

Appendix E

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

Two public informational meetings were held upon completion of the preliminary draft of the Washington County park and open space plan. The first meeting, attended by 18 persons, was held on Thursday, May 22, 1997, at 7:00 p.m., in the Kewaskum Village Hall. The second meeting, attended by 42 persons, was held on Wednesday, May 28, 1997, at 7:00 p.m., in Glacier Hills County Park Hall. The purpose of these meetings was to acquaint public officials and interested citizens with the key recommendations of the plan and to receive comments on, and answer questions pertaining to, the plan. Following is a list of the comments and concerns raised at the public information meetings.

May 22, 1997
7:00 p.m.
Kewaskum Village Hall

Comments and concerns raised by those in attendance:

- Big Cedar Lake needs more public access, not just for boating, but for swimming and beaches.
- The parks maintenance budget should include funds for wildlife management. This will be a pressing issue as development occurs surrounding the County parks.
- There should be “Do Not Feed the Wildlife” signs in the parks.
- The use of tax dollars to purchase parklands will result in more properties taken off the tax rolls.
- Preservation of the entire Kettle Moraine is important, as is the proper management of natural resources associated with it.
- There should be more canoe access to rivers in the County.

May 28, 1997
7:00 p.m.
Glacier Hills County Park Hall

Comments and concerns raised by those in attendance:

- The entire Kettle Moraine should be protected, not just the lands within Kettle Moraine State Forest Project Boundaries.
- The Ice Age Trail Foundation, Inc., owns 125 acres of land between Ridge Road and the Ski Hill near Kewaskum. The County should consider providing assistance to better manage this land.
- In Milwaukee County all parks, both major parks and local parks, are owned and maintained by the County. Washington County should consider doing the same.
- The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources should set a timetable as to when lakes lacking adequate public access will have such access.
- Lake access issues for the non-boating public are important. The public should have access to lakes for swimming and beach activities. A study group should be formed to figure out a way the public can gain access to the waters they own.
- Implementation of the County park and open space plan will affect taxes for future generations, making it difficult for young families with limited incomes.
- Assisting private foundations for resource protection is a poor use of public funds since public access to such lands is limited by the private foundations.

- The Ice Age Trail should traverse lands where public funds have been used to assist in the purchase.
- A residential development density of one unit per five acres of land will not preserve farmland but will exclude middle- and lower-income residents from living in portions of the County.
- Washington County should oversee farmland preservation zoning.
- Considerations should be given to the rights of landowners within environmental corridors.