



Highways
Parks
Airport

A G E N D A

Public Works Committee Meeting
Tuesday, June 10, 2014 – 8:00 a.m.
Public Works Department Committee Room

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes of May 13, 2014
4. Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements
5. **PARKS INFORMATION ITEMS**

 - a. POROS Plan Overview and Proposed Schedule
 - b. Approve Resolution Proclaiming July as Park and Recreation Month
 - c. Vouchers/Bills/Encumbrances/Pre-Approved Encumbrance Amendments & Transfers
6. Parks Director Project Report
7. Parks Advisory Committee Remarks
8. Next Meeting Date
9. Adjournment

RESOLUTION NO. _____

AGENDA NO. _____

RESOLUTION

ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Lori Williams, Parks Director
INITIATED BY

Public Works Committee
SUBMITTED BY



Lori Williams, Parks Director
DRAFTED BY

June 4, 2014
DATE DRAFTED

PROCLAIMING JULY AS PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH

- 1 **WHEREAS**, parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this
2 country, including Rock County; and
3
4 **WHEREAS**, our parks and recreation are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality
5 of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all citizens, and contributing to the economic and
6 environmental wellbeing of a community and region; and
7
8 **WHEREAS**, parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the
9 prevention of chronic disease, and also improve the mental and emotional health of all citizens; and
10
11 **WHEREAS**, parks and recreation programs increase a community's economic prosperity through
12 increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and
13 retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and
14
15 **WHEREAS**, parks and recreation areas are fundamental to the environmental wellbeing of our
16 community; and
17
18 **WHEREAS**, parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent
19 flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and
20 produce habitat for wildlife; and
21
22 **WHEREAS**, our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and
23 provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and
24
25 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month;
26 and
27
28 **WHEREAS**, Rock County recognizes the benefits derived from parks and recreation resources.
29
30 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
31 this _____ day of _____, 2014 does hereby designate July as Parks and Recreation Month in the
32 County of Rock.

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Kurtis L. Yankee, Chair

Betty Jo Bussie, Vice Chair

Eva Arnold

Brent Fox

Rick Richard

PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tom Presny

Floyd Finney

Dean Paynter

PROCLAIMING JULY AS PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH

Executive Summary

Since 1985, America has celebrated July as the nation's official Park and Recreation Month. A program of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the America's Backyard initiative, the goal is to raise awareness of the vital impact that parks, recreation, and conservation have on communities across the United States. Each July, the National Park and Recreation Association (NRPA) encourages Parks and Recreation Agencies across the country to kick-off summer programs, promote outdoor recreation, natural resource areas and open spaces, and pull together volunteers to make their outdoor spaces a thriving center of community activity.

This year's theme is "Out is In!" NRPA is encouraging agencies and communities to make 2014 the year people go outside, change their outlook, get involved in their community through parks and recreation and show how parks and recreation can help them improve their lives – from health and wellness to nature to community spirit and social equity.

**Current Rock County Park Projects
June 4, 2014**

- **Beckman Mill**-----1) Mill Tour season has begun.

- **Beloit-Janesville Trail**-----1) Working with planning department on conditional use permit.

- **Carver-Roehl** -----1) Invasive Species Control Project Completed – grant match complete.
2) ADA trail to Gazebo underway.

- **Gibbs Lake** -----1) Electrical pedestal installed for shelter.
2) Shelter construction to start.
3) Starting process for Parking lot paving.

- **Ice Age Trail**-----1) Proceeding with Fence project adjacent to Gilley property.

- **Magnolia Bluff** -----1) Trail project continuing.
2) Conservation planning assessment with the Bureau of endangered resources.

- **Pelishek Tiffany Nature Trail** ----1) Met with PTNT group to discuss goals and projects.

- **Sportsmans'**-----1) Starting process for playground project.

- **Sweet – Allyn** -----1) Working with Turtle Community Organization in preparation for the June 27-29 celebration.
2) Starting process for Bathroom replacement Project.

- **Other Information**-----1) Summer Seasonal Shawn Bohler started 5/27/2014.
2) Started summer 4-10's schedule.
3) Confirmed status with Brain Margin about Sportsmans park confined space.
4) Setting up schedule for Rock County Fair Booth for July 22-27th.
5) Attended Janesville pedestrian and bike plan meeting.
6) Piers installed at Gibbs and Royce Dallman.
7) Fishing with Kids programs scheduled.
8) Met with POROS Plan consultant
9) Continuing work with Rock River Trail Initiative.

