

**WASHINGTON COUNTY PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMISSION**

1 Public Agency Center - Room 3224
2 West Bend, WI

January 28, 2010
7:30 a.m.

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4 Present: Kelly Valentino, Terry Jensen, Supervisor Mike Miller, Shawn Graff, Mike Hermann, Matt Heiser
5 Absent: Scott Mathie

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7 Staff present: Joanne Wagner, Joshua Glass, Lynda Christl, Debora Sielski

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9 Chairman Miller called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Chairman Miller expressed his appreciation to Matt
10 Heiser for chairing the last meeting in his absence.

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12 **APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 19, 2009 MINUTES**

13 As a follow-up to a request made at the November meeting, Mr. Glass reported that there will be an addition to
14 Chapter I (Introduction) previously reviewed by the Commission. He distributed a paragraph (see handout
15 enclosed) to be inserted in Chapter I after the "Regional Land Use Plan" section. Mr. Glass stated that we will
16 provide a reference back to the SEWRPC website where the entire water quality study is available. Due to the
17 very large size of the document, it would not be feasible to include this information or even the summary in our
18 Park and Open Space Plan. Mr. Glass further stated that the wording in the document handed out to the
19 Commission has been approved by SEWRPC. **Motion by Graff, seconded by Jensen to approve adding the
20 new paragraph to Chapter I and to approve the November 19, 2009 minutes. Motion carried
21 unanimously.**

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23 **REVIEW CHANGES MADE TO DRAFT CHAPTER II – INVENTORY FINDINGS – JOSH GLASS**

24 Mr. Glass stated that draft Chapter II (Inventory Findings) was distributed at the last meeting and we briefly
25 walked through it at that time. Mr. Glass asked if there were any comments or suggestions on Chapter II. Mr.
26 Glass clarified that the two creeks in the Village of Kewaskum were added to the surface water information on
27 the map, per the request of Mr. Heiser. Mr. Glass invited the Commission to email him or call him with any
28 further comments or questions regarding the chapter.

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30 **PRESENTATION OF DRAFT CHAPTER III – EXISTING PARK AND OPEN SPACES –
31 JOSH GLASS**

32 Mr. Glass referred the Commission to the enclosed handout. Using the Word documents from the 2004 Park
33 and Open Space Plan, numbers and information have been updated. Mr. Glass highlighted some of the major
34 changes that were made to the updated chapter. Referred to Table 13 (Recreation Facilities) and distributed an
35 updated version for 2010 (see handout enclosed) highlighting changes made to the new version.

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37 Mr. Heiser joined the meeting at 7:41 a.m.

38
39 During discussion of Table 14 (State-Owned Park and Open Space Sites), Ms. Valentino commented that the
40 table does not include Lake Hasmer Access which is a DNR property in Jackson. This property should also be
41 in Table A-1 of Appendix A. She will send this information to Mr. Glass. Mr. Glass stated that this is a work in
42 progress and he will continue to make updates as information is received.

43
44 Mr. Graff stated that the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust has acquired a few new properties since December
45 which should be reflected in Tables 15 & 16. Mr. Graff will get this information to Mr. Glass. Mr. Jensen stated

46 that the WDNR picked up two new easements since December that should also be reflected in this chapter. Mr.
47 Glass noted that information that is currently highlighted in the tables was recently obtained and is not yet
48 reflected on the maps but will be in the future.

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50 Ms. Sielski joined the meeting at 7:46 a.m.

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52 Mr. Glass referred the Commission to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities section on Page 10. Since the
53 mailing of this material went out, after talking to Ms. Valentino, a bikeway in the Village of Jackson has been
54 added. Mr. Glass distributed the updated map (see handout enclosed).

55
56 Table 18 (Historic Sites and Districts in Washington County on the National Register of Historic Places: 2009)
57 – Graff said that some of these historic sites have new names and suggested adding new names in parenthesis so
58 that the sites will be more recognizable. Requested adding the newly assigned address of the West Bend
59 Chicago and North Western Depot (200 Wisconsin Street, West Bend, WI 53095) which can now also be
60 referred to as the office of the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust.

61
62 Table 20 (Local Historical Societies in Washington County: 2009) – Heiser requested that a correction be made.
63 The Historical Society located at 1202 Parkview Drive should be listed as being in the Village of Kewaskum
64 rather than the Town of Kewaskum.

65
66 Mr. Graff commented on federal programs and State Stewardship funds being used to acquire lands for
67 preservation. Sielski suggested that sources for funding land acquisition and development should be described
68 in the recommendations section of this plan. Mr. Graff concurred.

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70 Mr. Graff announced that the Natural Resources Board passed the draft rule (regarding public access and uses
71 allowed on lands acquired with Stewardship funds as was discussed at a previous meeting) in its entirety with
72 no changes. Discussion ensued. Ms. Valentino expressed serious concerns about this issue. Mr. Graff offered to
73 give a presentation with Dan Kaemmerer to briefly review the outcome of the rule. Graff suggested waiting
74 until after the rule has gone through legislature since changes could still be made. Chairman Miller asked if it
75 seemed like they paid attention to views expressed at the public hearing, and Mr. Jensen stated he felt that they
76 did as comments were recorded and duly noted by the panel doing the review.

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78 Chairman Miller requested one correction on Page 1 of Chapter I (Introduction) on the fifth line from bottom –
79 add the word “as” after “such”. Mr. Glass will make this correction.

