

Town of Verona
Open Space and Parks Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 6, 2014

Present: Stellick, Keen, Mathies, Hoffman, Miller, and Jellings

Absent: Siehr

Also Present: John Wright, Clerk-Treasurer (C-T)

Called to order at 7:32 PM

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Miller to approve the agenda as presented; 2nd Mathies. Motion to approve the agenda carried.

Public Comments

Chair Keen reported that two boot cleaning stations have been installed at Donald Park near Mt. Vernon. Two boot cleaning stations are in the planning stages: one at the DNR parking area off of Valley Road in Verona, and one near a bridge off of STH 69, possibly on the Falk Wells Wildlife Area land in Verona. The stations are for anglers to use prior to walking down to the Sugar River and when returning from the River. The stations should reduce the spread of Mud Snails to surrounding water bodies. Keen further noted that he and Wade Moder of the Upper Sugar River Watershed Association (USRWA) released Galerucella Beetles about ten days ago in an effort to control the propagation of Purple Loosestrife along the banks of Lake Belle View in Belleville. Keen further reported that September 13, 2014 is AIS Bridge Snapshot Day. 230 sites across Wisconsin will host the opportunity to explore invasive plants and animals within each region. Locally, groups will meet at the Badger Mill Creek and the Sugar River. Keen announced that this year's Paddle and Pig Out hosted by the USRWA will be held on August 23, 2014.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Stellick to approve the July minutes; 2nd Jellings. Motion to accept the minutes from the July 2, 2014 meeting carried.

Update for Falk Wells Sugar River Wildlife Area; State Highway 69 and Sunset Drive

Keen reported that the compacted gravel parking area off of STH 69 has been completed, although signage has yet to be installed. It was noted that there is a USGS monitoring station by this lot near the bridge; the station automatically samples water quality and gage height on a periodic basis. Data from this location is available online. This conversation led to another brief discussion of the State Conductivity Project for which Keen volunteers. Keen noted that he has not driven past the location of the second Dane County Parks lot to be constructed on the south side of Sunset Drive. Keen noted that the slated removal of bridges on the Falk Wells land has been completed.

Updates on Dane County Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Activities

Chair Keen reported the July 7, 2014 meeting was cancelled. Member Hoffman reviewed the revised comments summary dated April 14, 2014 from the Steering Committee meeting, which he received from Keen at the June OSPC meeting; Hoffman did not have any questions about the summary.

Update from Clerk-Treasurer Regarding Access Signs for Goose Lake Property Owned by the Town of Verona

Wright reported the signs have been installed at the Pheasant Lane and DeMarco Trail entrances. Wright agreed to notify Lavane Hessler and Cheryl Housley that the Town has completed this work and will share the photos of the installed signs with Hessler and Housley that were taken by Town Patrolman Mark Judd.

Continue Discussion of Future Conservation Efforts within the Town of Verona

C-T Wright reported that Bill Bugless, President of Payne and Dolan stopped in to the Town Office recently to let the staff know that the Herfel Aggregate Site located at 1906 STH 69 will likely cease phase one of their operation within the next one to two years before moving to the west side of Highway 69 to

begin the second phase of operations. Wright inquired about the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) agreement that promised public dedication of land south of the Badger Mill Creek on the west side of Highway 69. According to Mr. Bugless, this condition must be met by the Herfel family, not Payne and Dolan. There followed a brief discussion regarding the CUP, the history of the operation, trenching at the phase two site, remediation at the current site when closed, and Laura Guyer's efforts to prompt the public dedication of land.

Establish an Agenda for the September 3, 2014 Meeting

Chair Keen announced he will be unable to attend this meeting. Member Miller volunteered to Chair the September Meeting. The proposed agenda is as follows: Call to Order; Approval of the Agenda; Public Comments; Approval of meeting minutes for August 6, 2014; Update on Dane County Parks Sunset Road Parking Lot; Updates on Dane County Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Activities; Continue Discussion of Future Conservation Efforts within the Town of Verona; Establish October Agenda; and Adjourn.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Miller; 2nd by Hoffman. Motion carried at 8:21 PM.

John Wright
Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: October 1, 2014