Airport Road, Janesville, WI. The Parks Meetings will be held at Turtle Creek Parkway, 6528 South Smith Road, Clinton, WI.

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Chair Bussie expresses gratitude towards Ms. Friend for pictures received of the members present at the Parks Tour June 11, 2019. Chair Bussie states she was notified by many members who attended the tour, stating they enjoyed it. Chair Bussie suggests yearly tours would be beneficial, inviting additional Rock County board members.

Parks Advisory Board Communications. Mr. Presny expresses gratitude for induction into the Rock County Hall of Honor. Mr. Finney reports a thief damaged the donation container at Magnolia Bluff and all its contents were taken; dollar amount is unknown. Chair Bussie states she has noticed many utilizing and recognizing Rock County Parks via Facebook.

PARKS BUSINESS

Resolution – Authorizing Contract For Updating the Rock County Parks Outdoor Recreation and Open Space (POROS) Plan and Amending the Parks Budget. Supervisors Zajac and Driscoll moved the resolution. The POROS contract must be updated every five years. Mr. Traynor confirms choice of consultants -Vandewalle & Associates Inc. from Madison, WI. Vandewalle & Associates Inc. is known to do a very good job per Mr. Presny's experience and/or evaluations. Mr. Traynor reports this company did visit Rock County parks personally to examine the surroundings and present the best quality of work. MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion and Possible Action - Miller Property Naming. Supervisors Driscoll and Zajac moved the item for discussion. Mr. Traynor presented seven suggested park names for Committee members to choose from. After careful selection and voting by the members of the Committee, the chosen name for the park is: Miller Farm Wetlands Conservancy. MOTION CARRIED.

Parks Manager Report (See Attached).

Parks General: Reappointment of Finney & Presny. Mr. Presny and Mr. Finney expressed their gratitude for Park services and the diligent pursuit to improve the parks.

Royce Dallman: Mr. Traynor reports: recent rainfall has caused the inability to mow areas in many parks; the Royce Dallman, Gibbs Lake and Murwin Park dirt work needs to be done; the Royce Dallman overflow driveway has been installed/graveled and is being used by park patrons.

Summer Help: The Parks Department is currently fully staffed with the recent addition of two part-time weekend summer workers. Chair Bussie and Mr. Traynor discussed employee identification in the parks. The summer helpers have each been given a Parks Department cap to wear to identify themselves while working in the parks. Mr. Traynor suggests Parks Department t-shirts be given to these employees to identify them. T-shirts, caps and/or badges help increase public awareness of Rock County Parks employees' presence in the parks.

Gibbs Lake: Mr. Traynor reports that a pier extension has been ordered to enhance the newly renovated pier area. Mr. Paynter reports his recent use of the kayak launch and compliments

its existence. Mr. Traynor reports the equestrian lot bathroom has been installed and is open but still needs dirt work when weather allows. No further Capital Improvement for 2019.

Ice Age Park Update: Corporate Counsel responds with an article (see attached handout) regarding "Legal Issues Associated With County Parks". Mr. Traynor expressed the need revolves around public interest. If a meeting is arranged with homeowners and the township, Mr. Jorgenson volunteers to attend for DPW. Mr. Traynor states mowing has been delayed due to heavy rains, which have caused much of the park to be under water.

Murwin Park Emergency Boat Launch: Mr. Traynor has received DNR approval to proceed with planned updates. The plan includes removing the large boulders along the river side parking lot and replacing with a gate to be utilized for emergency purposes only (keys will be distributed accordingly). Emergency services will have full access through the gated area with the key but boaters or park patrons will not. Mr. Traynor has spoken with Ken at Paddletime for signage. Paddletime will do signage for portions of the Yahara River and Turtle Creek. Discussion has been to have some type of numbering system or caution tape along the bank line of the river so that patrons may call in their location for emergencies or report troublesome areas. (To be safer on waterways, Ken, from Paddletime, is creating a notification system, updates and training video which will be found through the Parks Facebook page and/or with links to YouTube.) Mr. Presny suggests Rock County Green Fund may assist with needed funds for signage.

Garbage and Recycling Contract: The renewal for this contract is approaching in 2020. Advanced Disposal is the current contractor but not consistently meeting the original schedule. The Parks Department will review new bids after distribution in September.

Parks Tour: Mr. Traynor will reschedule an additional Parks Tour with any Committee member who wants to attend. There was much interest in the original tour June 11, 2019 with many unable to attend. Mr. Traynor will notify those unable to attend the first tour. Chair Bussie and Supervisor Zajac are interested in the second tour. Chair Bussie suggests notifying additional supervisors in the county.

Park 2020 Budget: Mr. Traynor notified the Committee that the Parks Pre-Budget Meeting is scheduled for July 29, 2019 and he will report back with information retrieved from this meeting. Mr. Presny questions status of Rock Baseball Park. Mr. Traynor has been in contact with Deb Bennett, Town of Rock, to obtain more information for this park. Details to follow.

County Board Meeting: Mr. Traynor will attend and announce DPW renovations and distribute a memo.

Community Coordinator Report (see attached): Mr. Traynor thanks Ms. Friend for pursuing, compiling and completing 2015 DNR Grant paperwork. The Parks Department has received reimbursement for two grants in the amount of \$5,000 and \$45,000 for development of the multi-use trail corridor between Beloit and Janesville (Peace Trail).

Next Meeting Date. The next Parks meeting date will be Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. at Turtle Creek Parkway pavilion, 6528 South Smith Rd., Clinton, WI.

Adjournment. Supervisors Zajac and Driscoll moved to adjourn at 8:50 a.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy J. Hartley
Secretary II