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81 Ms. Valentino stated that she will send inventory information regarding Lake Hasmer to Mr. Glass.

82
83 Mr. Glass asked that the Commission look at this chapter and the related appendix in more detail and provide
84 any corrections or changes needed.

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86 **REVISIT AGENDA ITEM #3 - REVIEW CHANGES MADE TO DRAFT CHAPTER II –**
87 **INVENTORY FINDINGS**

88 Ms. Sielski requested that the Commission revisit agenda item #3 and permission was granted. Sielski stated
89 that she spoke to staff at SEWRPC. There is a list of properties to be considered for adding to the updated
90 Regional Natural Areas Plan. SEWRPC staff stated that the Tamarack Swamp in Slinger has the most potential
91 for inclusion into the Natural Areas Plan. The time period for changes to the Natural Areas Plan has already
92 passed, but SEWRPC has decided that every time a County updates their Park and Open Space Plan a window
93 of opportunity is available to provide SEWRPC with a list of new properties. As we go through this process,
94 SEWRPC staff will go out and examine potential properties. If SEWRPC feels that a property meets the criteria
95 that they have outlined, they will add it. SEWRPC will do this for all counties as the update to the Regional
96 Natural Areas Plan continues. Mr. Graff suggested that a review of potential natural areas be added to the
97 recommendations portion of this plan. Ms. Sielski concurred.

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DISCUSS DRAFT CHAPTER IV – BENEFITS OF PARKS AND OPEN SPACES – JOSH GLASS

Mr. Glass stated that this is a brand new chapter and is in the very early draft stages. Reviewed an outline of possible things to include in the chapter (see handout enclosed). He will work from this outline while creating the chapter.

Chairman Miller mentioned the importance of farmland preservation for future generations in order to keep land available to grow food. Ms. Sielski mentioned that Chairman Miller’s point is an excellent one and will be addressed in the updated Farmland Preservation Plan, which is another project she is just starting up.

The Commission discussed the importance of protecting park lands in perpetuity for future generations. Mr. Graff suggested adding language to the recommendations portion of this plan addressing how the County can protect park properties in perpetuity, how to protect their natural resource and recreational values, and how to prevent the introduction of other uses that compromise those values.

Mr. Heiser requested that the bullet under Community Benefits that stated “increased sense of community pride” could more appropriately say “increased sense of community/regional pride.

Mike Hermann, arrived at 8:20 a.m.

The Commission agreed that the benefits listed in this chapter should be backed up with statistical proof to give the plan more “teeth” and to provide additional justification of why land acquisition for park purposes is beneficial to a community. Ms. Sielski and Commission members discussed the fact that a lot of research has been done in recent years, at the national level and also locally by the Planning Division and Ms. Sielski herself, which proves that park land benefits communities and landowners near a park. The Commission members asked for copies of the aforementioned research (on disk if possible). Ms. Sielski agreed to provide copies of the research and stated that she will also provide information at an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Graff left the meeting at 8:27 a.m.

PARKS AND ACTIVE LIVING WEB SITE AND TRAIL MAP UPDATE – DEB SIELSKI

Ms. Sielski provided an update on these projects stating that she has been working with the County IS Department and has a purchase order to work with WISnet (the vendor for our County website). WISnet has already come up with a potential logo for the website. Sielski stated that the initiative has been branded with the name “Get Moving Washington County” and showed the Commission the potential logo. Sielski stated that GeoDecisions will be creating the interactive mapping portion of the site which is the same vendor used by Carver County, Minnesota for their GoCarverGo website. The project is coming along very well and the unveiling of this website is scheduled for May 2010.

Ms. Valentino stated that this website will be a great way to illustrate the benefits of parks and open spaces when presenting to a board or commission. Ms. Sielski explained that the site will serve as central link for park and recreation sites throughout the county. Maintenance of the GIS layers would be the County’s responsibility, but general web maintenance will be handled primarily through the YMCA in West bend and the Healthy People Project of Washington County, via a newly hired staff member. In the next few months, a service agreement will be established between the Healthy People Project and the County describing the procedure for maintaining the website, so that the website remains a viable resource for years to come.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

March 18th was chosen by those present as the next meeting date with a starting time of 8:30 a.m. Mr. Glass will send an email to get confirmation that this date and time will work for the Commission members who are not currently present.

150 A draft of Chapter IV will be reviewed at the March meeting. Mr. Glass stated that he plans on distributing
151 cleaner drafts of Chapters I-III that reflect the changes that have been made to date.

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153 Chairman Miller stated that he wishes to emphasize the importance of preserving secondary environmental
154 corridors in the Park and Open Space Plan. Ms. Sielski explained the history of secondary environmental
155 corridor preservation and what happened during the comprehensive planning process. Mr. Glass noted that
156 preservation of secondary environmental corridors could be addressed in the environmental benefits portion of
157 Chapter IV and also in the recommendations chapter of the Park and Open Space Plan. The Commission agreed
158 that this would be appropriate action.

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160 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

161 None.

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163 **ADJOURNMENT**

164 **Motion by Jensen, seconded by Heiser to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 a.m. Motion carried.**

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166 Debora Sielski
167 Deputy Administrator, Planning and Parks Department
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170 Approved by _____
171 Michael R. Miller, Chairperson

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173 Date _____