

Goodhue County Park and Recreation Advisory Board

A meeting of the Goodhue County Park and Recreation Advisory Board was held on November 8, 2007, at the Goodhue County Public Works Building.

Attendees

Bonnie Dicke	Vice-Chair
Sean Dowse	Member
Scott Roepke	Member
Harris Haugen	Member
Richard Mallan	County Commissioner
Greg Isakson	Public Works
Jim Klevan	Public Works
Willie Root	Public Works

Absent

Gary Fridell	Chair
Paul Schluter	Member
Paul Kalass	Member
Richard Samuelson	County Commissioner

Guests

Ric Ahern	Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota
-----------	-------------------------------------

Agenda

Call meeting to order
Review, discuss and approve minutes from October 4, 2007, meeting
Old Business
 Bridge Status
 2008 Proposed Park Improvements
 Update on National Park Service Issues
 Future Trail between Byllesby Dam and DNR land
 Buckthorn eradication
New Business
 Discussion of discontinuing waste collection service at the Park
 Discussion of addition of soccer backboards in open area
 Review Park Ordinance
Next Meeting Date
Adjournment

Call to Order & Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Dicke called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM. Minutes from the October 4, 2007, Park Board meeting were reviewed, discussed and approved as presented by a Haugen motion with a Dowse second.

Old Business

Land Acquisition/MN Parks and Trails Council

Ric Ahern from the Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota (Council) discussed the development of a trail between Hastings and Red Wing. Mr. Ahern approached the Park Board to request a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners for a Resolution (handout) in support of creating a comprehensive master plan for construction of a trail between Hastings and Red Wing. The Council will be in contact with Dakota County, the City of Red Wing, the Prairie Island Indian Community and the City of Hastings asking for their support and monetary contribution not to exceed \$8,000 per party. The Council needs the support of the five groups in order to prepare a Comprehensive Master Plan (Plan) to present to the State Legislature in the spring of 2008. The Council is hoping the link will join with the Cannon Valley Trail and someday allow people to enjoy a trail from the Cities to Mankato and South to Rochester. The Council is also hoping the trail extension will allow the development of a park in the Vermillion area as a destination for residents from the Cities. The Council has hired Bauer & Associates to develop the Plan in a timely manner. Motion to support the Council's proposal and recommend approval by the Board Of Commissioners was made by Sean Dowse, second by Harris Haugen, motion carried.

Bridge Status

Greg Isakson stated the consultants have finished the preliminary bridge design concept and is now on hold until we have secured a location for the bridge to touch down on the south side of the river.

2008 Proposed Park Improvements

Mr. Isakson will have Jim Klevan and Willie Root look into applying for grants for additional monies for Park related projects. Mr. Klevan will be contacting Owen Hernke regarding acquiring large boulders to place around the Park to keep people from driving on the trails. Mr. Isakson inquired if we do not receive any grant monies, then what? Other possible improvements include: paving the rest of the trails, running electricity to the old picnic pavilion, more playground equipment, beach maintenance and purchasing more picnic tables to replace the missing ones. It was suggested that the county consider installing soccer fields in the open area east of the parking lots. Mr. Root will contact the City of Cannon Falls to see if they know of a need for such facilities in the area.

Buckthorn eradication

Mr. Klevan stated there have been two Sentenced-To-Service crews working on removing buckthorn on the County Park property biannually for several years already and many more years to come.

Discussion of discontinuing waste collection service at the Park

Mr. Isakson stated that waste collection service at the Park was approximately \$2,500 annually. Mr. Isakson wanted to know if the County needed to continue to offer waste collection at the Park, or if the people using the Park should be required to take their trash with them when they leave. Mr. Haugen thought having the waste collection service available to people using the Park was better than the alternative of possibly having trash all over the Park and Lake Byllesby. Mr. Isakson would like to discuss it in the future. Mr. Klevan said the County removes the trash barrels and dumpster from the Park during the winter months.

Discussion of addition of soccer backboards in an open area

Mr. Root suggested adding two wooden backboards approximately eight yards wide by eight feet high (six sheets of 4' x 8' plywood) attached to three wooden posts for additional activities at the Park. They could be constructed at separate ends of the open area by the playground or constructed back-to-back to save room. Mr. Root will contact the City of Cannon Falls to determine the level of interest in the area for soccer backboards at the Park.

Review Park Ordinance

The issue of revising the Park Ordinance to include the "No Smoking" prohibition was discussed at the last Park Board meeting and Mr. Isakson had check with Carol Lee who agreed that a policy prohibiting the public from smoking in the park would need to be by ordinance not simply a county policy. Members of the Park Board would like to know how to enforce the No Smoking rule. Commissioner Mallan requested that staff discuss this issue with Dakota County and find out how they prohibit this activity and what their experience has been with enforcing a No Smoking rule.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 10, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. at Goodhue County Public Works in Red Wing.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Root

William Root, Goodhue County Public Works