



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Environment, Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

5:45 PM

Ice Age Trail Alliance
2110 Main St.
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Ice Age Trail Alliance - 2110 Main St. Cross Plains

A. Call To Order

Present: 3 - Chair PATRICK DOWNING, KYLE RICHMOND and NIKOLE JONES

Excused: 1 - Vice Chair CARL CHENOWETH

Absent: 1 - TIM KIEFER

Supervisor Kiefer was not present at the beginning of the meeting but was present as noted below.

Staff present: Kevin Connors, Laura Hicklin, Chris James, Pete Jopke

Others present: Kevin Thusius, Ice Age Trail Alliance, Gary Nelson, Dennis Connor, Janelle Mathews, Jeanette Hoard, Jim Barmore, Anthony Varda, Bob Saeman, Carla Wright, Dennis Franke, Barbara Borns, John Heinrichs, Lauris Wagner, Dennis Schafer, Jerry Goth, Jeff Postle, Louise Klopp

Supervisor Kiefer arrived at 5:57pm.

Chair Downing called the meeting to order at 5:53pm.

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2015
MIN-616](#) 2015 MIN-616_2-9-16 EANR MINUTES

Attachments: [2015 MIN-616_2-9-16 EANR Minutes](#)
[2015 MIN-616_2-9-16 Reg before Co Committee](#)

A motion was made by RICHMOND, seconded by JONES, that the February 9, 2016 Minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote: 3/0

Ayes: 3 - DOWNING, RICHMOND and JONES

Excused: 1 - Vice Chair CHENOWETH

Absent: 1 - KIEFER

C. Fund Transfers - None

D. Referrals (Resolutions & Ordinance Amendments)

None.

E. Items Requiring Committee Action - None

Supervisor Kiefer arrived at 5:57pm.

Present: 4 - Chair PATRICK DOWNING, TIM KIEFER, KYLE RICHMOND and NIKOLE JONES

Excused: 1 - Vice Chair CARL CHENOWETH

F. Presentations

1. Parks Division Projects - Chris James

Chris James, Sr. Landscape Architect, Parks Division, LWRD presented an update on current projects in both Festge County Park and Indian Lake County Park.

Chair Downing called for comment on Festge County Park.

- *Gary Nelson, Friends of Festge County Park - Friends provided over 4000 hours of volunteer service to the park that resulted in 10.9 acres of invasive removal in 2015. To date the Friends group has cleared over 40 acres in the park.*
- *Tony Varda, Chair, Town of Berry - Requested consideration for funding for Scherbel Road improvements.*
- *Dennis Franke- VP, BECCO – Commented that stormwater along Scherbel Rd is an issue for the Black Earth Creek.*
- *Barbara Borns, BECWA – A group of students from UW Platteville, identified 6 trees in Festge County Park that date to 1735.*

Chris James and Pete Jopke, Water Resource Planner, LWRD, presented an update on Indian Lake.

Chair Downing called for comment.

- *Dennis Connor, Friends of Indian Lake County Park announced the friends were planning a prescribed burn to help eradicate Reed Canary Grass. Dennis also mentioned the remnant prairie near the chapel is thought to have existed 10,000 years ago.*
- *Carla Wright asked if there are any plans for park expansion? What are the DOT plans for improving Highway 19?*

2. Ice Age Trail Overview - Kevin Thusius, Ice Age Trail Alliance & Laura Hicklin

Kevin Thusius, Director of Land Conservation, Ice Age Trail Alliance and Laura Hicklin, Deputy Director, LWRD presented an update on the Ice Age Trail.

- *Ice Age Trail is 1 of 11 nationally designated trails in the country.*
- *Approximately 660 of the estimated total of 1150 mi are completed and open to the public.*
- *In 2015, 3600 volunteers provided over 80,000 hours working on trail segments through out the state .*
- *In Dane County, the planned trail when completed, will extend from Brooklyn to the Lodi Marsh.*
 - *32 of the estimated 64 miles are complete in Dane County*

Chair Downing called for comment regarding the Ice Age Trail

- *Louise Klopp - What are the plans for a visitor center?*
- *Jeff Postle, Village of Cross Plains – supports the existing trail system and encouraged continued support on the development of planned trails in the community*

G. Reports to Committee

None.

H. Announcements

Yahara Pride Farms will be hosting their annual watershed wide annual conference on Thursday March 3rd, at the Comfort Inn and Suites, Highway V, DeForest beginning at 10:00 am.

I. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Tuesday March 8th at the City County Building.

Lisa Mackinnon will present Res 465 – Acknowledging Receipt of the First Dane County Sustainable Operations Plan and Planning Next Steps for Implementation

J. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

- *Louise Klopp, BECCO- Concern the state is removing local control of landuse. Concern for the corridor from Middleton to the Wisconsin River.*
- *Dennis Franke, VP BECCO- Black Earth Creek Conservation Organization (BECCO), Black Earth Creek Watershed Association (BECWA) and Trout Unlimited (TU) have partnered to place new watershed signs at intersecting roads along Highway 14. Dennis also raised concern regarding the use of herbicides and other pesticides along the corridor.*
- *Barbara Borns- Commended everyone involved with the Lake Marion Restoration including the gift from the Wolfe Family to construct the trail from Mazomanie to Wisconsin Heights High School. Barbara also encouraged support to continue the trail to Middleton (commonly referred to as the Good Neighbor Trail) and north to Sauk City.*

K. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None.

L. Adjourn

A motion was made by KIEFER, seconded by JONES, that this meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote: 4/0

Ayes: 4 - DOWNING, KIEFER, RICHMOND and JONES

Excused: 1 - Vice Chair CHENOWETH

Meeting adjourned at 7:26pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kevin Connors. Minutes subject to committee approval.