

**WAUPACA COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes – August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**Waupaca County Courthouse**

Chair McClone called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and gave the open meeting statement.

**Roll Call:** Chair Joe McClone; Vice-Chair Gene Sorensen; Supervisors Dona Gabert, Lee Much, and Fred Zaug. Others present: Jane Haasch and others for a new park proposal, Darrin Mann, and John Francis.

**Review and Approve Agenda:** Motion by Sorensen, seconded by Zaug to approve the agenda. Motion carried without a negative vote.

**Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Motion by Much, seconded by Gabert to approve the July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 minutes. Motion carried without a negative vote.

**Public Comment/Correspondence:** McClone opened the meeting for public comment. McClone relayed information from Bob Flease on behalf of the Wolf River Preservation Association. The group is responsible for placing buoys on the Wolf River throughout the County. The members that had been performing this work no longer wish to do so. The Townships that boarder the river have paid a fee each year to have this work completed. Mr. Flease suggested that the County Parks Department could take on this responsibility as they have the manpower. McClone stated that this issue will be put on the September Parks Committee Agenda for discussion and possible action.

Francis passed out a letter from the Swine/Sheep show ring planning committee inviting the Committee to come to the Fair on Thursday to see some of the issues they are having first-hand. Francis also reported that he was contacted by a group that was possibly interested in making a larger donation toward the project with the hope that they would be able to name the show ring in memory of a recent participant that passed away. There was some discussion and Francis was directed to check with Corporation Council to see about the legal aspects of that and get back to the group as to if it were possible or not. Any donation of that size will have to be accepted through a County Board resolution and approved by the Park Committee as well.

**Proposed Park near the Red Mill (Dayton Township):** Jane Haasch and 10 other supporters gave a presentation about a proposed park property purchase. The original intent was to try to purchase the land in the little triangle near the Red Mill. Only one of the three property owners was interested in selling at this time so that idea was changed. Now the group is pursuing the purchase of the Golding Property to the West of where the dam used to sit. They are starting a fund raising campaign via a website that specializes in non-profit fund raising. They presented a park development plan for the property including using the house for a Historical/Visitor center and the Barn for a shelter building that could be rented to groups for gatherings. She said the area is lacking in local community parks and this will fill a need. They have 4 months to raise the necessary funds to purchase the property, beyond that, the landowner will offer the property for sale to the public. If the property were purchased and a park developed, they would like to name it "Golding Park." They also showed plans for a bike trail along the County Highway which they would like to see happen someday. McClone thanked them for the presentation and asked them to keep the Committee updated on their progress.

**Fairgrounds Storage Building Floor Issues:** Francis reported on the various issues with the concrete floor of the storage building. Mann explained a quote that was received to repair the concrete surface, the cost of this was about \$26,000. There was much discussion about if the concrete was indeed sound and just finished poorly or if the concrete was bad and should be replaced. McClone suggested that the concrete should be cut out and re-poured or entirely taken off

the bill. There was talk about possibly just cutting out the area where the lift is to go and re-pouring that. Francis was directed to get quotes to find out what it would cost to fix the problem, look into coring the concrete to see if it is indeed structurally bad, and come back to the Committee with a recommendation at a special meeting as soon as possible to get this problem taken care of.

**Preliminary Budget Review and Approval:** Francis handed out the proposed budget for Parks and Fairgrounds and pointed out what changes were made from the previous year and why. There was some discussion and questions about specifics. Motion was made by Much, seconded by Zaug to approve the preliminary budget for submittal to the Finance Committee. Motion carried without a negative vote.

**New Dog Park Update:** Francis handed out a draft copy of the lease agreement between Toto and the County regarding the new dog park. He asked the Committee to review it at their leisure and if they had issues with any portion to let him know. It will next be sent to the Toto group for their review so that we have a workable agreement to show the County Board when the project is presented at the September County Board Meeting.

### **Director Report**

- **Department Activities:** Francis reported that the Fair and the group that runs the tractor pulls at the Fairgrounds are looking at possibly adding a second pulling lane. This would allow them to host National level events and possibly host a 3 day event in the spring outside of Fair. This would bring in additional revenue to the Fairgrounds and the entire community. The group is willing to do the work at no cost to the County. It was agreed that the County would be interested in allowing them to pursue this project.
- **2017 Project & Purchase Update:**
  - **Grandstands Pavilion:** Francis reported that the “bones” of the building are up and that work is progressing.
  - **Keller Dam Failure Analysis:** Francis reported that is work is out to bid now and that we should have bid results to approve at the September meeting.

### **Upcoming Meetings:**

The Committee would like to meet as soon as the week of August 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss options for the storage building floor and the Dog Park lease. This is contingent upon Francis being able to get some quotes to work with.

The next regular Committee Meeting was set for 9:00 am Tuesday September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Waupaca County Courthouse.

**Adjourn:** Motion was made by Much, seconded by Zaug to adjourn. Motion carried without a negative vote.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Submitted by,

John D. Francis  
Parks and Solid Waste Director