

Richland County Parks Commission

May 7th, 2018

Meeting Minutes

The May 7th, 2018 meeting was called to order by Cathy Cooper at 5:00 p.m. Those present were, John Collins, Kerry Severson, Steve Kohlstedt, Gary Manning, Brad Wegner, John Gasten, Cindy Chicker, Tracy Gobin, Amy Bender, Chris Carley and Cathy Cooper. Duane Klang and Gary Peters arrived at different points in the meeting.

First thing on the agenda is to elect officers. Cathy asked for nominations for Chairman, motion made by Steve Kohlstedt to nominate Gary Peters for chairman, second made by Kerry Severson. Cathy asked for any other nomination 3xs. After hearing none, motion was made by John Collins to cast a unanimous ballot for Gary Peters as chairman, second made by Gary Manning. Motion carried. Gary has not arrived yet, so Cathy continued.

Cathy asked for nominations for Vice Chairman, motion made by Gary Manning to nominate John Collins for Vice Chairman. Second made by Kerry Severson. Cathy asked for any other nomination 3xs. After hearing none, motion was made by Steve Kohlstedt to cast a unanimous ballot for John Collins as Vice Chairman. Second made by Gary Manning. Motion carried.

Duane Klang arrived at this point in the meeting.

As this point Cathy turned the meeting over to Vice-Chairman John Collins.

Vice Chair John Collins asked for nominations for Secretary, motion made by John Collins to nominated Kerry Severson for secretary, second made by Gary Manning. Vice Chairman John Collins asked for any other nominations 3xs. After hearing none motion was made by Steve Kohlstedt to cast a unanimous ballot for Kerry Severson as secretary. Second made by John Collins. Motion carried.

Motion made by Kerry Severson to appoint Cathy Cooper as the recording secretary, second made by Steve Kohlstedt. Motion carried.

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

Motion made by Steve Kohlstedt to approve the minutes of the April 2nd meeting second made by John Collins. Motion carried.

#5 Public input; John Ghastin addressed the commission about the ATV/UTV issue that had public hearings a few months ago. Vice Chairman Collins suggested to save his comments for the next item on the agenda. John suggested to bypass a portion of the trail for ATV use between Sawmill Rd or Walmart to Gotham. By doing this it would preserve a scenic wetland area for hikers, bikers and bird watchers. John has a map that shows ATV/UTV routes that covers Saw Mill Rd, County Hwy TB and County Hwy O and he feels that the use of the trail would not be necessary. The ATV/UTV group has not provided any paperwork for the proposed additional use on the trail at this time. Cindy Chicker reported that the Bike the Pine Group has organized and did a trail clean up from behind Wal Mart all the way down to almost Lone Rock. They are also looking at doing population counts on various portions of the trail.

Gary Peters arrived during the public input portion of the meeting. He has now taken over the meeting.

#6 Bike Trail; 6A. Bid Opening. Cathy reported that there was one bid received. Bid was received by Rob Wanless ExcavatingWanless, for a total of \$1,800 for approximately 6 miles of trail starting at Saw Mill Rd to Coffenburg Rd. Motion made by Steve Kohlstedt to accept the Wanless bid, second made by John Collins. Motion carried. Rob will try to have this done by the end of May depending on how soft the trail is and the weather.

6B. Utility Easement Cathy had maps from Alliant Energy showing the proposed area that they are looking at, no one was at the meeting to explain, Cathy received an email explaining what they are wanting to do and where they are wanting to cross the trail in certain areas. We need legal descriptions of where they are wanting to cross the trail. Motion made by Steve Kohlstedt that Alliant Energy provide us with a legal description of the locations where they want to cross and then come back to the June meeting before the commission approves the request. Second made by Gary Manning. Motion carried.

6C. Trimmed trees along the trail, the trees that were removed by the Power Company are still within their right of way. Should anyone else call asking about removing the trees will need to contact the power company that cut the trees down.

Before moving on Cathy reported that she attended the State Trails Council meeting and at that meeting a DNR representative informed her that we can now charge for trail use, Cathy requested the information for that be sent to her and she is still waiting for this information.

#7 Rifle Range; Steve Kohlstedt did the clean up and filled the 9-yard dumpster to full. Then John Collins and 4 members of the BB Gun club spent a couple of hours cleaning up debris (paper, targets, spent shell casings) they filled 5 55-gallon garbage bags and put them in the dumpster; then he and his wife went up on Sunday and raked up the area, a guy showed up to shoot while they were raking, and he also assisted in the cleanup. John also reported that there is only one board left. John reported that out of 72 counties there are only 4 200 yard "Free" rifle ranges left in the state. There are no envelopes in the donation box and it was suggested to have some there and a sign suggesting donations. He also has spoken with Officer Kellogg about the Sheriff's Association donating funds to assist in fencing the property in front where one enters the range. John was informed that not only does the City Police and the County Sheriff's Department uses the range for qualifying, but the State Patrol also uses the range for qualifying. And 5 different counties show up because the officer that does the training likes this range. John also asked about a parking lot light. Steve stated that there use to be one there. All special shoots that may be done will go through the Sheriff's department and the shoots usually begin at 9am, the range generally does not open until 10 am.

#8 Rockbridge Park. A. Access during road construction. Cathy heard from Bill Condon, Highway Commissioner, that the highway department will be putting gravel through the Natural Bridge Store's driveway for access to the park, so the park would not have to be closed. John reported that he was at the park and there are no barricades up. Cathy still needs to get the well testing done. There is a boy scout troop that will be coming to the park for camping and they were wondering if there is a project that they could do while they are at the park. Cathy suggested that they could remove some of the smaller trees that are crossing the trail on top of the rock. Kerry Severson suggested painting the shelters if we supply the paint and the brushes.

#9 Snowmobile Alliance; Chris Carley reported that most of the hours should be in by the end of the week. Final bills will need to be turned in for the June meeting. Cathy reported that the grant has been applied for the rip rap project by Doudna School.

#10 Duane Klang appointment ends July 1. 2018. The June meeting will be Duane's last meeting and we will need to interview for a new member to begin in July. The position will be published in the Richland Observer and the County web site along with having it posted on the Parks Facebook page. This will be reviewed at the June meeting and then be presented to the County Board for final approval.

#11 Commission member reports; Commission members introduced themselves to the new members that are on the County Board and new members of the commission.

#12 Bills; The following bills were presented; Town & Country Sanitation, \$796.56; Nature's Way Portable Unit's, \$159.00; Walsh's Ace Hardware, \$23.97; Richland County Shopping News, \$170.00; Cathy Cooper, \$48.45; Walsh's Ace Hardware, \$239.47. Motion made by Steve Kohlstedt to approve the May bills as presented. Second made by Duane Klang. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be on Monday June 4th, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Motion made by Kerry Severson to adjourn the meeting, second made by John Collins. Motion carried.

Meeting ended at 6:23 pm.

Gary Peters

Gary Peters
Parks Commission Chair