



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, August 14, 2019

5:30 PM

Lyman F Anderson Ag & Conservation Center
5201 Fen Oak Drive - Room A/B
Madison WI 53718

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A. Call To Order

Present: 5 - DAVE RIPP, TOM THORESEN, NANCY BOGUE, STEFANIE BROUWER and
ANALIESE EICHER

Excused: 1 - DANIEL WISNIEWSKI

Youth Governance Program members present: Ziggy Bjurlin

Staff Present: Chris James, Darren Marsh, Sharene Smith

Others Present: Travis Austin, Town of Berry

Meeting called to order by Chair RIPP at 6 pm.

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2019](#)
[MIN-158](#)

PC MINUTES_7-24-19

Attachments: [2019 MIN-158_PC Minutes_7-24-19.pdf](#)

A motion was made by BROUWER, seconded by BOGUE, that the minutes of July 24, 2019 be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote: 5/0, YGP: 1/0

Chair RIPP requested a change of agenda order to move Item J, "Public Comment " to be considered next. There was no objection.

J. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

Travis Austin, a college student from the Town of Berry appeared to voice his concerns from a recent trip he took to Phil's Woods County Park. He stated that he had fond memories of visiting the site with his grandfather to take in the spectacular views of the Wisconsin River Valley. He noted the park is promoted for its great views. He was upset to find after hiking to the viewing area with friends that the entire view was obstructed by corn. He asked that if the site needs to be cropped, consideration be given to growing lower crops that would keep the viewsheds open.

C. Fund Transfers - None

D. Referrals (Resolutions & Ordinance Amendments) - None

E. Items Requiring Committee Action - None

F. Presentations - None

G. Reports to Committee

1. Restoration Projects

Marsh covered two restoration projects: the Sugar River Restoration within Falk Wells Wildlife Area, and a draft restoration plan for lands recently acquired at Pheasant Branch Conservancy. Marsh stated the Falk Wells Restoration was being led by Sara Rigelman, Park Property Planner, who is working in partnership with WDNR Fisheries and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Dane County Parks Operations has been installing the work. Marsh presented plans and photos of the beginning of the project work. Much of the woody material being used for the restoration is being repurposed from former Bruce Company nursery stock fields.

Marsh then shared a draft plan for the restoration of lands at the Pheasant Branch Conservancy. The project will also include water quality monitoring stations.

[2019 RPT-215](#)

DANE COUNTY PARKS RESTORATION PROJECTS

- Attachments:** [2019 RPT-215_FalkWellsSugarR Plan.pdf](#)
[2019 RPT-215_Pheasant Branch Acker Restore.pdf](#)

2. Walking Iron Trail

James reviewed a proposed plan to work with the WDNR, WisDOT and Wisconsin & Southern Railroad Company to utilize portions of the railroad grade from the Village of Mazomanie to Sauk City as the future Walking Iron Trail. The trail would be a combination of rail to trail and shared corridor, with the potential of the County providing compensatory rail car storage on a parallel track. The linkage from the Walking Iron Trail (Dane County) to the Great Sauk Trail (Sauk County) would be completed by rebuilding a multi-use trail bridge over the Wisconsin River. Dane County and Sauk County are currently partnering to complete a feasibility study this fall that will identify a concept design and cost estimate.

3. Riley Deppe Park

Marsh provided a brief background on Riley Deppe County Park and information related to transferring the property to the Village of Marshall. Marsh stated that Dane County and the Village of Marshall are working toward a transfer of the park by the end of 2020. Marsh stated that Dane County agreed to complete a number of tasks at the park in preparation of the transfer. Two tasks remain: removal of the ash trees and repair of the parking lot and roadways. James provided an overview of the plan for completing the repairs.

4. Fees

Marsh presented the proposed fee adjustments for 2020. Marsh stated that the county's goal is to maintain fee levels by increasing users for the various activities. This strategy has been working in a number of service areas. Marsh suggested fee increases in the alcohol permit and in the special event permit. He also identified a new fee area that staff have been working on to help cover costs for private outdoor camps. This is a growing area and still needs further evaluation.

[2019
RPT-216](#)

2020 PARKS PROPOSED FEE CHANGES

Attachments: [2019 RPT-216_2020 Proposed Fee Changes & History.pdf](#)

H. Announcements

[2019
RPT-196](#)

DANE COUNTY PARKS ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Attachments: [2019 RPT-196_Parks Activity-Event Schedule August.pdf](#)

I. Future Meeting Items and Dates

August 28, 6 pm, Fish Camp County Park/ LYRT Phase II

K. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None

L. Closed Session

A motion was made by THORESEN, seconded by BROUWER, that the meeting enter into closed session. The motion carried by a voice vote: 5/0, YGP: 1/0

The Commission entered into closed session per Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e): The Commission may go into closed session for the purposes of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.

M. Return to Open Session

A motion was made by EICHER, seconded by THORESEN, that the meeting exit out of closed session. The motion carried by a voice vote: 5/0, YGP: 1/0

N. Adjourn

A motion was made by EICHER, seconded by BROUWER, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a voice vote: 5/0, YGP: 1/0

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

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