

Richland County Parks Commission
March 6th, 2017
Meeting Minutes

The March 6th, 2017 meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Bellman at 5:33 p.m. Those present were Bob Bellman, Gary Peters, Charles "Chip" Parduhn, Duane Klang, Steve Kohlstedt and Cathy Cooper. Larry Jewell was absent. Kerry Severson arrived during the bike trail report.

The agenda was mailed out and it was posted at the Courthouse bulletin board. Steve Kohlstedt moved to approve the agenda and proof of notification second made by Duane Klang. Motion carried.

Motion made by Gary Peters to approve the minutes of the February meeting second made by Chip Parduhn. Motion carried.

Public input; will come back if someone comes in.

Bike Trail; Cathy reported that there is a need for some utility work to be done on the bike trail (tree cutting along the trail. Motion made by Steve Kohlstedt to allow the utilities to do the tree trimming for 30 days from the time they start; second made by Gary Peters. Motion carried.

Cathy also reported that there will be some funds coming from FEMA to do some repair work on the trail. Steve suggested that the repairs should be done as soon as the ground is firm enough. Cathy will bring the details of what needs to be done to the April meeting.

Rifle Range; Steve reported that he has put up new boards (all new), still needs to do some clean up when the ground has firmed up. All of the garbage containers should be in place by the April meeting. Most of the people that use the range have been really good with cleaning up after themselves. Steve still has not gotten the tree that is hanging over the shelter taken care of. Mike Drake has also reported that there is a dead pine tree that needs to be taken care of. Steve also reported that the sheriff's department has not received any calls of any vandalism.

Viola Park. The fence at the park will be worked on once the ground has firmed up.

Rockbridge Park; A. The highway department has put the playground equipment together and it is ready for installation. Motion was made by Gary Peters to put the installation out for bids (shavings, anchoring and framing, second made by Chip Parduhn. Motion carried. The toys should be put closer to the shelter on higher ground. Cathy and some of the commission members will meet at the park and flag out the areas that will have the toys placed. B. The tree has been taken care of by Mike Drake. Gary Peters reported, the new sign that was purchased last year is laying on the ground. Gary will be able to get the 3 picnic tables out after the ground is a little firmer. D. The dumpster will take a large piece of equipment. Suggested to check with the Rockbridge garage about assisting with removing the dumpster from the river; it was also suggested to maybe have them remove the picnic tables. C. Bob drove the artifacts to LaCrosse and gave them to the Mississippi Valley Archeological Center. The directory was thankful, the find was a great find on public land. Chip had asked about them being displayed anywhere and Bob stated that we can get them back on loan for display at the local library if wanted. Bob gave Kerry the history of the findings as he was not on the Commission when this started.

Snowmobile Alliance. A. & B. Cathy spoke about the SNARS program and who will be the administrator for the snowmobile club. Steve Kohlstedt suggested to Kerry Severson how the alliance should be done with the new SNARS program; submitting time 3 separate times a year, December, March & April or May. Cathy at this point has not approved anything, she would like to get together with Kerry Severson and maybe Eric Siemandel. Kerry Severson will be acting as the snowmobile alliance advisor with Cathy. C. Landscaping on the Elliott property, there is a low spot in the area of the snowmobile bridge, Cathy handed out pictures that Mr. Elliott submitted along with a letter of explanation. Discuss followed as the land with concern is in the floodplain and a permit from the zoning office may be needed. Mr. Elliott is under impression that this area was not shaped properly when the riprap was installed. Motioned by Steve Kohlstedt to get him a truck load of black dirt and it will be his responsibility to shape it, second made by Gary Peters. Motion carried. Cathy will contact Mr. Elliott regarding the dirt and work with him on when he would like to have the dirt delivered.

Resolution 17-18; Cathy asked the commission what they would like put together for essential and non-essential services. It is her understanding that nothing with the parks is mandated by the state. Chairman Bellman suggested that the parks commission has already cut. Bob and Steve mentioned that the only place to cut would be the money issued to the Townships, City & Village parks however, all of these parks are used by residents and non-residents of the County and this money is used by those parks for match money for grants. Steve Kohlstedt brought up the question of why are we penalized for managing our budget really well? We have

held the line and those that we contract with have not increased their fees. The rifle range was discussed; this is used by people from all over the surrounding area and other states. It was also suggested that the per-diems be cut out. It was also mentioned that with all of the budget cuts by the departments shouldn't the leaders do the same thing. Should it be decided to close all of the parks in the county it will cost a lot more in the long run to reopen them than it will save in the short term. There was a lot of discussion regarding this issue. One last item discussed was why the department heads don't get together to discuss issues within departments. Cathy reported that back in the early 90's the department heads did get together and then the County Board members passed a resolution stating that department heads could not get together as a group to discuss any county issues.

#11 Recreational Pass; Bob Bellman received an e-mail from Ray Wilson, inquiring about a recreational pass fee to use the county facilities. Kerry Severson stated that we cannot charge a pass for the use of the bike trail because of the way we received funding initially for the bike trail. Steve suggested that we could in April purchase the small envelopes that fit in the donation tubes at the Rifle Range and put a new open father down the trail beyond Twin Bluffs.

Commission member reports. Gary Peters reported that the Hidden Valleys membership has not been paid yet. This will be taken care of at the April meeting. The 2017 book is already out, we need to start working on the 2018 events to be included in the 2018 book. The books need to be better distributed throughout the state.

Other Business; there was no other business to presented.

The following bills were presented for March. Rockbridge Sawmill, 133.33; Tammy Cannoy-Bender, \$2.00; Fastenal Company, \$33.34. Motion made by Steve Kohlstedt to pay the March Bills as presented, second made by Gary Peters. Motion carried.

We need signatures from bills submitted for the snowmobile alliance from all vendors used.

The next meeting will be on Monday April 3rd. 2017. Meeting will begin at 5:30 pm in the Ag Service Center, 26136 Executive Ln.

Motion made by Chip Parduhn to adjourn the meeting, second made by Duane Klang. Motion carried.

Meeting ended at 6:51 pm.

Bob Bellman tob

Bob Bellman
Parks Commission Chair