

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

Public Agency Center - Room 3224
West Bend, WI

November 19, 2009
8:12 a.m.

Present: Matt Heiser (Vice Chairperson), Shawn Graff, Terry Jensen, Mike Hermann (arrived at 8:11 a.m.)
Excused: Mike Miller (Chairperson), Scott Mathie, Kelly Valentino

Staff present: Debora Sielski-Deputy Administrator (arrived at 8:55 a.m.), Joshua Glass-Planner,
Cindy Leinss-Landscape Designer, Joanne Wagner-Office Manager

Also present: Dan Kaemmerer-Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)

Heiser called the meeting to order at 8:12 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 20, 2009 MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Hermann, seconded by Mr. Jensen to approve the minutes of August 20, 2009 with no corrections or additions. Motion carried.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM PRESENTATION – DAN KAEMMERER, WDNR

Mr. Kaemmerer distributed a booklet that described the 2009 grant guidelines and application process (see enclosed). Mr. Kaemmerer explained program funding and how grants are allocated. Kaemmerer stated that beginning in 2010, there will be additional funding allocated for grants available to local units of government for land acquisition. Mr. Kaemmerer provided examples of previous grants provided to the Washington County Park System and also went over requirements, deadlines and what needs to be included when submitting a grant request.

Discussion ensued regarding how the relevant ordinance and grant application process addresses hunting and trapping in parks. Concerns about hunting in the parks and adjacent lands were brought forth. Mr. Kaemmerer stated that if anyone present wants to voice their concern about how this rule needs to be flexible to allow for the ongoing preservation of park lands in highly urbanized areas like Southeastern Wisconsin, comments can be submitted to the Natural Resource Board via email or in person. Mr. Kaemmerer will provide information to Mr. Glass to forward to Commission members regarding how to register to testify at the Natural Resource Board meeting on December 9th and how to submit concerns via email. Mr. Jensen emphasized that whoever testifies in person would need a full, comprehensive presentation as to how the Washington County parks work and would have to stress the need for flexibility. Ms. Sielski will be asked to attend and testify on behalf of the Washington County Park System.

Mr. Graff stated that the Stewardship Program should be clearly addressed in the objectives portion of the plan. The Commission concurred.

REVIEW CHANGES MADE TO DRAFT CHAPTER I – INTRODUCTION – JOSHUA GLASS

Mr. Glass reviewed changes made to Chapter I (see enclosed) since the August meeting. Mr. Glass suggested that the Commission look it over and provide any additional changes in the future.

Mr. Graff asked if the park and open space plan could include the results of the regional water quality study that was completed by SEWRPC since the comprehensive plan was adopted. Mr. Glass stated that he will report back on how this information should be incorporated.

Mr. Hermann asked if we will be approving chapters individually along the way, or if all chapters will be approved at once at the end of the process. Mr. Glass stated that chapters will be approved individually throughout the process, but

can be revisited and changes can be made at anytime. Changes made to draft chapters will be displayed with red and blue text. Changes will not be shown in the final approved version of the plan.

PRESENTATION OF DRAFT CHAPTER II – INVENTORY FINDINGS – JOSHUA GLASS

Mr. Glass distributed copies of Chapter II to the Commission (see attached). Mr. Glass mentioned that updated demographic and economic information has been included from the 2007 American Community Survey and U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. Mr. Glass explained that SEWRPC is currently working on an amendment to the Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for the Southeastern Wisconsin Region which was adopted in 1994. Some preliminary information from the draft amendment regarding natural resources has been included in this chapter. Mr. Graff estimated that the amendment to the Natural Areas and Critical Species report would be scheduled for approval in March of 2010. Mr. Glass will update the information in this chapter with data from the amendment when it is finalized and approved.

Mr. Heiser inquired as to why North Creek and Knight’s Creek, two creeks within the Village of Kewaskum, had not been included on the aquatic habitat site map (Map 5) and what the criteria must be met to be included. Ms. Sielski and Mr. Graff explained that Don Reed and SEWRPC make the decision pending if certain species are identified at a site that require an increased level of protection. It was agreed upon that North Creek and Knight’s Creek be added to Map 3 as surface waters.

Mr. Jensen inquired as to why the West Bend Kames were included on the geological site map and the Polk Kames were not. Ms. Sielski stated that she would try to have the Polk Kames added to SEWRPC’s list and they would therefore be added to the map in the Park and Open Space Plan. Mr. Graff stated that he will support Ms. Sielski’s efforts. Mr. Graff will forward a list of items to Ms. Sielski related to important geological sites requested for Washington County.

Ms. Sielski stated the criteria SEWRPC uses to determine certain sites for preservation and protection will be added to the plan as an appendix. Ms. Sielski also stated that sites not identified by SEWRPC but identified by the Commission for protection can be included on an additional map.

It was agreed upon that maps in the plan be displayed on 11 x 17” paper rather than 8.5 x 11”.

Mr. Glass reiterated that the chapter is in very preliminary form, much of the information depending on the draft amendment to the “Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for the Southeastern Wisconsin Region.”

PARKS AND ACTIVE LIVING WEBSITE UPDATE – DEBORA SIELSKI

Ms. Sielski stated that the project is progressing nicely. The last project meeting was yesterday (November 18) and included a teleconference with WisNet. WisNet is working on the branding for the website and will come up with a slogan as well as icons over the next few weeks. GeoDecisions, the company that created Carver County’s “Go Carver Go” mapping application, will be hired to create the interactive mapping application for Washington County’s active living website. Project completion is estimated for April or May of next year. The April 2010 issue of the Planning and Parks Department newsletter will be used to promote the site. Ms. Sielski stated that she has spoken with County Attorney Kim Nass about links to public entities (such as bike shops). Ms. Nass has advised to only include public entities and not-for-profit groups to avoid legal issues.

Mr. Hermann notified the Commission of a countywide park and trail map that is in the process of being created which will tie into the active living website. Mr. Hermann stated that the next meeting held for map development will be on January 15, 2010 in the Public Agency Center.

PARK TOUR DISCUSSION – JOSHUA GLASS

Mr. Glass recapped the County Park tours. The northern County parks were toured on October 13 and the southern parks on October 20. Mr. Glass stated that they went very well. The purpose of the tours was to see and discuss improvements

and since the last Park and Open Space Plan was adopted in 2004, as well as to identify possible future improvements to include in the updated plan. Mr. Glass thanked the Commission members who were able to participate in the tours.

DETERMINE FUTURE MEETING DATES AND AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting of the Commission was scheduled for Thursday, December 17th at 7:30 a.m. in room 3224 of the Public Agency Center at which Chapter 3 (Existing Park and Open Space Sites) will be discussed.

Ms. Wagner will provide Commission members with a cell phone number to call on the morning of a meeting if someone is going to be late or absent.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Graff, seconded by Hermann to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 a.m. Motion carried.

Debora Sielski
Deputy Administrator, Planning and Parks Department

Approved by _____
Michael R. Miller, Chairperson

Date _____