

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Open Space and Environmental Management Committee
ECWRPC GoToWebinar Virtual Meeting, Menasha, WI
April 8, 2020

Committee Members Present:

DuWayne Federwitz, Chair Waupaca County
 Bob Schmeichel, Vice Chair Winnebago County
 Hope Karth Calumet County
 Larry Timm Waushara County

Committee Members Not Present:

Dan Rettler (excused) Outagamie County
 Jeremy Johnson (perm alt. for Elizabeth Moses) (excused) Menominee County

Staff Present:

Melissa Kraemer Badtke Interim Executive Director
 Scott Konkle Reclamation Mining Specialist
 Todd Verboomen Principal Planner
 Trish Nau Principal Park and Recreation Planner
 Anna Hogan GIS Planning Assistant

1. Welcome and Introductions: Chair DuWayne Federwitz called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m. No introductions were made as everyone on the web was acquainted.

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. 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 Ms. Karth. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Public / Guest Comment

There was no public present.

ACTION ITEMS:

Approval of January 8, 2020 Open Space & Environmental Management Committee Summary of Proceedings *(Attachment #1)*

A motion to approve the summary of proceedings was made by Mr. Schmeichel with a second by Mr. Timm. Motion was carried unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Announcements: Ms. Kraemer-Badtke gave an update on the following items:

- a) Remote Meetings per the COVID-19 pandemic procedures - All current public meetings will go to virtual per the stay at home order until lifted
- b) Quarterly Commission Meeting and Annual Meeting, April 24, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. will be a virtual meeting, please plan to call in and attend.
- c) Mini-Conference scheduled for April 24- Cancelled

Ms. Nau relayed to the Committee that the WDNR is still accepting Grant Applications for park projects until May 1, 2020, but could be extended based on the pandemic deferment (DNR, LWCF).

STAFF ITEMS:

Water Management Issues

Mr. Verboomen shared updates on the White Clay Lake “Fish Sticks” project. (Young trees will be brought over the ice and then sunk in the lake to provide spawning habitat and help populate more fish within the lake.) Proper permitting with the DNR has been obtained and the Sportsman Club is running the process. He also stated that the Lake Michigan Stakeholder’s meetings have gone to virtual meetings as well and the annual conference moved to October 6th of this year.

Ms. Nau directed the committee members to the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance website and encouraged them to public comment on the Lake management Plan Draft that has now went to the DNR. She also relayed that the Clean-up Event for May 2, 2020 may be postponed pending the stay and home order.

Recreation Planning Activities Update

Ms. Nau gave a status report to the Committee on 2020 CORP projects.

City of New London – Level of Service analysis and Online Survey
City of Waupaca – Park Board Virtual Meeting Presentation on the planning process, 4-9-2020
Village of Hortonville – Online survey online, responses are rolling in
Village of Mattoon – Continue to work on the background chapters.

As the weather gets warmer and leaves on trees, park audits will be performed and documented.

NR-135 Metallic Mining Program

Mr. Konkle's conveyed to the committee that the Annual Reporting has gone well. He is waiting on four site reports yet. He has received calls for new sites, and continues to meet/call operators on requirements.

GIS Related Projects and Updates:

Ms. Hogan stated she continues to work on wayfinding sign displays and designs for the Newton Blackmour State Trail and has completed the signage graphics for the Solomon Trail. She continues to access in the mapping of the Comprehensive Plans where needed.

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 met most recently on March 3rd and March 26th, 2020 to address and discuss a number of items, including:

- Receiving input and feedback from other Standing Committees and Commissioners on prioritizing projects/programs to align the budget and work program going forward, and;
- Need for a policy on providing technical assistance to communities on edge of member counties;
- New fee structure of Technical Assistance projects;
- Search for new Executive Director by a designated search committee.
- Next meeting is on April 16, 2020 at 10 am

Discussion on Mr. Fowle's leaving pursued by Committee Members stating no clarification was given and express concerned on how the process entailed with no transparency in the result. Ms. Badtke said she understood their concerns on the matter and encouraged them to reach out to Marty Farrell, Commission Chair for more clarification.

County Round Table Discussion:

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

Calumet County - Ms. Karth stated that the county has shut down all county parks because of the virus all meetings have gone virtual now.

Winnebago County - Mr. Schmiechel relayed the county and town have gone to virtual meetings as well and by appointment only. Also, the National Guard was on hand to help with the election and polling situation.

Waushara County – Mr. Timm stated that the County Courthouse is closed and by appointment only.

Waupaca County – Mr. Federwitz said their County for meetings have an option to call in or be in person with the distancing rules in place.

Next Meeting Time & Agenda

The next meeting of the committee is tentatively scheduled for **Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.** location TBD.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Schmiechel and seconded by Mr. Timm. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 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 2020 Meeting Dates:

*July 8, 2020
October 14, 2020*

Summary of Proceedings submitted respectively by Trish Nau, Principal Parks and Recreation Planner