



Dane County

Minutes

Park Commission

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

5:30 PM

Schumacher County Park
5682 Hwy 19
Waunakee, WI 53597

Schumacher Co Park - 5682 Hwy 19, Wauankee

- Present:** 5 - KYLE RICHMOND, DAVE RIPP, WILLIAM LUNNEY, MARY SCHLAEFER and TOM THORESEN
- Excused:** 2 - CHRISTINE HAAG and DANIEL WISNIEWSKI

A. Call To Order

Meeting called to order by Lunney at 5:40pm.

Staff present: Darren Marsh, Laura Hicklin, Kevin Connors, Chris James, Amy Callis, Steve Ottelien, Mindy Habecker

Others present: Supervisor Chenoweth (EANR), Supervisor Kiefer (EANR), Supervisor Sheila Stubbs (LCD), Supervisor Downing, Supervisor Chuck Erickson, Supervisor Maureen McCarville, Lyle Updike (LWC), Rebecca Powers (LWC), Judie Pfeifer (Friends of Capital Springs), Rosa Ropers (President, Friends of Schumacher Farm of the Jennifer Harper (Schumacher Farm Park), Jim Ableidinger (Friends of Schumacher Farm), Bob Forbes (Friends of Schumacher Farm), Steve Falter, Alixandra Jacobson

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2015](#)
[MIN-151](#) 2015 MIN-151_6-10-15 Park Comm Minutes

Attachments: [2015 MIN-151 6-10-15 Park Comm Minutes.pdf](#)

A motion was made by RIPP, seconded by THORESEN, that the Minutes of June 10, 2015 be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Ayes:** 5 - Supervisor RICHMOND, Supervisor RIPP, LUNNEY, SCHLAEFER and THORESEN

C. Fund Transfers - None.

D. Referrals (Resolutions & Ordinance Amendments) - None.

E. Items Requiring Committee Action - None.**F. Presentations - None.****G. Reports to Committee**

Lunney welcomed the natural resource committees and commissions to the quarterly meeting to share ideas and priorities. Lunney stated that the parks have a rich and diverse history, each park being distinctly different from the rest. Our volunteer program and our volunteer friends groups are what make our parks system an integral part of our community. One major priority of the Park Commission is the development of outside funding sources to support the parks and our Friends Groups. The County has established a Friends of Dane County Parks Endowment. In little over a year, the endowment has grown to more than \$250,000. The Endowment in its first year is sponsoring a new initiative to support the Friends Groups with a Volunteer Training Series. There are three Fundraising Events scheduled for 2015: Bombay's Wright Stuff Century Ride – July 25, Celebrity Disc Golf Tournament – August 14th and the 80th Anniversary Celebration on September 1st.

a. Friends of Schumacher Farm - Projects and Activities

Rosa Ropers, President of the Friends of Schumacher Farm thanked the Park Commission and many guests that were in attendance for coming to Schumacher Farm County Park. Ropers provided a brief background of the park that is 37 years old and the Friends of Schumacher Farm (1988) including the start of the Park with the generous land donation made by Marcella Schumacher Pendall. Ropers discussed the historic aspects of the Park, the mission and goals. Jim Ableidinger, Vice President discussed their capital campaign to create the Center for Rural History utilizing the Red Barn. Bob Forbes discussed a proposal to add a large storage shed to the property to keep and maintain a large collection of antique farm equipment that he and others have donated to Schumacher Farm. Currently the equipment is being stored at a number of sites in the area.

b. Events

- a. *McCarthy Master Plan – 7:00 PM, Thursday 6-25-15 at the Town of Sun Prairie*
- b. *Friends of Dane County Parks Endowment Events*
 - i. *Bombay's Wright Stuff Century Ride July 25, 2015*
 - ii. *Celebrity Challenge Disc Golf Tournament – August 14, 2015*
 - iii. *80th Anniversary of Dane County Parks – September 1, 2015*
- c. *Friends of Schumacher Farm*
 - i. *August – Harvest Fest*
 - ii. *October - Halloween at the Farm*
- d. *Capital Springs Recreation Area*
 - i. *Jenni and Kyle Fishing Day July 16, 2015*

c. Discussion with County Natural Resource Committees and Commissions

a. 2016 Budget Guidelines

Connors handed out the County Executive's 2016 Budget Guidelines that Department Managers must follow in the preparation for their budget proposals.

No New Positions funded by general purpose revenues (GPR)

Budget must remain budget neutral

Look for partnerships and cost saving measures

Capital Budget – similar to 2015

Discussion included status of the Lakes and Watershed Community Engagement Specialist position, phosphorous reduction to improve the lakes; lakes are a priority, diversity and having people of color more engaged in our programs, working with the media outlets.

b. Adaptive Management and Conservation Practices

Amy Callis, County Conservationist, was introduced and provided background on her work history before coming to Dane County. The County is partnering with Madison Metropolitan Sewage District and other agencies on an Adaptive Management Program to remove phosphorous from entering our lakes and streams. Steve Ottelien discussed several conservation projects that have been completed on county lands in the area. Water & sediment control basins have been installed at Schumacher Farm and the North Mendota Natural Resource Area. These structures are placed in areas where there is concentrated water flows and help slow waters to dissipate energy to help prevent soil loss. A tour of the structure at Schumacher followed the meeting.

c. Information sharing and priorities from county natural resource committees and commissions.

Discussion included:

Next quarterly meeting to be hosted by Lakes and Watershed Commission

Food Council – Land Access Subcommittee is looking how to support beginning farmers on county lands and exploring alternative agricultural methods for sustainability of the land

Environmental Councils Grant Program – can help support Friends Groups.

Pollinator Protection Task Force is working on recommendations for county lands

Lakes and Watershed Commission Priority Issues:

Phosphorous Reduction

System-oriented solutions

Winter Spreading Ordinance

Best Management Practices for County Lands

Working with diverse communities on natural resource issues

Budget

Phosphorous Management

Chlorides

Citizen Engagement

Prairie Restoration on County Lands once Wayne Pauly retires

Air Quality – investigate new equipment

Exploring more organic farming opportunities

H. Future Meeting Items and Dates

- a. July 8, 2015 - Lyman F. Anderson Agriculture & Conservation Center

Next meeting date: July 8, 2015 at 5:30pm.

I. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

None.

J. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None.

K. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Darren Marsh. Minutes are subject to Committee approval.

7:00 - 7:30 (Approximately) Optional Tour Schumacher Farm Park and Conservation Practices

Quorums of the Environment and Natural Resource Committee, Lakes & Watershed Commission, Land Conservation Committee, Food Council and Environmental Council may be present, but they will conduct no committee or commission business.