

Goodhue County Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Board

Meeting Date: November 27, 2018

Meeting Location: Goodhue County Public Works – Red Wing, MN

Meeting Time: 1:30 PM

Members

Brad Anderson	Commissioner
Barney Nesseth	Commissioner
Mike Melstad	1 st District Rep
Mairi Doerr	2 nd District Rep
Bernie Overby	3 rd District Rep
Barbara Pratt	4 th District Rep
Janie Farrar	5 th District Rep
Scott Roepke	Cannon Valley Trail Rep
Roxanne Bartsh	Goodhue Pioneer Trail Rep
Greg Isakson	Staff: Director of Public Works
Jennifer Ziemer	Staff: Admin Assistant- PW
Jess Greenwood	Staff: Deputy Director/Assist Eng

Absent: Barbara Pratt, Mike Melstad, Bernie Overby.

Mairi Doerr called the meeting to order at 1:34 PM. It was moved by C. Nesseth, seconded by Janie Farrar, and carried to approve the October 11, 2018, Park Board Minutes.

Scott Reopke reported that the Cannon Valley Trail has received a grant for \$1.4 million to replace three bridges and repair an additional bridge, and this construction project will begin next fall. The CVT is working on several additional grant applications including: federal recreational trail grants in the amount of approximately \$20,000 for the purchase of a mower and permanent trail counters; a safety grant for approximately \$10,000 in misc. safety improvements; a Legacy funds grant for approximately \$23,000 towards natural resources improvements; and a MnDOT Transportation Alternatives grant for approximately \$150,000 to help with state highway water runoff that is creating erosion issues on private property and depositing large amount of sediment on the trail. The CVT is still waiting to hear if they have been approved for funding by the Greater MN Regional Parks & Trails Commission (GMRPTC) to construct vault toilets and install wayfinding signage.

Roxanne Bartsh reported that the state is still working on the acquisition of 1 mile of property for the Goodhue Pioneer State Trail to get across Goodhue County Rd 6. The GPST has received \$500,000 in grant funding and the LCCMR for the Hawkinson property acquisition by Hay Creek. They have also received a grant to finish the new trailhead in Zumbrota. Sidewalks, railings, trail information, and electronic links to current area events will all be part of this project.

Roxanne also attended the most recent Southeast MN Association of Regional Trails (SMART) meeting in Northfield and provided an update on this group as well. SMART has new leadership and plans to meet quarterly now. They covered several topics at their most recent meeting including: planning for the next bonding session, Roxanne proposed having an annual workshop again, they discussed the benefits that recreation provides for tourism, and grant funding sources. Roxanne is looking into the Explore MN grants that were discussed. C. Anderson is interested in finding a way to group together attractions from throughout the county to create a larger ad that would have more impact in the Explore MN quarterly publication, instead of small individual ads. There was support for this venture from the members of the Park Board.

There was nothing new to report on the Hastings-Red Wing Trail.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Goodhue County Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Board is to provide a quality park, trail and recreation system which strive to preserve, protect, maintain, improve and enhance the County's park land, trails, and recreational activities, on behalf of all current and future citizens of the County of Goodhue

Greg Isakson provided an update on the Mississippi Blufflands State Trail. He recently met with Skip Jobe from this trail support group, and they are currently considering asking legislators to de-list them as a state trail. Greg suggested that the trail representatives meet with the GMRPTC before proceeding with this, to ensure that they would be able to receive a high ranking from the GMRPTC and be eligible for grant funding.

The Park Board also discussed the design process and ideas for the pavilion building at Byllesby Park. They were in favor of phased construction, allowing more economical construction of restrooms, small kitchen area, and pavilion in Phase One. Phase Two would allow for expansion of the pavilion to accommodate larger groups. The Park Board liked the idea of having an open-air pavilion that could be enclosed (on at least the north and west sides, possibly all three open sides) in inclement weather by lowering clear doors or another similar product. The pavilion and restrooms would be available for three seasons of the year, and the water would be blown out in the winter. Restroom access was discussed, and it was determined that the design should include access from both inside the pavilion and from the exterior, allowing people that are not part of pavilion events to access the restrooms without walking through the event. The Park Board was also supportive of simple open-air outdoor showers, whether located on the exterior of the building or via piping down to the beach. Janie Farrar suggested installing technology compatible with a smartphone so pavilion users could call a predetermined number if the weather was bad or to check out of the pavilion when they are finished using it, and motorized doors could be raised or lowered and lights could be turned on or off by a staff member via remote access with a smartphone app. This idea was supported by the Park Board as it would greatly reduce staffing requirements. Installing a projector and possibly a screen was also suggested, instead of trying to do an outdoor movie on the kickboard. It would also allow groups renting the pavilion to show a slideshow for graduation parties, weddings, reunions, etc. Pavilion capacities for Phase One and Phase Two were discussed. The Park Board decided to ask the pavilion designer to determine the appropriate size of pavilion for Phase One based on current available parking. Phase Two pavilion expansion may require construction of the parking lot addition shown in the 2017 Byllesby Park Master Plan. The next step will then be hiring a consultant to prepare a preliminary design and cost estimate to present to the County Board, Stanton Township, and use for grant applications. Staff is currently considering Locus Architecture, a firm that was recommended by Dakota County. Staff is also working with Dakota County to work out an agreement that would allow Goodhue County to hire Dakota County to run shelter reservations and perform park/restroom maintenance on the Goodhue County side. This would ensure a united park experience for visitors.

The Park Board discussed the proposed timeline created by staff and determined it to be an acceptable guideline for park development.

Dakota County is currently collecting public input on the improvements they will be making at Dakota County Lake Byllesby Regional Park. Their next meeting is Thursday, November 29th at Cannon Falls City Hall at 6:00 PM.

The next Park Board meeting date will be either Tuesday January 29, or Thursday January 31, 2018, at 1:30 PM.

It was moved by Mairi Doerr, seconded by C. Nesseth, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Ziemer
Goodhue County Administrative Assistant

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