



# 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?*

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Wednesday, June 27, 2018

6:00 PM

Stewart Lake County Park  
3106 County Highway JG  
Mt Horeb WI 53572

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#### Stewart Lake County Park Shelter - 3106 County Highway JG, Mt Horeb

#### A. Call To Order

**Present:** 5 - DAVE RIPP, WILLIAM LUNNEY, TOM THORESEN, NANCY BOGUE and STEFANIE BROUWER

**Excused:** 1 - DANIEL WISNIEWSKI

*Youth Governance Member Present: Sarah Fahlberg*

*Staff Present: Brian Berkan, Chris James, Darren Marsh*

*Others Present: Judie Pfeifer (Friends of Dane County Parks and Capital Springs Recreation Area), Mary McDonough-Sutter & Tracey Gross (Friends of Stewart County Park)*

#### B. Consideration of Minutes

[2018](#)  
[MIN-101](#) PC MINUTES\_6-13-18

**Attachments:** [2018 MIN-101\\_PC Minutes\\_6-13-18](#)

A motion was made by RIPP, seconded by THORESEN, that the minutes of June 13, 2108 be approved. The motion carried by the following vote: 5/0, YGP 1/0

**Ayes:** 5 - RIPP, LUNNEY, THORESEN, BOGUE and BROUWER

**Excused:** 1 - WISNIEWSKI

#### C. Fund Transfers - None

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

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

## 1. Brief History of Stewart Park - Bill Lunney

*LUNNEY covered the history of Dane County's Stewart Park from 1901 through the 1990's. Park Planner Chris James then covered the updates to the park including dredging the lake, stormwater improvements, new shelter, parking area, beach and accessible fishing pier. Park Ranger Brian Berkan stated that there are almost 400 vehicles a day that enter the parking lot with an estimated 60,000 visitors a year. Berkan stated that the beach has been a great resource for the community and brings visitors from all over western Dane and Iowa counties.*

## 2. Presentation by Friends of Stewart Park

*Mary McDonough-Sutter, President of the Friends of Stewart County Park provided an overview of the friends group and their project work. The group has been in existence for two years. They are still relatively small in numbers. They meet every other month. Dane County Parks Naturalist, Lars Higdon has provided them with a priority project plan for vegetation management. The group is using this plan to help educate volunteers and park users. Work days are being scheduled to achieve the planning goals.*

*Operation Fresh Start has been a huge asset to the group as they've helped do a lot of the major restoration work. Don Schlub has been volunteering for years and has accumulated over 10,000 hours. He enjoys working with the OFS crews.*

*Friends Board Member, Tracey Gross reviewed the prairie restoration projects taking place in the park. Projects include a new pollinator garden on the east side of the park next to the restored dredge spoil site. The group has been utilizing grant programs such as Plant Dane to establish the new garden area. The site will help educate park users on the various types of flowers and grasses that may be found in the prairies.*

## 3. 2018 BioBlitz

*The event was put on by the Milwaukee Public Library with assistance by Dane County, Friends of Capital Springs and MMSD. A number of Park Commission members volunteered or participated in the event. LUNNEY stated that Clare Carlson, Capital Springs Naturalist and Lael Pascual, Park Ranger need to be recognized for their efforts supporting this event. They did a great deal of work planning and setting up for the event. LUNNEY stated that feedback from the Milwaukee Museum indicated that it was a very successful event. There were over 1102 species inventoried which was more species with greater diversity than any previous BioBlitzes. There were also a few undesirable exotic species that were found including the lone star tick and zebra mussel. These types of studies are extremely important to identify what we should be managing for and how we should be managing our lands. Inventorying species will help us create much better master plans for our parks and resource areas.*

**H. Announcements**

- 6/28/18 Summer Camp for 1st-5th Grade @ Schumacher - Friends of Schumacher Farm
- 6/29/18 Vlntr Restoration Workday, Stewart, 9-noon - DC Park Staff
- 6/29/18 Dementia Friendly Day Camps - Friends of Pheasant Branch
- 6/29/18 Summer Camp for 1st-5th Grade @ Schumacher - Friends of Schumacher Farm
- 7/6/18 Vlntr Restoration Workday, Ice Age Junction, 9-noon - DC Park Staff
- 7/6/18 Master Gardeners Prairie Planting , Heritage Ctr prairies - FOCSRSA LTE
- 7/10/18 Monarch Butterfly Workshop, Schumacher Farm - Friends of Schumacher Farm
- 7/10/18 Vlntr Restoration Workday, Walking Iron, 9-noon - DC Park Staff
- 7/13/18 Vlntr Restoration Workday, Festge, 9-noon - DC Park Staff
- 7/16/18 Summer Series Yoga on the Hill, Lake View 9-noon - Friends of Lake View
- 7/16/18 FREE Chicken Workshop, Schumacher Farm, 3-4 pm - Friends of Schumacher
- 7/20/18 Vlntr Restoration Workday, Badger Prairie, 9-noon - DC Park Staff
- 7/20/18 Master Gardeners Prairie Planting, Heritage Ctr prairies - FOCSRSA LTE
- 7/20/18 Prairie Planting & Maintenance - Cap Springs Rec Area, 9-noon - FOCSRSA
- 7/21/18 Friends Work Day, Pheasant Branch, 9-noon - Friends of Pheasant Branch
- 7/21/18 Vlntr Ed Training, Chainsaw Safety Level 1, 8 am-4 pm - DC Park Staff
- 7/22/18 Summer Time at the Farm, Schumacher Farm, 1-3 pm - Friends of Schumacher
- 7/22/18 Make a Memory Day Camp, 2-5:30 pm - Friends of Pheasant Branch

**I. Future Meeting Items and Dates**

July 11th beginning at 5:30 pm at the Lyman F Anderson Ag & Conservation Center

**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 RIPP, seconded by THORESEN, that this meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote: 5/0, YGP 1/0

**Ayes:** 5 - RIPP, LUNNEY, THORESEN, BOGUE and BROUWER

**Excused:** 1 - WISNIEWSKI

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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

The Friends of Stewart then provided a tour of the new pollinator garden and restored prairie area on the east side of the park.