



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, September 23, 2020

5:30 PM

Indian Lake County Park
8183 State Highway 19
Cross Plains, WI 53528

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A. Call To Order

Present: 7 - NANCY BOGUE, STEFANIE BROUWER, ANALIESE EICHER, DAVE RIPP, TOM THORESEN, GRACE MORAN and KRISTIE GOFORTH

Youth Governance Program Member Present: Sam Kaufman

Staff Present: Darren Marsh, Chris James, Sharene Smith, Alex DeSmidt, Rhea Stangel-Maier, Sara Rigelman

Others Present: Lynn Hagen; Friends of Indian Lake - Denny Connor, Jeff Durbin, Sherry Buechner, Carla Wright

Meeting Called to order by Chair RIPP at 5:40 pm with all participants at least 6 feet apart and wearing masks.

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2020](#) PC MINUTES_9-9-20
[MIN-179](#)

Attachments: [PC MINUTES_9-9-20](#)

A motion was made by THORESEN, seconded by EICHER, that the Minutes of September 9, 2020 be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote: 7/0, YGP: 1/0

C. Fund Transfers - None

D. Referrals (Resolutions & Ordinance Amendments)

[2020 RES-204](#) DANE COUNTY CONSERVATION FUND GRANT AWARD TO
GROUNDWELL CONSERVANCY AND THE TOWN OF DUNN (HEACOX)

Sponsors: RIPP, JOERS, HATCHER, DOWNING, RATCLIFF, MCGINNITY and RITT

- Attachments:** [2020 RES-204](#)
[2020 RES-204 Fiscal Note](#)
[2020 RES-204 Overview MAP Heacox](#)
[2020 RES-204 Subject MAP Heacox](#)

A motion was made by BOGUE, seconded by BROUWER, that the Resolution be recommended for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote: 7/0, YGP: 1/0

E. Items Requiring Committee Action - None

F. Presentations

Friends of Indian Lake Park

Jeff Durbin provided an overview of projects the Friends have been working on in 2020 at the park including planting a pollinator garden, seed collecting, monarch tagging, prairie restoration and trail maintenance. The Friends also raise funds for the park with an annual trail run event that is held on the first weekend of October every year. A portion of the funds from the 2019 event was used to support carp removal efforts in the lake.

G. Reports to Committee

1. Restoration Projects

- a. Lake
Pete Jopke from Land and Water Resources has co-managed three efforts with the Wisconsin DNR to eradicate carp in the lake. Fish surveys done in 2020 suggest these efforts have greatly improved the fishery.
- b. Oak Savanna
Dane County Parks utilized a logging company to remove invasive trees on approximately 17 acres of interior park lands in an effort to restore native oak savanna. This is an ongoing project. The Friends are now helping with brush removal and seeding of native prairie species to promote establishment of oak savanna.
- c. Trails
Marsh reported that there was extreme trail use associated with COVID-19 in the spring of 2020 that has resulted in areas of erosion that will need to be repaired prior to the 2021 park season. The Friends will assist park staff with prioritizing areas in need of restoration. Saturation issues on trails near the lake due to perennial high water tables may require boardwalk to permanently fix them.

2. Indian Lake Park Signage Plan & Implementation (Trail Markers, "You Are Here" Signs, Kiosk & Map Panel)

Rigelman gave an overview of the countywide signage plan that was completed in 2018 and provides typical standards for the entire park system. Indian Lake was the first park to implement the signage plan standards in the fall of 2019 and included installation of new designated use, wayfinding, and "you are here" signs throughout the park. A new informational kiosk was also installed in 2020 near the main parking lot.

3. History of Indian Lake Park and Halfway Prairie Wildlife Area

Marsh provided an overview of the history of the park and wildlife area. The stone foundation on Halfway Prairie Wildlife Area are remnants of the original Matz farm, first homesteaded in 1852. The Endres family were the original owners of the park property. It became a park in 1975. The park also includes a geodetic survey monument for recreation trail use that was installed in memory of Ron Ripp, the Dane County Surveyor for more than 20 years. The park is also included in the Ice Age National Scenic Trail corridor and has many geologic features that can be viewed throughout the park and wildlife area.

4. Chapel Donation - New Fence

Marsh stated that the new fence has been completed around the historic chapel. The Endres families donated for the project in loving memory of Larry Endres, Waunakee, and Urban J. Endres, Muenster, Texas, great-grandsons of John Endres who built the Chapel in 1857. A local metal artist from Lodi, Dean Allen Studios, was retained to design and install the new fence in 2019. A plaque to dedicate the new fence will be installed shortly.

5. Inventory of County Lands Adjacent to State or Federal Lands

James provided an overview of the Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan that is updated every five years, and includes an extensive public input process. The plan identifies recreation needs, provides general direction for park program areas, gives an overview of large-scale park facility needs, and identifies areas for future acquisition. DeSmidt explained the different classifications of lands within the Parks and Open Space Plan and how multiple classifications may exist at the same property. He went on to explain the differences in how hunting occurs on state and federal public lands in comparison to Dane County public lands. At Indian Lake Park, lands south of STH 19 are recreation park and only open to the limited permit archery hunt. Halfway Prairie Wildlife Area lands north of STH 19 do not require permits and are open to the same hunting opportunities as DNR wildlife areas.

H. Announcements - None

I. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Virtual Meeting October 14th

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 MORAN, seconded by BOGUE, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a voice vote: 7/0, YGP: 1/0

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Chris James. Minutes are subject to commission approval.

Park Commission members toured the following locations. No official business was conducted.

Park Facilities