



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 12, 2020

5:30 PM

Remote Meeting Call 1-866-899-4679

Access Code: 434-268-117

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A. Call To Order

Present: 6 - NANCY BOGUE, STEFANIE BROUWER, ANALIESE EICHER, DAVE RIPP, TOM THORESEN and GRACE MORAN

Youth Governance Program member present: Sam Kaufmann

Staff Present: Laura Hicklin, Alex DeSmidt, Sharene Smith, Chris James, Darren Marsh

Meeting called to order by Chair RIPP at 5:30 pm.

Introductions of members and welcomed new youth member Sam Kaufmann.

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2020
MIN-116](#) 2020 MIN-116 PC Minutes_7-22-20

Attachments: [2020 MIN-116_PC Minutes_7-22-20](#)

Meeting was terminated at 5:45 pm by unknown cause. Hicklin sent out new meeting invite by email and the meeting started back up again at 5:50 pm. RIPP asked to re-approve the Minutes. BOGUE moved, seconded by BROUWER to recommend approval of Minutes. Motion carried by voice vote.

A motion was made by BOGUE, seconded by BROUWER, that the Minutes of July 22, 2020 be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote: 6/0, YGP: 1/0

C. Fund Transfers - None

D. Referrals (Resolutions & Ordinance Amendments) - None

E. Items Requiring Committee Action - None

F. Presentations - None**G. Reports to Committee**

1. Park Fees

RIPP stated that this is normally the time period when the Commission starts the process for evaluating permit fees for the following year. RIPP then shared the process that the Commission usually follows and the timeline for approval of fees. Marsh stated due to the Pandemic and the challenges that it has created, staff recommends that fees remain the same going into 2021. Marsh stated that the Parks Commission has authority to authorize park fees for specific uses. These fees are evaluated by staff to determine the costs of specific services. The fees are used to help offset operational costs for those services. The Dane County Parks system is considered a free park system in that there is no fee to enter the parks to hike, picnic, fish or for any other basic type of use. Where there are specific facilities developed to support a specific use, then a permit and fee may be required. Marsh showed a spreadsheet with all the county park permit fees and the history of fees for the last 8 years. Marsh pointed out that over the years we've worked to create certain programs with partner agencies. These permit fees are referred to as Cooperative Permit Fee Programs. These include Dog Parks, Lake Access, and Winter Cross Country Ski Programs. One Permit is good for all participating agencies. The park user can expect that each of the facilities under these programs offer similar facilities with the same rules and standards. Marsh then shared a spreadsheet covering permit sales for 2019 and 2020 (January through July). Marsh stated that he is pleased with the support of our park users and their efforts to secure permits from us. Marsh stated that staff then moved forward in June to install credit card permit kiosks, similar to the ones the State is using. To date there are five of these stations that are now in operation. Hicklin stated that the 2021 Budget actually has a program area to help fund additional kiosks next year. DeSmidt stated that as a comparison we now have five credit card kiosk in operations, compared to 50 plus cash kiosks that used to be in operation. Marsh also stated that earlier the LWRD sought options and vendors to replace the parks online reservation and permit ecommerce program called "Reserve Dane" that has served the county for close to 20 years. Unfortunately it's no longer viable and can't be supported by County Information Management. The new ecommerce program should be up and running by this Fall.

[2020](#) 2021 PARKS PROPOSED FEES & HISTORY

[RPT-162](#)

Attachments: [2020 RPT-162](#)

[2020](#) PERMIT SALES

[RPT-165](#)

Attachments: [2020 RPT-165](#)

2. Archery Program

DeSmidt reviewed the 2020 Limited Access Archery Program and referred to the County Parks Website. This program began with the onset of Chronic Wasting Disease and has involved a very beneficial deer abatement program. He stated that additional properties have been added to the program in 2020. The program includes ~5800 acres of park land that normally would not be open to hunting. On average there are 400 applicants for the program with approximately 200 permits issued. With valid state licenses a permit holder can access our lands to harvest either a deer or a turkey. There is a long list of rules that the applicant must agree to before they are issued an access permit. A secondary benefit of the program is that it is very popular for people that may not have the opportunity to find lands with limited hunting pressure. Many people want to harvest their own game. This is especially true with the growing interest in local food sources, including the growing and harvesting of their own food.

3. Parks COVID-19 Report - No update

H. Announcements

Seed Cleaning - BROUWER, EICHER, and THORESEN provided a report on their day seed cleaning with Lars Higdon and Shane Otto at Capital Springs Recreation Area. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to clean and learn about the seed collection program, and the restoration projects the seed supports all around the county. All the Commission members wanted to thank staff for their efforts.

I. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Proposed Outdoor Meeting and Tour at Babcock County Park on August 26th.

*RIPP reported that the Town of Dunn and Groundswell Conservancy will join the Commission at the park.
He also stated that they will look at the new properties.
RIPP reminded people to please bring a mask and chair for the meeting.*

J. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda - None

K. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law - None

L. Closed Session

A motion was made by BROUWER, seconded by THORESEN, that the meeting enter into closed session. The motion carried by the following vote: 6/0

Ayes: 6 - BOGUE, BROUWER, Supervisor EICHER, Chair RIPP, First Vice Chair THORESEN and MORAN

CLOSED SESSION: 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 the following vote: 6/0

Ayes: 6 - BOGUE, BROUWER, Supervisor EICHER, Chair RIPP, First Vice Chair THORESEN and MORAN

N. Adjourn

A motion was made by BOGUE, seconded by EICHER, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a voice vote: 6/0, YGP: 1/0

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

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