SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Open Space and Environmental Management Committee
ECWRPC Offices, Menasha, WI
April 10, 2019

Committee Members Present:
DuWayne Federwitz, Chair ................................................................. Waupaca County
Bob Schmeichel, Vice Chair.............................................................. Winnebago County
Hope Karth .......................................................... Calumet County
Larry Timm .......................................................... Waushara County
Dan Rettler .......................................................... Outagamie County

Committee Members Excused:
Jeremy Johnson (perm alt. for Elizabeth Moses) ......................... Menominee County

Staff Present:
Scott Konkle .................................................. Reclamation Mining Specialist
Trish Nau .................................................. Principal Park and Recreation Planner
Anna Hogan .................................................. GIS Planning Assistant

1. Welcome and Introductions: Chair DuWayne Federwitz facilitated the meeting. Members went around the table and introductions were made.

   Mr. Federwitz called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Statement of Compliance with Wis. Stats. Ch. 19, Subchapter V, Sec. 19.84 Regarding Open Meetings Requirements

   It was determined that the meeting was in compliance with Wisconsin § Chapter 19, Subchapter V, Section 19.84 regarding Open Meeting Requirements and a quorum was present.

3. The Pledge of Allegiance was said to start the meeting.

4. Approval of Agenda & Motion to deviate

   A motion to approve the agenda and to deviate as needed was made by Mr. Schmeichel and seconded by Mr. Timm passing unanimously.

5. Public / Guest Comment

   There was no public present.

ACTION ITEMS:

#1 Approval of January 9, 2019 Open Space & Environmental Management Committee Summary of Proceedings (Attachment #1)
A motion to approve the summary of proceedings was made by Ms. Karth with a second by Mr. Schmiechel. Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Announcements:

1. Ms. Nau reminded committee members of the upcoming mini-conference on April 26 on Autonomous Vehicles at the Retlaw Hotel in Fond du Lac before the Quarterly Commission meeting. Registration ends on April 11.
2. Ms. Nau also relayed to the Committee, a handout on Nature’s Riches” that connects open space to health and quality of life living.
3. Ms. Hogan stated her GIS background and that she will be assisting in the Comp Planning efforts of the Commission.

STAFF ITEMS:

Water Management Issues

Ms. Nau relayed to the Committee a letter received from the Chairman of the Town of Dayton, Waupaca County rejecting the Commitment to Restrict the Use of High-PAH Pavement Sealants in the Region. Discussion on the importance of eliminating runoff from sealants continued with the Commissioners. It was noted the letter was more in tune with the policy of government control vs. the actual use of sealants.

Recreation Planning Activities Update

Ms. Nau gave a status report to the Committee on current CORP’s in progress: Shawano County, City of Menasha, City of Shawano, and the City of Kiel.

Winnebago County’s CORP will be going in front of the County Board for adoption on April 16, 2019 and handed out a factsheet of the plan highlights and recommendations.

Ms. Nau also stated she will be presenting on the Sunnyview Expo Economic Impact Study that shows economic value of revenue to the overall area in regards to 28 acres of property added to the venue.

Safe Routes to Parks – City of Shawano Pathways Grant Ms. Nau handed out a notice of three listening sessions planned through Shawano Pathways to kick off the grant process of looking at access to trails within the city. The grant obtained was for $12,500 to provide better park access of the surrounding areas and Native American population base within the vicinity of the trails and parks. ECWRPC will be working with Pathways in trail and park access with the CORP and Park Audits.
**NR-135 Metallic Mining Program**

Mr. Konkle’s handed out to the committee his final inspection sites and yearend review of reclamation operations. He continues to look at vegetative cover on reclaimed areas with the recent aerial photos to see what operations are active and which ones can be reclaimed.

**Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway:**

In Mr. Baron’s absence, Ms. Nau relayed to the Committee that work continues on preparing updates to the water trail maps in advance of having a batch printed for the Upper and Lower Fox River segments.

