

Town of Verona
Natural and Recreational Areas Committee Minutes
Town of Verona meeting
1-18-23
DRAFT

Present: Bill Keen, Jo Tucker, Rosemary Bodolay, Dave Lonsdorf
Absent: Kirk Feller

Chair Keen called the meeting to order at 6:34PM

Approval of Agenda- Motion by Tucker, Second Lonsdorf, passed 4-0

Approval of Minutes from December 13, 2022: Motion to approve amended minutes: Tucker, Second Bodolay, passed 4-0

Public Comments-None

Update from Chair/ Members: Tucker pointed out that the City of Verona approved the Marty property rezoning. Keen was asked to contact Gaskell about what NRAC needs to do to update the NRAC plan.

Update from Board Member: Lonsdorf explained the latest information regarding the Badger Mill Creek. Madison Metropolitan Sewage District (MMSD) is currently looking at three options to meet state guidelines on phosphorus levels. One option, that is the lowest cost, is to reduce or stop the flow of treated water back into the Badger Mill Creek Watershed. A study on the impacts on fish habitat and water quality will be made to see how reducing the flow affects the stream. A group has organized to argue against this option, encouraging towns and groups to send recommendations to the MMSD.

Prairie Plan: One bid was received from Adaptive Restoration for \$4700. The company will take care of the prairie for 2023. There was discussion about the long term care of the prairie and its cost. Costs should go down every year as the prairie progresses.

Educational Programs: The town is in favor of these. NRAC was asked to set up a speaker on any day or time that does not conflict with any other event happening in the town hall. Speakers will have to be free and content must be cleared with Gaskell.(Town administrator). It was decided that the programs should raise the environmental concerns of citizens in the Town of Verona and show money saving ideas. The first program will focus on reducing the carbon footprint of citizens. Bodolay will ask for a speaker from UW-extension and Tucker will ask from the show Powerhouse. Members should all look into who might be available to speak.

Points of Interest: Discussion revolved around improving the town's website, simplifying descriptions, merging some points of interest, deleting others, using more readable maps, using links to other web pages and increasing the awareness of what is available in the town of Verona. Bodolay and Tucker will work on ideas for improving or adding to the town website the points of interest that are chosen.

Incentives: A plan to use patches for a reward for visiting points of interest was proposed. How to manage the program (how many points to visit for a patch, cost of patch, cost of membership, printing names of who receives a patch). Lonsdorf will present a plan at the next meeting.

Next meeting will be February 21 at 6:30 pm. One member would not be available on the second Tuesday of February.

Motion to adjourn by Lonsdorf, Second by Tuckerf, Passed 4-0 at 8:11p.m.