



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Park Commission

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

5:30 PM

Stewart Lake County Park Shelter
3101 County Highway JG
Mt. Horeb, WI 53572

A. Call To Order

Chair Ripp called the Park Commission meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Staff Present: Joleen Stinson, Sharene Smith, Chris James.

Others Present: Greg Brecka, Wisconsin DOT. Friends of Stewart Park: Mary McDonough Sutter, Jack Saltes, Mike Hasburgh.

Present: 5 - ANALIESE EICHER, DAVE RIPP, TOM THORESEN, GRACE MORAN and STEFANIE BROUWER

Excused: 2 - KRISTIE GOFORTH and NANCY BOGUE

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2022](#) Minutes of the June 8, 2022 Park Commission
[MIN-113](#)

Attachments: [2022 MIN-113 PC Minutes 06-08-2022](#)

A motion was made by EICHER, seconded by THORESEN, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

C. Fund Transfers - None

D. Referrals (Resolutions & Ordinance Amendments)

[2022](#) AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS FOR GOODLAND TENNIS COURT
[RES-075](#) RESTORATION

Sponsors: CHAWLA, RIPP, ENGELBERGER and HATCHER

Attachments: [2022 RES-075](#)
[2022 RES-075 Fiscal Note](#)

A motion was made by BROUWER, seconded by MORAN, that the Resolution Requiring 2/3rds Vote be recommended for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

[2022
RES-080](#)

AUTHORIZING SALE OF LANDS ALONG STATE HIGHWAY 19 TO
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Sponsors: CHAWLA, RIPP and ENGELBERGER

Attachments: [2022 RES-080](#)
[2022 RES-080 Fiscal Note](#)
[2022 RES-080 MAP Berry](#)
[2022 RES-080 MAP Mazomanie](#)

A motion was made by BROUWER, seconded by EICHER, that the Resolution Requiring 2/3rds Vote be recommended for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

E. Items Requiring Committee Action

1. WIS-19 Proposed Indian Lake County Park Pedestrian Underpass

Greg Brecka from the DOT gave an overview of the WIS-19 underpass planning to date. In the last month, the DOT structural engineers changed the shape of the underpass and determined that concrete collar treatment would be the best option. Because the DOT made this change, they will cover the costs for the concrete collars in addition to the underpass. Any aesthetic treatments would still be Dane County Park's cost. This treatment will fit into the landscape more appropriately.

A motion was made by THORESEN, seconded by MORAN, that the DOT continue with the pedestrian underpass design with concrete collars. Further direction included staining a sandstone color and adding a block look as long as aesthetic treatment cost estimates come within the \$20,000 budget per the 1/5/2021 State/Municipal Financial Agreement. The motion carried by a voice vote 5-0.

[2022
RPT-156](#)

DOT Hwy 19 Underpass Draft Plans

Attachments: [DOT Hwy 19 Underpass Draft Plans](#)

F. Presentations

1. Friends of Stewart Lake County Park

Mary McDonough Sutter provided an overview of all the volunteer land restoration work going on throughout the park, which is guided by the Dane County Park's restoration plan. Volunteers work diligently to remove invasive species from underneath the canopy of oaks in the oak woodlands and savannah and have started reestablishing native grasses, flowers, and shrubs. Volunteers are clearing and expanding a steep remnant prairie overlooking Stewart Lake. The remnant is referred to as the "goat prairie" and volunteers are the "goat squad." The hilltop prairie was established on dredge spoils pumped up from the lake. The rich soil offers fertile ground for weeds and a challenging environment for prairie plants, but mowing, weeding, and prescribed fire continue to push this prairie in a positive direction. A raingarden was installed near the lake and beach under the direction of Dane County LWRD's Stormwater Engineer. Mary describes the raingarden as her "pride and joy" and the stormwater (and therefore lake water quality) benefits are visible. Jack Saltes started the bluebird trail in the early 2000's and ~800 baby bluebirds have been fledged since then.

2. Stewart Lake County Park history

Stewart Lake was a popular recreation destination well before it became a County Park. In 1912, Mount Horeb residents formed the Lake Park Association. The association raised money to purchase the land, build an access road and construct the dam. In 1913, a ski jump was built, which held competitions for several years. The original dam washed away in 1915 and there was not much public use for several years after that. Dane County Park acquired the parkland in 1935, making this the first Dane County Park. The CCC constructed early park amenities. Photos from the Mount Horeb Area Historical Society were passed around. Current recreational facilities include a picnic shelter built from timber harvested from parkland, play equipment, hiking trails, an accessible fishing pier and a beach.

3. Free Kids Fishing Event at Stewart Lake on July 23, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

*Dane County staff will assist young anglers as they are encouraged to try their luck in Stewart Lake. Youth Fishing Day is designed for kids in K-8th grade. Program participants will hear about safety and fishery management from a DNR Conservation Warden. They will also rotate to specific learning stations where they will learn about fish identification, anatomy, casting and knot tying. The first 150 participants will get their very own fishing rod free along with a small selection of tackle. However, there is a catch, they must first have passed through the various stations and present their stamped card. Pre-registration is required.
<https://www.danecountyparks.com/Event/Detail/1308>*

G. Reports to Committee - None

H. Future Meeting Items and Dates

July 13 - Heritage Center lower level hybrid

July 27 - WG Lunney Lake Farm County Park

I. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda - None

J. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law - None

K. Adjourn

A motion was made by BROWER, seconded by MORAN, that the Meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a voice vote.

Meeting adjourned 6:42 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Joleen Stinson, pending Park Commission approval.

L. Optional Tour of Park Restoration Work