POROS Work Plan Schedule
Task 1 - Planning Parks, Outdoor Recreation & Open Space Plan Update

| Item | Task | Date | Meeting | Day of Week | Time | Goal/Task of Meeting | Status | Notes |
|------|--|-------------------|---------|-------------|---------|---|--------|-------|
| A | Project Start-Up & Goals & Objectives Formulation for All Projects | 5/22/2014 | Y | Thursday | 9:00-AM | Discuss Approach, Goals & Objectives | CLOSED | |
| B | Site Inventory | 6/10/2014 | N | TBD | E | Perform Inventory | Open | |
| C1 | Delphi Meeting | Week of June 23 | Y | TBD | E | Delphi Meeting Kick off | Open | |
| C2 | Delphi Meeting | Week of July 14 | Y | TBD | E | Delphi Meeting Status Up | Open | |
| C3 | Delphi Meeting | Week of July 28 | Y | TBD | E | Delphi Meeting Findings Meeting | Open | |
| D1 | Community Input Meeting | Week of July 28 | Y | TBD | E | Gather Input from Residents | Open | |
| D2 | Community Input Meeting | Week of August 11 | Y | TBD | E | Present Preliminary Input | Open | |
| E | Survey | June 30th | N | Monday | | Start Survey | Open | |
| F | Organizational Modeling & Committee Visioning Meeting | 7/8/2014 | Y | Tuesday | AM | Gather Input from Staff on Goals | Open | |
| G | Agency Analysis | 7/8/2014 | Y | Tuesday | AM | Gather Input from Committee on Potential Goal Outcomes | Open | |
| H | Recreation Program Review | 7/8/2014 | Y | Tuesday | AM | Review Preliminary Findings | Open | |
| I | Classification Facility Standards & Mapping | 7/21/2014 | N | Monday | PM | Review Recreation Program Findings | Open | |
| J | Park Planning Analysis | 8/11/2014 | Y | Monday | PM | Finish Maps | Open | |
| K | Capital Improvement Plan Development | 8/11/2014 | N | | | Delivery of C.I.P. | Open | |
| L | Financial & Operations Budget Development | 8/11/2014 | N | | | Review & Comment on District Provided Operations Budget | Open | |
| M | Implementation Strategy & Draft Plan | Week of August 25 | Y | TBD | | Staff Meeting to Review the Draft Plan | Open | |
| N | Final Plan Development | 9/9/2014 | Y | Tuesday | 8:00 AM | Committee Review of Plan | Open | |
| | | October | Y | TBD | | Supervisor Presentation of Plan | Open | |

Notes:

E- All Evening Meetings to Start Promptly at 7 pm

Rock County Park Survey

The Rock County Parks Division is in the process of updating its comprehensive plan for the future. You were selected to participate in a survey to assist in identifying community needs. Please take a few minutes to answer these questions and return this questionnaire in the enclosed envelope by Monday July X, 2014. Your contribution to the Rock County Park System to its success is greatly appreciated.

Please note, the Rock County Park System is completely separate from local municipal park systems run by cities such as Beloit and Janesville. The Rock County Park System includes 19 properties and 1,000 acres across Rock County, mostly in rural areas of the county.

1. Within which community or town do you reside in _____?

2. How long have you lived in Rock County? (Please check the appropriate answer)

___ 1-5 years ___ 6-10 years ___ 11-15 years ___ more than 15 years

3. Are you familiar with the Rock County Parks System?

___ Yes ___ Somewhat ___ Not really

4. If yes or somewhat, how do you periodically hear about the Rock County Park System? (Please circle all that apply)

| | | | |
|------------|---------------|--------------|-------|
| Newsletter | Website | Newspaper | Radio |
| Television | Word of Mouth | Social Media | Signs |

5. In which of the following recreational activities do you and your family participate at the Rock County Park System or elsewhere?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a. Walking/hiking _____ | m. Sledding/Tobogganing _____ |
| b. Jogging _____ | n. Cross country skiing _____ |
| c. Walking pets _____ | o. Swimming _____ |
| d. Biking _____ | p. Power Boating _____ |
| e. Camping _____ | q. Bird/nature watching _____ |
| f. Horseback riding _____ | r. Nature center visits _____ |
| g. Picnics _____ | s. Snowshoeing _____ |
| h. Fishing _____ | t. Snowmobiling _____ |
| i. Kayaking/Canoeing _____ | u. Downhill Skiing/Snowboarding _____ |
| j. ATV/4 Wheeling _____ | v. Mountain Biking _____ |
| k. Picnicking _____ | w. Horseback Riding _____ |
| l. Other (Please specify) _____ | |

