



ROCK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Highways & Parks

3715 Newville Road, Janesville, WI 53545
Phone: (608)757-5450 Fax: (608)757-5470
www.co.rock.wi.us

Public Works Committee – Parks Minutes
Tuesday, June 11, 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 8:00 a.m.

Committee Members Present. Supervisors Bussie, Driscoll and Richard.

Committee Members Absent. Supervisor Fox and Zajac.

<u>Staff Members:</u>	John Traynor	Parks Manager
	Amy Friend	Community Coordinator
	Jim Hessenauer	Parks Crew Leader
	Amy Hartley	Secretary II

<u>Others Present:</u>	Floyd Finney	Parks Advisory Board
	Dean Paynter	Parks Advisory Board
	Tom Presny	Parks Advisory Board
	Lou Peer	County Board Supervisor
	Rich Bostwick	County Board Supervisor
	J. Russell Podzilni	Chair-County Board of Supervisors
	Danette Rynes	County Board Supervisor
	Alan Sweeney	County Board Supervisor

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

Approval of Minutes of May 14, 2019. Supervisors Richard and Driscoll moved the minutes. MOTION CARRIED.

Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements. Chair Bussie announced that the Rock County Board will vote to induct Supervisor Presny into the Rock County Hall of Honor.

Parks Advisory Board Communications. Mr. Traynor informally reviewed the parks tour roster.

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Supervisor Richard departed.

Parks Business:

A. Parks Tour

1. **Royce Dallman Park** – Discussion took place concerning the recent Rock and Dane County boat launch fee lock box thefts and the apprehension of the thieves. Collection of the boat launch fees is done up to twice weekly and increases during holiday weekends. Suggestions by members to prevent future theft included: invest in surveillance cameras or adopt credit/debit card payment. Mr. Traynor discussed installing additional parking with a gravel lot near the entrance of the Park where grass presently exists.

Supervisor Sweeney arrives.

2. **Murwin Park** – Discussion took place regarding the recent canoe incident May 25, 2019. Supervisors Sweeney and Bostwick discussed and made suggestions regarding canoe/kayak training and signage/warning of risks. Mr. Traynor states approval pends County Board Committee decision of gating area and creating larger eddy to Yahara Creek. Mr. Traynor indicates the DNR is responsible for the river habitat as DPW does not monitor this area. Mr. Traynor reports a meeting with business, Drift Away, will occur to discuss how to help alert those using the Park and river for recreational purposes such as weather and water hazards via social media/blog.

Supervisor Sweeney departs.

3. **Carol Miller Property** – Mr. Traynor discussed donation of the land to DPW which was finalized in January/February 2019. The area consists of 54 acres and the Yahara and Rock Rivers combine. Installation of a circle driveway is planned for a nature viewing area. Trees will be planted and recommendations will be made to install a kayak pier. Renaming the Park has not yet commenced.
4. **Gibbs Lake Park** – The Park includes Ice Age trails and overnight camping with a permit. The bathroom was replaced June 2019, a memorial bench was recently installed and a new pier and kayak launch was installed June 10, 2019. A Park citizen recently witnessed fishermen creating trip lines for horses passing through which were removed by the same citizen. Suggestion was made to contact Rock County Green Fund to help raise money for a well. Private groups have helped with projects such as cleaning brush or removing dead wood to help keep the parks clean and enjoyable.
5. **Magnolia Bluff Park** – Known also as Bumps Bluff by many local citizens, this Park is a State Natural Area. Rock formations can be found throughout the Park which makes it a popular location for weddings and prairie enthusiasts. The Park is home of the rare plant species Kittentail and is labeled as such in the Park. Oak tree decay is caused by Oak Wilt and clean-up will begin to recycle the wood.
6. **Town of Rock Baseball Park** – The Park is currently being offered to Rock County DPW by the Town of Rock. The Park is 60 acres and includes a pavilion with concessions and a shelter, bathrooms and baseball diamonds. There is a bike path nearby and one could be installed in the Park as well.
7. **Happy Hollow Park** – Mr. Traynor discusses the installation of a new bathroom the week of June 10, 2019. Due to heavy rainfall, the park can be flooded from early

spring to mid-summer. Much debris and brush has been removed along the shoreline for Park patrons' enjoyment.

8. **Sweet-Allyn Park** – This Park is the first park Rock County obtained in 1945 as a donation. Shopiere Days takes place at this beautiful Park. The Park is great for fishing Turtle Creek from the shore or for water recreation to include: tubing, swimming, kayaking and canoeing. Mr. Traynor will pursue approval to upgrade the shelter and electric in the near future. DeLong Investors may be contacted to assist with these projects.

Mr. Hessenauer departed.

9. **Turtle Creek Parkway** – The Park sets alongside a rare five arch limestone bridge with beautiful views. This park is the highest rented park year round in Rock County. The building located on the property was once a Boys and Girls Club.
10. **Carver-Roehl Park** – time did not allow for visit.
11. **Sportsman's Park** – time did not allow for visit.

Individuals touring the parks today received a Rock County "toured the parks" t-shirt.

Next Meeting Date. The next Parks meeting date will be Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. at the Department of Public Works.

Adjournment. Supervisors Driscoll and Richards moved to adjourn at 12:04 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy J. Hartley
Secretary II