



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Park Commission

Wednesday, August 23, 2017

6:00 PM

Indian Lake County Park - Shelter
8183 State Hwy 19
Cross Plains WI 53528

Indian Lake County Park Shelter - 8183 State Hwy 19, Cross Plains

A. Call To Order

Present: 5 - DAVE RIPP, WILLIAM LUNNEY, DANIEL WISNIEWSKI, TOM THORESEN and
GEORGE GILLIS

Excused: 1 - CHRISTINE HAAG

*Staff present: Chris James, Pete Jopke, Darren Marsh, Sara Rigelman, Eric Urtes, Jan
Zimmermann*

*Others present: Friends of Indian Lake: Laura Cominetti, Jeff Durbin & Denny Connor
Friends of Capital Springs: Judie Pfeifer*

Meeting called to order by Chair LUNNEY at 6 pm

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2017](#) 7-26-17_PC MINUTES
[MIN-211](#)

Attachments: [2017 MIN-211 7-26-17 PC Minutes](#)

A motion was made by RIPP, seconded by WISNIEWSKI, that the minutes of July
26, 2017 be approved. The motion carried by the following vote: 5/0

Ayes: 5 - Vice Chair RIPP, LUNNEY, WISNIEWSKI, THORESEN and Supervisor GILLIS

Excused: 1 - HAAG

C. Fund Transfers- None

D. Referrals (Resolutions & Ordinance Amendments)

[2017
RES-139](#) DANE COUNTY CONSERVATION FUND GRANT AWARD TO THE
NATURAL HERITAGE LAND TRUST (HANLEY)

Sponsors: O'LOUGHLIN, CLAUDIUS, KOLAR, McCARVILLE, RIPP, RITT and ZWEIFEL

Attachments: [2017 RES-139](#)
[2017 RES-139 Fiscal Note](#)
[2017 RES-139 Map NHLT-Hanley](#)

A motion was made by GILLIS, seconded by RIPP, that this Resolution be recommended for approval. The motion carried by the following vote: 5/0

Ayes: 5 - Vice Chair RIPP, LUNNEY, WISNIEWSKI, THORESEN and Supervisor GILLIS

Excused: 1 - HAAG

[2017
RES-181](#) AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING FOR WALKING
IRON COUNTY PARK

Sponsors: GILLIS, DYE and KOLAR

Attachments: [2017 RES-181](#)
[2017 RES-181 Fiscal Note](#)

A motion was made by THORESEN, seconded by RIPP, that this Resolution Requiring 2/3rds Vote be recommended for approval. The motion carried by the following vote: 5/0

Ayes: 5 - Vice Chair RIPP, LUNNEY, WISNIEWSKI, THORESEN and Supervisor GILLIS

Excused: 1 - HAAG

[2017
RES-183](#) AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM US FISH &
WILDLIFE SERVICE

Sponsors: GILLIS, DYE, KOLAR and MATANO

Attachments: [2017 RES-183 US F&WL Grant](#)
[2017 RES-183 Fiscal Note](#)

A motion was made by RIPP, seconded by WISNIEWSKI, that this Resolution Requiring 2/3rds Vote be recommended for approval. The motion carried by the following vote: 5/0

Ayes: 5 - Vice Chair RIPP, LUNNEY, WISNIEWSKI, THORESEN and Supervisor GILLIS

Excused: 1 - HAAG

[2017
RES-184](#) AUTHORIZING AN UNDERGROUND GAS, ELECTRIC, AND
TELECOMMUNICATION CO-LOCATION EASEMENT

Sponsors: WILLETT

Attachments: [2017 RES-184](#)
[2017 RES-184 Fiscal Note](#)

A motion was made by GILLIS, seconded by WISNIEWSKI, that this Resolution be recommended for approval. The motion carried by the following vote: 5/0

Ayes: 5 - Vice Chair RIPP, LUNNEY, WISNIEWSKI, THORESEN and Supervisor GILLIS

Excused: 1 - HAAG

[2017
RES-185](#) AUTHORIZING AN ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINE EASEMENT

Sponsors: WILLETT

Attachments: [2017 RES-185](#)
[2017 RES-185 Fiscal Note](#)
[2017 RES-185 ATC Aerial Map](#)

A motion was made by GILLIS, seconded by THORESEN, that this Resolution Requiring 2/3rds Vote be recommended for approval. The motion carried by the following vote: 5/0

Ayes: 5 - Vice Chair RIPP, LUNNEY, WISNIEWSKI, THORESEN and Supervisor GILLIS

Excused: 1 - HAAG

E. Items Requiring Committee Action - None

F. Presentations- None

G. Reports to Committee

1. Status of the Friends of Dane County Parks

LUNNEY provided a brief overview and status on the formation of the new Friends of Dane County Parks as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization . He then provided an update on the Endowment that is now over \$400,000 due to the support and help of many of those present at the meeting. LUNNEY expressed hope that when the endowment reaches the \$500,000 mark; modest disbursements for parks-related projects can begin.

