

Richland County Parks Commission
May 1st, 2017
Meeting Minutes

The May 1st, 2017 meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Bellman at 5:30 p.m. Those present were Gary Peters, Charles "Chip" Parduhn, Duane Klang, Steve Kohlstedt, Kerry Severson, Larry Jewell, Marty Richards and Tammy Cannoy-Bender. Mark McCauley arrived later in the meeting.

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

Motion made by Steve Kohlstedt to approve the minutes of the April meeting as sent out, second made by Chip Parduhn. Motion carried.

Chairman Bellman dropped down to #6A. Bike Trail repair & maintenance. Marty Richards spoke with the commission regarding damages on the trail from farm equipment and trucks on the trail. Marty was concerned as to what is going to be done to repair the damages; Marty had 2 points the repair of damage and long term improvement of the trail. Kerry Severson has done some investigating and handed out pictures of a box grater that use to be used on the trail but hasn't been used for a number of years and 2 tractors that are on the list to be sold by the highway department. If the commission wants one of them, we need to let the Highway Commissioner know which one and he should be able to sell it to the Parks Commission for \$1. The other option is the Snowmobile Alliance is willing to use their tractor to pull the grater behind it on the trail. The question is now where to begin, the trail needs to be brought back to where it was. The trail has been in use the last 22 years. Motion made by Steve Kohlstedt to have the County Highway Department grade, roll and pack the county portion of the bike trail from County Highway O to Lone Rock just as soon as possible and in the process give the Parks Commission an estimate as to how much of the trail needs to be resurfaced and what would it cost for them to do it, this would be the base to apply for a grant with Southwest Partners, second made by Gary Peters. Motion Carried. After further Discussion motion was made by Kerry Severson to amend Steve Kohlstedt's original motion to include having Steve contact the Highway Department and negotiate a cost for them to do this project. Chip Parduhn suggested to give Steve the go ahead to authorize the Highway Department to do the job if it is within reason, second made by Gary Peters. Motion carried.

Kerry showed the Commission some of the damage to the trail that needed to be corrected now so he had Randy Olson come in with a load of screening and fix the damage as it was considered a safety issue. Randy donated his time and the use of the equipment, Kerry thought the load of screening would cost \$400.00, the bill will be on the June bills. Kerry also suggested that the current Bike Trail Ordinance (#s. 96-22 / 97-21) needs to be amended since it has been 20 years. He handed out a copy of the ordinance to the commission members for them to review the ordinance and bring it back to the June meeting. Chip also suggested having warning signs for the trail when there is a spot issue on the trail.

Rifle Range; Steve reported that it needs to be cleaned up, boards at the 25 yard marker need to be replaced, the range has been being used really well and the patrons of the range have been cleaning up after themselves. The range is used at all times of the day especially because it is the only "FREE" range in the area. Steve again mentioned that the duties of the commission members needs to be rotated. This topic will be on the June agenda. Bob suggested that Steve contact some of the commission members the next time he goes out to clean the range. The tree limb hanging over the building is still an issue.

Viola Park. The fence at the park is as of yet not done. Bob Bellman handed out some pictures of the shelter at the park. He feels that the pillars need to be painted; Steve reminded the commission that the Viola Park is not a camp site nor is it advertised as one. Mark McCauley arrived to the meeting, discussion of the fence at Viola Park continued.

Rockbridge Park; A. Bids for the placement of toys; No bids were received. Chairman Bellman proposed to have Steve speak with Highway Commissioner Jim Chitwood to have them install the playground equipment at the park. Chip will in the meantime speak with Bill Barnett also. At this point Chairman Bellman went back to #5 Pine River No Wake Ordinance.

Mark McCauley spoke to the commission regarding the proposed "No Wake" ordinance, the Richland Center City Council will be voting on this ordinance at their Tuesday meeting. Kerry Severson emailed Jeff Shure DNR water quality specialist regarding what if any jurisdiction the County has on the Pine River. Jeff's reply is that the Pine River is a navigable water way and the all people have the right to access it. It is regulated and protected by the state by the Public Trust Doctrine. There is no prohibition on motorized recreational vehicles unless a vehicle is operating on the bed of the waterway. The creation of a wake will cause erosion on the bank and the use of motorized vehicles will have a negative impact on water quality. Richland County does not have any legal responsibility to the river but may have responsibilities to activities that occur on its own properties. After hearing Jeff's response it has been suggested to present this to Corporation Counsel Ben Southwick.

We have been approached by some entities working with the city of Richland Center to have a slow no wake posting on the entire Pine River where it is navigable, what jurisdiction does the County have. Steve suggested to ask Corporation Counsel Ben Southwick and DNR Warden Mike Nice to attend the June meeting. Steve made a motion to take the proposed No Wake Ordinance to Corporation Counsel and have him present at the June meeting to explain what we as the County can do, also invite Warden Mike Nice, seconds made by Kerry Severson. Motion carried. More discussion followed after the motion. Chairman Bellman will talk with Ben regarding this matter.

Snowmobile Alliance; The hours worked need to be entered into the new "SNARS" system for this year's grant. Tammy has been directed by the commission to inform the trail bosses that they have until the 10th of May to get the hours entered into the system for us to review.

#11 New Commission member applications for review; 2 applications were received, John Collins & John Licktieg are the applicants, the applicants will be interviewed at the June meeting, Tammy made copies of the application letters for the members to review prior to the June meeting.

Commission member reports; Gary Peters reported on Southwest Badger RC&D and on the Rockbridge park, the picnic tables are out; the dumpster that is in the Pine River is still in the river. Bob asked Steve to ask the Highway Department if they could get the dumpster out for us. Tammy reported at this point the Mike Drake has painted the bathrooms and cut the tree on top of the rock that was a hazard; he also needs a load of black dirt to fill in some ruts. Tammy was directed to contact Randy Olson and Mike Drake to get together to see what is needed, with a cap of \$300.00.

There was no other business.

The following bills were presented for May; Nature's Way Portable Units, \$212.00; Richland Observer, \$105.30; Richland Center Shopping News, \$207.00; Sharon Miller, \$2.00; Walsh's Ace Hardware. \$1,125.29. Motion made by Steve Kohlstedt to pay the May Bills as presented, second made by Kerry Severson. Motion carried.

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

Motion made by Gary Peters to adjourn the meeting, second made by Chip Parduhn. Motion carried.

Meeting ended at 7:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Bellman ^{tb}

Bob Bellman
Parks Commission Chairman