

Goodhue County Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Board

Meeting Date: January 31, 2019

Meeting Location: Goodhue County Public Works – Red Wing, MN

Meeting Time: 1:30 PM

Members

Brad Anderson	Commissioner
Barney Nesseth	Commissioner
Mike Melstad	1 st District Rep
Mairi Doerr	2 nd District Rep
Bernie Overby	3 rd District Rep
Barbara Pratt	4 th District Rep
Janie Farrar	5 th District Rep
Scott Roepke	Cannon Valley Trail Rep
Roxanne Bartsh	Goodhue Pioneer Trail Rep
Greg Isakson	Staff: Director of Public Works
Jennifer Ziemer	Staff: Admin Assistant- PW
Jess Greenwood	Staff: Deputy Director/Assist Eng

Absent: Commissioner Anderson, Mairi Doerr.

Janie Farrar called the meeting to order at 1:37 PM. It was moved by Roxanne Bartsh, seconded by Bernie Overby, and carried to approve the November 27, 2018, Park Board Minutes.

Greg Isakson discussed a tax forfeiture parcel adjacent to other County owned parcels in the Cascades area along the Cannon River. Back in 2012, a process was begun to add this previously omitted property to the tax rolls, knowing the property would forfeit down the road. The intent was to combine all three parcels for public use. The intended use at the time was a canoe and kayak boat launch. The property sits along a Wild & Scenic Area of the Cannon River, is located in the floodplain, and is not a suitable building site. If acquired, the property would need to have an implemented public use such as: a park with trails or shelters, a trail for walking or biking, a public beach or boat launch, civic recreational or conference facilities, or public service facilities. In order to acquire the property, the County will need to complete a State Deed Application, a Conditional Use Deed Application, and submit a check along with a County Board resolution approving the public use to the Department of Revenue. If approved, the Department of Revenue will send the County a deed to be recorded. There is a rule of reversion, that if the public use is not implemented within three years, or the use is implemented and then abandoned within three years, the rule of reversion applies to the parcel. Scott Roepke addressed the concern that there are other property owners with access from 4th Ave Way. He inquired if any public engagement had been completed for this property yet. Staff responded that public process had not been involved to this point, but would be if the Park Board and County Board were still interested in acquiring this parcel for public use. Ken Burns from Stanton Township commented that assurance of dust control and road improvements/maintenance would go a long way with the residents adjacent to these parcels. It was moved by Mike Melstad, seconded by Bernie Overby, and carried to recommend that the County Board approve acquiring this parcel for an authorized public use.

Greg Isakson reported that the Goodhue County Aquatic Invasive Species Committee has grant funding available and is interested in helping to fund a project at Byllesby Park that would add a separate lane to the existing boat trailer parking lot and provide an area for boaters to remove aquatic invasive species. With the support of the Park Board, Public Works staff agreed to look at surveying the area and work with the AIS Committee and Land Use Management/Survey Office.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Goodhue County Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Board is to provide a quality park, trail and recreation system which strive to preserve, protect, maintain, improve and enhance the County's park land, trails, and recreational activities, on behalf of all current and future citizens of the County of Goodhue

The Park Board reviewed and discussed Stanton Township's draft park zoning document. Ken Burns and Kathy Shay from the Stanton Township Planning Commission discussed the goal of having the County come forward annually to present their proposed projects at any park property. The Park Board discussed the limitations of a very specifically worded document, items listed/not listed as conditional uses, and the implications for any uses not specified under the zoning ordinance. Many items not listed in the draft ordinance were brought up by staff and the Park Board, including but not limited to: camping, fishing pier, fish cleaning station, dog park, HHW collections, search and rescue/water patrol training, scientific studies, DNR activities (deer registration & testing), geocaching, school programming, community attractions with unknown attendance (speed boat races, fishing opener celebration, car shows, fun runs, fundraisers, etc). Stanton Township acknowledged that some of these have been discussed at length and were intentionally left out of the draft ordinance; Stanton Township will not permit camping, a dog park, or a fire ring as conditional uses at this time. Scott Roepke commented that the Master Plan went through public process and therefore the public had an opportunity to have their voice heard. Ken Burns responded that the planning committee did not listen to the public. Staff also brought up concerns about limiting use of the boat launch by limiting the hours the park can be used (outside specification of County Ordinance), especially during fishing and hunting seasons, and Stanton Township responded that they did not feel it was necessary to use the boat launch before 6 AM at any time of the year.

Greg Isakson discussed the proposal from HKGI to revise the Nielsen Memorial Preserve Master Plan to strengthen the emphasis on outdoor education by adding to the areas regarding programming and marketing, at the suggestion of the Greater MN Regional Parks & Trails Commission. Joe with the GMRPTC suggested reapplying as a special feature park, focusing on outdoor education. Another area that will need to be strengthened is letters of support. The Park Board recommended that staff reach out to the Kenyon Sportsmens Club, City of Kenyon, Kenyon-Wanamingo Schools, Zumbrota Schools, Girl Scouts, and the Boy Scouts. It was moved by Scott Roepke, seconded by Janie Farrar, and carried to move forward with HKGI's proposal.

The previous SMART alternate representative has retired, and Scott Roepke was willing to take his place. It was moved by Janie Farrar, seconded by Mike Melstad, and carried to designate Scott Roepke as the Goodhue County SMART alternative representative. Roxanne Bartsch will remain as the primary Goodhue County SMART representative. No SMART meeting update was given.

Scott Reopke reported that the Cannon Valley Trail has received a grant for \$1.4 million to replace three bridges and repair an additional bridge, and this construction project will begin in 2020. The CVT is working on several additional grant applications including a federal recreational trail grants in the amount of approximately \$20,000 for the purchase of a mower and permanent trail counters and a safety grant for approximately \$10,000 in misc. safety improvements. The CVT has been suggested as a recipient of Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Funding through the GMRPTC to construct vault toilets and install wayfinding signage, and they are waiting to hear if the grant is awarded at this legislative session. They are also working with the Trust for Public Lands to acquire an 8.8 acre parcel as part of Camp Pearson. This is part of a larger 223 acre parcel, and the DNR would be acquiring the rest of the property. The CVT share would be a cost of approximately \$25,0000. The trail will be hosting an Open House on the Trail on June 1st as part of a National Trails Day celebration, in partnership with Live Well Goodhue County. Also, in their bridge surfacing debate, concrete has emerged victorious over wood decking. The sound and feel of the traditional wood decking will be missed by many, and the trail is working with designers on innovative surfacing techniques that may produce a similar feel to wood decking.

The next Park Board meeting date is to be determined.

It was moved by Commissioner Nesseth, seconded by Scott Roepke, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 3:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Ziemer
Goodhue County Administrative Assistant

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