6. How do you feel about the current program and facility fees charged directly to you by the Rock County parks? (Please check the appropriate answer)

- Fees are under-priced for the value received
- Fees are acceptable for the value received
- Fees are too high for the value received
- Not sure

7. Which of the Rock County parks and trails do you or your family visit? (Please check all that apply.)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Airport Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Age Trail | <input type="checkbox"/> Pelishek Snowmobile Trail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Avon Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Indianford Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Royce-Dallman Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beckman Mill Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Koshkonong Lake Access | <input type="checkbox"/> Schollmeyer Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carver-Roehl Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Lee Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Sugar River Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gibbs Lake Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Magnolia Bluff Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Sweet-Allyn Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Happy Hollow Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Murwin Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Turtle Creek Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Age Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Pelishek Nature Trail | <input type="checkbox"/> Windemann Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ | | |

8. How often do you or your family visit these parks or trails? (Please circle the best answer)

- Once a year 2-5 times per year 6-10 times per year more than 10 times

9. How do you currently get to Rock County parks and trails? (Please check all that apply)

- Walk Ride my bike Drive my car

10. How satisfied are you with the appearance, maintenance and cleanliness, of Rock County's parks and trails? (Please circle the best answer)

- Not at all Not too satisfied Somewhat satisfied Very satisfied

11. Do you feel safe while using Rock County's parks and trails? (Please circle the best answer)

- Not at all Not too safe Somewhat safe Very safe

12. How would you rate the Rock County Park System in the following areas? (Please check the best answer)

| | Very Good | Good | Fair | Poor | Don't Know |
|------------------|-----------|------|------|------|------------|
| Acquiring land | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Maintaining land | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Restoring land | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Preserving land | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Education | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Recreation | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |

13. What amenities or facilities would you like to see added to the existing Rock County Parks? (Please check all that apply)

- | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|----------------------|-----|------------------------|-----|
| a. Picnic shelters | ___ | g. Equestrian trails | ___ | l. Rock climbing walls | ___ |
| b. Hiking trails | ___ | h. Biking trails | ___ | m. Ropes courses | ___ |
| c. Amphitheatres | ___ | i. Historic sites | ___ | n. Zip lines | ___ |
| d. Fishing areas | ___ | j. Nature play areas | ___ | o. Canoe /boat ramps | ___ |
| e. Nature centers | ___ | k. Winter rec areas | ___ | p. Disc golf courses | ___ |
| f. Other (please specify) | _____ | | | | |

14. Please rank the three most important outdoor recreation facilities in the previous question. (Please insert the letter of the amenities from the previous list)

___ Most important ___ Second most important ___ Third most important

15. How concerned are you with the protection of the remaining open space in Rock County? (Please circle your best answer)

Not at all Not too concerned Somewhat concerned Very concerned

16. Would you be in favor of the Rock County Park System acquiring more park land?

___ Yes ___ No ___ I don't know

17. Would you be willing to pay more in sales taxes to fund the acquisition of more county park land?

___ Yes ___ No ___ I don't know

18. How much of a property tax increase would you be willing to pay to acquire more county park land?

\$1-2 per month \$3-5 per month more than \$5 per month none I don't know

19. Would you be in favor of the Rock County Park System building a nature center?

Yes No I don't know

20. Would you be willing to pay more in sales taxes to pay to build a nature center?

Yes No I don't know

21. The Rock County Park System funds the development, operations and maintenance of park sites and services with tax dollars, donations, user fees and grants. What is your opinion concerning where future funding for improvements for the next 5 years should be spent? Please rank your highest priority by inserting a "1", "2" or "3" as your priorities. (Please choose only three)

- Expand water recreation opportunities (e.g., boat launches and rentals, programs, etc.)
- Expand recreational trail connections
- Add adventure opportunities (e.g., ropes courses, zip lines, climbing walls, etc)
- Add children's natural play areas (i.e., climbing boulders, sand play, etc.)
- Expand special events and programs (e.g., nature education, concerts, etc.)
- Expand camping opportunities
- Expand winter recreation opportunities (e.g., sledding, cross country skiing, etc.)
- Just maintain the current parks and trails

22. Beginning with yourself, what are the ages of the people living in your household?

_____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____

23. What is your gender?

Male Female

24. Please feel free to add any comments you might have about the Rock County Park System.

Thank you very much for your time. Please return this questionnaire as soon as you can. Survey results will be posted on the Rock County Park System website by the end of August (<http://www.co.rock.wi.us/Dept/PublicWorks/Parks.htm>)