**Niagara Escarpment Update**

In Mr. Fowle’s absence, Ms. Nau directed Committee members to Attachment #4 in their packets on the following:

- Staff continues to host and coordinate regular meetings of the Niagara Escarpment Resource Network, with next meeting being held Friday, May 17, 2019.

- Eric continues to represent NERN by attending monthly Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership (LNRP – [www.lnrp.org](http://www.lnrp.org)) Board of Director meetings, whereby he engages in discussions/activities related to water quality within the eastern portion of our region.

- Progress continues on the update/refresh of the NERN website ([www.escarpmentnetwork.org](http://www.escarpmentnetwork.org))

- Initial work on the development of NERN “sub-brands” and marketing materials for specific efforts, has been delayed, but will hopefully start up in late April/May using a local firm, a2z Design. These materials will be utilized to initiate fundraising for these various efforts.

- The focus areas for this branding work include:
  - Niagara Escarpment Geotourism Program (and a catchy new name for it too!)
  - Ledge Tours / Ledge to Lake Tours
  - Niagara Escarpment Curriculum Project
  - General Events (AVA Celebration, FVTC Culinary Clash dinner, etc.)

- A variety of initial organizational tasks have been completed by consultant Suzanne Kennedy for the geotourism program and will be reviewed by NERN later this spring. ECWRPC staff have begun to sketch out and develop an ESRI Storymap for this project.

- The 2019 “Ledge-ndary” Student Chef Challenge event has been set for Friday, November 1, 2019. This annual partnership fundraising dinner event showcases the FVTC Culinary Program and local (escarpment) sourced food and wine.

- Work also continues on a contractual project for Fond du Lac County to conduct GIS mapping and analysis for their Niagara Escarpment Corridor. The outcomes of the project will be a series of potential definitions to be utilized in future land conservation/stewardship programs that will be funded by the County, as well as a “vulnerability analysis” which will provide insights as to the prioritization for conservation activities. Nearly 200 separate GIS
data layers have been identified and are being collected, manipulated and described in preparation for further analysis.

**Steering Committee Update:**

In an effort to better inform all Commissioners/Committees, routine reports on Steering Committee activities will be provided as each Standing Committee meeting.

The Steering Committee will be meeting on April 18, 2019 to address the following major items of business:

- Review and approval of 2018 Annual Audit
- Review and approval of 2019 Cost Allocation Plan
- Amendment of current WEDC Business Disaster Recovery Loan allocation to include City of Fond du Lac businesses

The Steering Committee will likely meet again in May and July to discuss/act on the following items, including but not limited to:

- 2020 preliminary budget and 2020 levy
- Future levy and financial strategy
- Strategic Plan update
- Update of Personnel Policies
- Succession Planning for Key Personnel
- Update of Bylaws

**County Round Table Discussion:**

Items of importance from committee members regarding their perspective counties consisted of:

**Calumet County** - Ms. Karth stated that the county is working on the Farmland Preservation Plan, County Park Trails, and events with local municipalities.

**Winnebago County** - Mr. Schmiechel relayed that they are dealing with annexation issues with Fox Crossing and Town of Clayton.

**Waupaca County** – Mr. Federwitz stated that the new County Highway facilities are being constructed. This was an upgrade of $1.5M of space and will be completed in September of this year. They are also updating the 911 system.

**Waushara County** – Mr. Timm had no new items to report.

**Outagamie County** – Mr. Rettler relayed that the County is still looking at access along the CB and STH 15 corridors.
**Next Meeting Time & Agenda**

The next meeting of the committee is tentatively scheduled for **Wednesday, July 10, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.** with the location TBD.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Schmeichel and seconded by Mr. Timm. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

*Upcoming Meeting dates: This Committee meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. in the afternoon unless otherwise noted. Locations may vary by season and ECWRPC conference room availability.*

**Tentative Upcoming 2019 Meeting Dates:**

- July 10, 2019
- October 9, 2019

*Summary of Proceedings submitted respectively by Trish Nau, ECWRPC Principal Recreation Planner*