



Dane County

Minutes - Draft

Park Commission

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Wednesday, August 25, 2021

5:30 PM

Walking Iron County Park
Lion's Park Entrance, Village of Mazomanie
318 Park Street
Mazomanie, WI 53560

A. Call To Order

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

Staff present: Laura Hicklin, Joleen Stinson, Sharene Smith, Chris James, Sara Rigelman, Lars Higdon.

Others present: Peter Huebner, Village of Mazomanie Administrator. Mark Geisler, Village of Mazomanie Public Works Director. Gail and Russ Dengel, Mazomanie bluff restoration volunteers. Fred Wolf, Town of Mazomanie Chair. Dan Deneen, Friends of Mazo Marsh. Gateway to the Driftless Board Members: Chris Long, Ben Swanson, Peter Antonie, Sara Shackleton, Mary Scott.

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

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2021](#)
[MIN-234](#)

Minutes of the August 11, 2021 Park Commission Meeting

Attachments: [2021 PC MINUTES 8-11-21](#)

A motion was made by THORESEN, seconded by BROUWER, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote 7-0.

C. Fund Transfers - None

D. Referrals (Resolutions & Ordinance Amendments)

[2021
RES-142](#) 2021 PARC & RIDE GRANT AWARDS

Sponsors: RIPP, SMITH, EICHER, RATCLIFF, CHAWLA, JOERS and HATCHER

Attachments: [2021 RES-142](#)
[2021 RES-142 Fiscal Note](#)
[Sub 1 Res 142](#)

A motion was made by BROUWER, seconded by MORAN, that the Resolution be recommended for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote 7-0.

[2021
RES-144](#) AUTHORIZING A GRANT OF EASEMENT TO WP&L AND SPECTRUM
MID-AMERICA - BLACK EARTH CREEK WILDLIFE AREA, SUNNYSIDE UNIT

Sponsors: RIPP

Attachments: [2021 RES-144](#)
[2021 RES-144 MAP](#)
[2021 RES-144 Fiscal Note](#)

A motion was made by BROUWER, seconded by THORESEN, that the Resolution be recommended for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote 7-0.

[2021
RES-145](#) AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A LAND USE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND DANE
COUNTY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN TRAIL

Sponsors: RIPP, CHAWLA, JOERS, RITT, HATCHER and RATCLIFF

Attachments: [2021 RES-145](#)
[Sub ____ to 2021 RES-145 \(PROPOSED RITT\)](#)
[2021 RES-145 Fiscal Note](#)
[2021 RES-145 CONTRACT #14432](#)
[Sub 1 Res 145](#)

A motion was made by THORESEN, seconded by BOGUE, that the Resolution Requiring 2/3rds Vote be recommended for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote 7-0.

[2021
RES-156](#)

PURSUIING TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS AND AUTHORIZING FUNDING

Sponsors: WEGLEITNER, SMITH, CHAWLA, RITT, HAASL and DOYLE

Attachments: [2021 RES-156](#)
[2021 RES-156 FISCAL NOTE](#)

A motion was made by GOFORTH, seconded by BOGUE, that the Resolution Requiring 2/3rds Vote be amended as follows:

strike lines 90-95

add "camping and" before car camping on line 192

strike lines 197-200

The motion carried by a voice vote 7-0.

A motion was made by BOGUE, seconded by BROUWER, that the Resolution Requiring 2/3rds Vote be forwarded without further recommendation. The motion carried by a voice vote 7-0.

E. Items Requiring Committee Action - None

F. Presentations

1. Walking Iron Wildlife Area Restoration Progress

Lars Higdon, Dane County Parks Botanist/Naturalist, detailed the Walking Iron Wildlife Area restoration work progress, including black locust removal and oak savannah restoration. Workdays are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month.

2. Walking Iron Wildlife Area 7A Wetland Restoration Plan

Joleen Stinson, Interim Parks Director, provided details on a ~360 acre wetland restoration project planned in partnership with Ducks Unlimited and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Work to be completed in 2022.

3. Village of Mazomanie

Mark Geisler, Village of Mazomanie Public Works Director, discussed recent village park improvement projects, including a new downtown music pavilion, opening a dog park in Lions Park and Lake Marion restoration. He introduced Gail and Russ Dengel, volunteers restoring the prairie on the Village's bluff. Peter Huebner, Village of Mazomanie Administrator, detailed the Black Earth Creek flood damage repair project, funded by Community Development Block Grant Disaster Relief and Recovery Funds.

4. Gateway to the Driftless

Chris Long introduced Gateway to the Driftless Board Members Ben Swanson, Peter Antonie, Sara Shackleton, and Mary Scott. He provided a history of the organization and detailed the group's mission as a facilitator to bring other groups together through public/private partnerships. Mary Scott highlighted the Park passport program, which includes several Dane County Park properties around Mazomanie, Black Earth and Cross Plains.

5. Friends of Mazo Marsh

Dan Deneen, Friends of Mazo Marsh President, provided the history of this non-profit organization. They started with a focus on clearing blockages in Black Earth Creek to the Wisconsin River. Now they're working on trail connections through Walking Iron Wildlife Area and the WDNR Lower Wisconsin Riverway property.

G. Reports to Committee

Tom Thoresen reminded everyone of Darren's retirement party planned by the Foundation for Dane County Parks on Thursday, September 9 from 4-7 PM at William G Lunney Lake Farm Park Shelter #2. RSVPs appreciated at www.foundationfordanecountyparks.org/projects/2021-celebration

H. Future Meeting Items and Dates

September 15, 2021 Virtual (to end no later than 7 PM, Yom Kippur starts at sunset)
September 29, 2021 Badger Prairie 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 EICHER, seconded by THORESEN, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a voice vote 7-0.

Meeting adjourned 7:25 PM.

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