

The minutes will be presented for approval at the next Park Board meeting.

Goodhue County Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Board

A meeting of the Goodhue County Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Board was held on Thursday, September 3, 2009, at the Goodhue County Lake Byllesby Park.

Members Present

Ted Seifert	County Commissioner
Richard Samuelson	County Commissioner
Paul Schluter	Chair, 2 nd District
Harris Haugen	Member, 3 rd District
Bonnie Dicke	Member, 4 th District
Sean Dowse	Member, 5 th District
Roxanne Bartsh	Member, Recreational Organization Rep (GPTA)
Greg Isakson	Public Works Director
Willie Root	Public Works Staff
Julie Huneke	Public Works Staff

Members Absent

Heather Marx	Member, 1 st District
Scott Roepke	(CVT)

Chairman Schluter called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Chairman Schluter asked if there were any additions to the agenda as presented. Rosie Schluter asked to be added. R. Schluter was added to the agenda. Richard Samuelson made a motion to approve the agenda, with a second by Harris Haugen. Motion passed.

Minutes

Chairman Schluter asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the August 6, 2009 meeting. Hearing none, R. Samuelson made a motion to approve the August 6, 2009, meeting minutes as presented. P. Schluter seconded; motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Trail Updates

Hastings to Red Wing Trail Master Plan Report

Two recommendations were drafted by staff (from the discussion at the last meeting) and sent to the Park Board members for review prior to this meeting. Ted Siefert made a motion to submit Recommendation B to the County Board as the recommendation the Park Board felt they could support. Sean Dowse seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion was withdrawn and a new motion presented by Harris Haugen, with a second by Ted Seifert to table the item to a later meeting. Greg Isakson will have a conversation with the other three partners regarding the issues this board has with the Trail Master Plan.

Goodhue Pioneer Trail

Roxanne Bartsh updated the group on the Legislative Bonding Tour that took place on Sept 1st. The Goodhue Pioneer Trail Association submitted a \$1.3M bonding request for funding the paving of another segment of the Trail.

Also, in June of 2008 Roxanne requested a one time contribution of \$500 for the 2009 budget year for the trail from the county to show local support for the trail, this request was part of the 'outside agency' requests that the County considers funding as part of the annual budgeting process. At that time C/Allen suggested it be addressed by the trail committee. Roxanne is formally asking this group for the support of their request for a \$500 contribution. Sean Dowse presented a motion to recommend the County Board commit \$500 to the Goodhue Pioneer Trail to show County support for the trail. Motion seconded by Harris Haugen. Motion passed.

S.M.A.R.T.

S.M.A.R.T. is holding a Trail Symposium on Sept 10 from 8-Noon in Winona at SE Tech Tandeski Center. Roxanne will check to see if Paul Kalass or Terry Feiro plans to attend. If neither of them is able to attend Roxanne indicated that she would attend.

Mill Towns Trail

Steve Young, Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota, continues negotiations with the Goudy's for land acquisition for the Mill Towns Trail extension and bridge over the Cannon River project along with the proposed City of Cannon Falls softball field complex. Greg will contact Mr. Young to get an update. As a reminder, Steve Hennessey, DNR, is negotiating with Sandstrom's and Doffings.

Cannon Falls Ball Field Complex

The City of Cannon Falls is hesitant to commit to a Master Plan study until they are informed of the cost of the land. Steve Young (Parks & Trails Council of MN) will continue to negotiate with Goudy's in an effort to get the necessary information for the City of Cannon Falls.

Park Well Issues

During the summer of 2008 the water system tested positive for bacteria. Measures were taken to correct the problem but it continued to reoccur. The well was shut off for the remainder of the season. A decision was made to not turn it on for the 2009 summer. To date the GCPW department has not received any calls regarding the fact that water is not available at the park. GCPW staff has obtained a quote for repair of the well if the Park Board requested that it be repaired and turned back on. At this time, the Park Board did not see a compelling reason to spend money to repair the well and reinstitute water service, so no action will be taken as this time. It was recognized that water service may be needed in the future, so the well will not be abandoned at this time.

Staff submitted an application for a grant for repairing the well. The application made it through the first round but due to the uncertainty of what improvements may take place at the park over the next several years and the uncertainty of the need for water to support those activities, the repair of the well has been put on hold.

2009 Construction Funding / Improvements

The County Board will revisit the Park Boards recommendation to hire a consultant to design a trail to the top of the 7.5 acre bluff site at the September 15th County Board meeting. The estimated cost of that design is between \$20,000 and \$25,000.

The DNR recommended paving trails from the walking trails to the playground. GCPW forces completed the prep work for this project. Aslakson's Blacktopping will be in to pave the surface yet this fall.

Ted Seifert presented a motion to purchase 6 additional picnic tables for the park. Motion seconded by Bonnie Dicke. It was thought to replace a few each year for the next couple years. Potentially secure the new tables in each of the three covered picnic shelters. Motion passed.

Discussion regarding establishing native grass and/or wild flowers in a 1/3 acre area between the pine trees and the park boundary resulted in the suggestion to contact the Cannon Falls area Boy Scout troop and see if one of their Eagle Scouts would like to pick up the project with the Park Board offering financial help.

Harris Haugen presented a motion to keep unspent park construction fund balance from 2009 and the park construction funds that will be designated in the 2010 budget in reserve for the trail project between Cannon Falls and the County Park should it be necessary to assist financially with that project to keep it from falling through. Motion seconded by R. Samuelson. The park board feels very strongly about this Trail Extension project. Its completion would provide a link to Dakota's County's Park as well as to the Cannon Valley Trail. Motion passed.

2010 Construction Funding / Improvements

The County board has indicated that there is a possibility the Park Improvement fund will be reduced by \$25,000 in 2010 as a result of the financial cut backs being made by the County.

See notes above regarding 2010 funds. If the monies are not needed for the trail project mentioned above, then the Park Board will consider options for using those funds to improve the park. One option discussed was seal coating the parking lots for an estimated cost of \$22,000.

Other

Rosie Schluter informed the group of a Cannon Falls Community internet site that items of community interest can be submitted and posted to.

New Business

Water Level of Lake Byllesby

The president of the Lake Byllesby Improvement Association received a response letter from the MN DNR, basically restating their (DNR's) position that they do not support revising the current calendar for changing the water level of Lake Byllesby.

Other

A copy of the current Park Ordinance was included in the packet. The County will be holding a Public Hearing for any ordinances that need to be revised. The Park Board is asked to review the ordinance and recommend any changes at the next meeting.

Next Meeting Date

The next Park Board meeting will be held on October 8th @ 1:30 in the Goodhue County Public Works building.

Adjourn

Chairman Schluter called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Harris, second by Roxanne Bartsh. Meeting adjourned at 2:40pm with a unanimous vote of the group.

Pre-meeting activities included a picnic attended by the members. Post meeting activities included a tour of the Upper Park and the 110 acre site.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Huneke

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Recording Secretary

Goodhue County Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Board