

Town of Verona  
Open Space and Parks Commission Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, November 12, 2014

**DRAFT**

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

Absent: Siehr and Miller

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

Called to order at 7:30 PM

**Approval of Agenda**

Jellings made a motion to approve the agenda; 2<sup>nd</sup> Mathies. Motion to approve the agenda carried.

**Public Comments**

C-T Wright stated there is a small amount of space available in the 2014 Town Newsletter that accompanies property tax bills. After brief discussion, the members wanted information about the Falk Wells Sugar River Wildlife Area, a summary of the OSPC goals, and membership information. Without objection, the members authorized C-T Wright and Chair Keen to work on the language.

There was brief discussion regarding the two prototype cattle fence designs that have yet to be tested on a local waterway. Chair Keen noted that the materials for both designs have been purchased by the Upper Sugar River Watershed Association using grant money. There followed another brief discussion about the electrolyte levels in local waterways and anomalies for which no explanation has been found to date. C-T Wright noted that there were concerns voiced to him regarding well water quality in the Shady Oak neighborhood. Chair Keen announced that on November 13, 2014 the Madison Area Municipal Stormwater Partnership will host a workshop on how to mitigate the negative effects of salt application during the winter months to be held at the Fitchburg Public Library. The web address for further details is <http://www.myfairlakes.com/>. Keen also announced an opportunity to attend a restoration event for the Friends of Pheasant Branch Conservancy on November 15, 2014.

**Approval of Minutes**

Member Hoffman would like the word “unfamiliar” to be inserted in Public Comments in the last sentence of the first paragraph. The sentence should now read, “Member Hoffman expressed his concern over the reaction of cattle to *unfamiliar* human presence along these navigable waterways that flow through private agricultural land.” Motion made by Mathies to approve the October minutes as amended; 2<sup>nd</sup> Hoffman. Motion to accept the minutes from the October 1, 2014 meeting carried.

**Update on Dane County Parks Sunset Drive Parking Lot**

C-T Wright reported there has been no work on installing the lot. The Town Board has requested that Chris James attend the December 2, 2014 Board Meeting so that the proposed location can be discussed in detail before construction can begin. The proposed location is to the east of an existing field road access that allows the Bruce Company to harvest trees from the property. The Board will also be discussing the completed parking area for the Prairie Moraine Park which was constructed without a Town permit. Dane County Parks was under the misimpression that Wesner road had been vacated by the Town to the County.

**Updates on Dane County Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Activities**

C-T Wright reported there have been no new updates from this Committee. It was noted that a Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC) meeting was taking place this evening.

**Continue Discussion of Future Conservation Efforts within the Town of Verona**

Keen noted that the Upper Sugar River Watershed Area (USRWA) has purchased two more boot washing station signs to place adjacent to the Sugar River beside the parking area located at State Highway 69 in Verona and the lot located at Paoli Road in Montrose. C-T Wright reported that the Town Board is in the

process of reviewing whether Wesner Road can be abandoned in part or in whole. Wesner Road is the access for the Prairie Moraine Park.

**Discuss Whether to Hold a December Meeting**

There was a brief discussion regarding whether a December meeting was required this year. Mathies moved to skip the December 2014 meeting unless something pressing arises to warrant it; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hoffman. Motion carried.

**Establish an Agenda for the January 7, 2014 Meeting**

The proposed agenda is as follows: Call to Order; Approval of the Agenda; Public Comments; Approval of meeting minutes for November 12, 2014; Update on Dane County Parks Sunset Drive Parking Lot; Updates on Dane County Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Activities; Continue Discussion of Future Conservation Efforts within the Town of Verona; Set February Agenda; and Adjourn.

**Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn made by Hoffman; 2nd by Jellings. Motion carried at 8:20 PM.

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John Wright  
Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: