

CALUMET COUNTY PARKS COMMISSION MINUTES

June 3rd, 2021

Members Present: Chair Mary Schwalenberg; Supervisors Pete Stier, Judy Hartl, Ed Kleckner, and Ken Draheim; Citizen Members Lyle Ott and Patrick Laughrin.

Others Present: Parks Director, Adam Backus;

Chair Schwalenberg called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

The meeting was properly announced and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of the Agenda:

Supervisor Stier moved, seconded by Supervisor Draheim to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes:

Supervisor Stier moved, seconded by Citizen Member Laughrin to approve the minutes for April 1st, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Supervisor Stier talked about the Community Foundation Grant that was awarded to pay for a study for the multiuse trail from Menasha to High Cliff State Park.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION OR ACTION:

a. Fox River Trail Parking Lot on Ott Road

Backus informed the commission that the Town of Brillion had suggested and approved at their May meeting the option to fill in a portion of the town's right-of-way to make a larger road shoulder for trail users to park. A motion was made by Supervisor Stier, seconded by Citizen Member Ott to use trail funds to widen the Town's road shoulder. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Upper Park Electrical

Backus informed the commission that the emergency electrical repair in the Upper Campground is going to cost more due to the contractor hitting ledge higher than anticipated. He figures by the August meeting he will have an exact total for the repair.

c. Parks Department Staffing

Backus went over a proposed staffing plan for the Parks Department.



d. Ledge View Programs

Backus shared with the commission an email from the State Health Department on their recommendation to continue cave programs at Ledge View Nature Center. Members of the commission expressed some concern about starting cave programs at this time and that it should be reevaluated in fall. Discussion followed with a recommendation that the County Administrator and Parks Director make the final decision.

e. Skid Steer Purchase

Backus shared with the commission the budgeted skid steer has come in over budget in the amount of \$8,500. A motion was made by Supervisor Draheim and seconded by Supervisor Stier to send this to Administrative Services for a budget amendment since it was less than \$10,000. Motion carried unanimously.

f. Resolution Authoring The Highway Department to Perform Work Exceeding \$25,000

Backus explained to the commission that this resolution must be approved for the County's Highway Department to do work on two grant projects. A motion was made by Supervisor Draheim and seconded by Supervisor Hartl to approve this resolution and forward to the County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

g. Invasive Species Control Options

Backus shared with the commission the option to use goats to control species. A discussion followed on how beneficial this process would be since there would be limited man power and no chemical treatment. A motion was made by Chair Schwalenberg and seconded by Citizen Member Laughrin to approve the request to use goats on a trial basis. Motion carried unanimously.

Director's Report

a. Ledge View's Monthly Reports

Backus reviewed the naturalist reports with the Commission.

b. Naming of park land adjacent to Brothertown Harbor and Park Buildings

Backus informed the commission that he is working on some recommendations to rename some existing buildings in the Parks Department in addition to some park names for the land purchased near the Brothertown Boat Harbor.

c. Parks Department's Project Request

Backus explained to the commission that he put in for several projects for the ARPA funds and if any Supervisor has any questions about that list that they should call him.

d. Mountain Biking Trails

Backus explained to the commission that Bob Bultman from Restore Door did a field survey of the area and we should have a report this summer.

e. Tourism Updates

Backus informed the commission that Fox 11 has been out to the park on two occasions this spring, Discover Wisconsin was coming in June to do a story on Calumet County Park and Ledge View

UPCOMING MEETING:

The next scheduled Parks Commission meeting will be on July 8th, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. at a location to be determined.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 12:16 PM, Chair Schwalenberg adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Adam Backus, Parks Director
Calumet County Parks Department
Approved Minutes
