



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Park Commission

Wednesday, May 10, 2017

5:30 PM

Lyman Anderson Agriculture Center
5201 Fen Oak Drive - Room A/B
Madison WI 53718

5201 Fen Oak Drive - Room A/B

A. Call To Order

Present: 5 - DAVE RIPP, WILLIAM LUNNEY, CHRISTINE HAAG, TOM THORESEN and
GEORGE GILLIS

Excused: 1 - DANIEL WISNIEWSKI

Absent: 1 - MARY SCHLAEFER

Commissioner WISNIEWSKI was not present at the beginning of the meeting but was present as noted below.

Staff Present: Adam Alves, Lars Higdon, Darren Marsh, Jan Zimmermann

Meeting was called to order by Chair LUNNEY at 5:39 pm

Introductions by the commissioners were made to Higdon & Alves

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2017](#)
[MIN-050](#) 4-26-17_PC MINUTES

Attachments: [2017 MIN-050 4-26-17_PC Minutes](#)

A motion was made by RIPP, seconded by GILLIS, that the April 26, 2017 minutes be approved with amendment to reflect that Mary Schlaefer was absent instead of excused. The motion carried by the following vote: 5/0

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

Excused: 1 - WISNIEWSKI

Absent: 1 - SCHLAEFER

C. Fund Transfers - None

WISNIEWSKI arrived at 5:47 pm

Present: 6 - DAVE RIPP, WILLIAM LUNNEY, CHRISTINE HAAG, DANIEL WISNIEWSKI,
TOM THORESEN and GEORGE GILLIS

Absent: 1 - MARY SCHLAEFER

D. Referrals (Resolutions & Ordinance Amendments)

[2017
RES-041](#) AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF LAND AT WALKING IRON
COUNTY PARK

Sponsors: JONES, BOLLIG, CHENOWETH, DOWNING, ERICKSON, KILMER, KOLAR,
KRAUSE, McCARVILLE, MILES, NELSON, PERTL, RIPP, RITT, SCHAUER,
SCHMIDT, VELDRAN and WILLIAMS

Attachments: [2017 RES-041 Walking Iron Wick Trager Aquisition](#)
[2017 RES-041 Map Wick Walking Iron](#)
[2017 RES-041 Fiscal Note](#)

Zimmermann summarized the history of negotiations and Marsh provided information about the property and trail network at Walking Iron that extends into the Wick property. Dave Ripp asked about future management plans for the agricultural land portion of the property.

A motion was made by RIPP, seconded by GILLIS, that this Resolution be recommended for approval. The motion carried by the following vote: 6/0

Ayes: 6 - Vice Chair RIPP, LUNNEY, HAAG, WISNIEWSKI, THORESEN and Supervisor GILLIS

Absent: 1 - SCHLAEFER

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

1. Adam Alves, County Forestry Specialist - Introduction, Education and Outreach, Wood Utilization and Emerald Ash Borer Plan

Alves had a PowerPoint presentation about County forestry's education and outreach, wood utilization, Emerald Ash Borer Plan, and tree removal and replacement efforts in the parks system. There were a number of questions from the commissioners relating to the county tree inventory. There was also discussion about the significant role that volunteers have made in carrying out forest management in the parks. Adam discussed a diverse number of recent and future events and training sessions.

2. Lars Higdon, County Naturalist/Botanist - Introduction, Restoration Program and Future Projects

Higdon had a PowerPoint presentation about the County restoration program, the new Libby Road facility and its impact on his program, some of the priorities identified, and what he has done in the nine months since joining Dane County Parks staff.

3. Endowment Fund Update

Current level of the endowment is \$380,000.

4. Update on Determination to Pursue 501(c)(3) Status

LUNNEY summarized that an application for 501(c)(3) status is underway to form the Friends of Dane County Parks, Inc. They have enlisted the help of a pro bono attorney and tax attorney with this process. The Friends would continue to grow the Endowment and explore additional ways for donors to support the park system.

H. Announcements

- 5/17/17 Subcommittee for Review of Boards & Commissions - 5:30pm CCB Rm 321
- 5/13/17 Troop 87 Friends of Festge work project - Friends of Festge
- 5/20/17 Bluegrass Festival - Friends of Schumacher Farm, 1-8 pm
- 5/21/17 Stewart Work Day, 1-4 pm - Friends of Stewart
- 5/22/17 Volunteer Train-Parks Div Org & Operations, 10-noon, Fen Oak - DC Parks
- 5/25/17 Possible Stewart Blue Bird Walk - Friends of Stewart

RIPP explained the Subcommittee for Review of Boards & Commissions meeting on 5/17/17 would involve this group meeting to determine which boards and commissions are necessary and those that should continue. Subcommittees need to be reauthorized each year.

RIPP highlighted the upcoming Bluegrass Festival at Schumacher Farm on May 20th.

I. Future Meeting Items and Dates

*Next Meeting Date: May 24, 2017 at Lyman Anderson Conservation Center
Summer Park Tour - June 28, 2017 at Walking Iron County Park*

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 HAAG, seconded by THORESEN, that this meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote: 6/0

Ayes: 6 - Vice Chair RIPP, LUNNEY, HAAG, WISNIEWSKI, THORESEN and Supervisor GILLIS

Absent: 1 - SCHLAEFER

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm

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