2. Friends of Indian Lake County Park

LUNNEY welcomed the Friends of Indian Lake and thanked them for their efforts. LUNNEY noted that last year the Friends hosted one of the Healthy Park Tours. Jeff Durbin, Friends of Indian Lake, covered Friends activities including restoration work on lands at Indian Lake Park and Halfway Prairie Wildlife Area. One of the primary areas they have been working on with volunteers, OFS, and contractors; is the wooded bluff at the north end of Halfway Prairie. There are many large heritage oaks that are being overtaken by invasive species. The Friends have cleared around the oaks and will develop a path leading up to the hillside. Volunteers have also been working in the park to expand native flowers and grasses.

There has been field monitoring for the endangered rusty patched bumble bee with assistance of Susan Carpenter from UW Arboretum. They are still looking to locate the native bumblebee. Bat monitoring has also been done. The bat population has declined significantly compared to a few years ago.

The Indian Lake Run will be held on Saturday October 7th. On September 8, Tim Malzhan from the Ice Age Trail Alliance will conduct a trail building exercise for the Friends.

3. Halfway Prairie Interpretation

Sara Rigelman displayed an example of the interpretive panel that has been developed for the Halfway Prairie site that include the history of the Matz family, the property, and the home. The historical stone remains of the house are still on the property today.

Eric Urtes from County Public Works talked about the significant interest by the public in the historic structure. Efforts are underway to research potential methods and costs for stabilizing the remaining wall features, including techniques used in Europe for similar structures.

4. Indian Lake Restoration Project

Pete Jopke provided an update on the status of the lake restoration and the fish kill that occurred this summer. Jopke said that it was unfortunate that conditions came together to create the perfect storm, reducing the dissolved oxygen levels to a point well below the threshold to maintain many fish species. It's most likely that all the game fish perished during the period of low oxygen. Jopke said that the State is still trying to access the number of carp in the lake. Further survey work will be done this summer and fall to verify numbers. Jopke noted that there was a very large bullhead population in the lake that continue to stir up the nutrient laden sediments. He said it would be preferable to remove bullheads along with the carp. DNR and County will continue to assess the situation and work to remove the carp biomass to less than 100 lbs per acre.

5. Shelter & Restroom Project

Chris James provided an overview and history of the new shelter and restroom facilities. He noted that it was in the final stages of construction. James said that the goal from the beginning was to make sure that the new facilities blended into the park landscape when viewing throughout the park. James then reviewed the materials that were used in the construction including the large timbers used to frame the shelter. Public Works Project Manager, Eric Urtes, also pointed out the solar panels that were installed on the roof of the restroom building to help cover the electrical use for the facility lighting. The Park Commission wished to thank the Friends of Indian Lake Park for its donation of \$5,000 toward the cost of the playground structure adjacent to the new restroom facility.

H. Announcements

1. Lower Yahara River Trail Event - August 27, 2017, 3 pm @ McDaniel Park, McFarland
2. Preview Event (for Parks & Trails Unite Event 2018) September 20, 2017 from 3:30-6:30 pm @ Lussier Family Heritage Center, Lake Farm County Park
3. Upcoming Events

9/10/17 25th Heritage Fest - Friends of Schumacher

9/13/17 Volunteer Train - Prairie Plant ID - Badger Prairie -DC Parks Staff

9/14/17 Univ of Chicago Lab Schl Volunteers-Festge-10:30-2:30-Friends of Festge

9/16/17 Dragonflies, Ecology & Stewardship - Stewart -10-noon - Friends of Stewart

9/16/17 Door Creek/Yahara River Aquatic Tour - FOLKS

9/17/17 Ice Age Clearing, 9 am - Prairie Moraine - Gary Werner - Ice Age Alliance

9/20/17 Anderson Friends Annual Board Meeting - Friends of Anderson

9/22/17 Fall Equinox, Drum Dance Circle Grp, 7-9 pm-Lake View-Friends of Lake View

9/23/17 Volunteer Train - Tree Risk Assessment - DC Parks Staff

I. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Next Meetings:

The Commission discussed a tentative meeting for September 13, 2017. The County Board has budget hearings at the Alliant Energy Center scheduled to begin at 6:00 pm that evening. LUNNEY asked staff to see if they could secure a meeting room for the Commission to meet at 5:00 PM on September 13.

September 27, 2017 at Lyman Anderson Agriculture Center

J. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

None

K. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None

L. Adjourn

A motion was made by WISNIEWSKI, seconded by THORESEN, that this meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote: 5/0

Ayes: 5 - Vice Chair RIPP, LUNNEY, WISNIEWSKI, THORESEN and Supervisor GILLIS

Excused: 1 - HAAG

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm

Respectfully submitted by Darren Marsh. Minutes subject to committee approval.

The Park Commission toured Indian Lake County Park after the meeting, but no official business was conducted.