

Town of Verona
Natural and Recreational Areas Committee Minutes
Town of Verona meeting
12-13-22

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

Chair Keen called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM

Approval of Agenda- Motion by Bodolay, Second Feller, passed 5-0

Approval of Minutes from October 18, 2022: Motion to approve Bodolay, Second Feller, passed 4-0, Lonsdorf abstained

Public Comments-None

Update from Chair/ Members: Tucker pointed out that the City of Verona plan commission approved of the zoning changes for the Marty property. It goes to the city council next.

Update from Board Member: Lonsdorf explained the Badger Mill Creek meeting discussing discharge of water into Badger Mill Creek as Madison Metropolitan Sewage District is working on plans to meet state guidelines on phosphorus levels. A study on the impacts on fish habitat and water quality will be made.

The town board also asked that a long-term plan for the town's prairie needs to be developed. The board also approved of the NRAC priorities for 2023.

NRAC priorities for 2023 were reviewed:

#1 Update the NRAC plan for 2024-2029

#2 Help create education programs for the town citizens. Discussion surrounded around which programs and what times should the programs be presented. Proposals will be given at the next NRAC meeting.

#3 Update significant natural features and public lands on town maps and add to the town website to help with landowner recognition and protection, and to help promote and guide recreational activities. This includes making a map of public access and parking to recreational points within the town. Lonsdorf suggested narrowing down the natural features list from the NRAC 2018-2023 plan to ten features which would allow people to visit and explore.

1. Madison School Forrest/Olson Oak Woods state natural area
2. Scheidegger County Forrest
3. Prairie Moraine County Park
4. Moraine Kettles Preserve (IATA)
5. Badger Mill Creek Corridor (county part)
6. Badger Prairie County Park
7. Goose Lake (town land)
8. Sugar River Natural Area-Davidson House
9. Military Ridge Trail
10. Sugar River Water Trail (includes Falk-Wells Wildlife area)

Features were divided up and members will make drafts of each feature that could be put on town webpage. Incentives to get people to visit these features were discussed, such as patches and free items from local vendors. Whether to have a program that would charge a fee to have these rewards was discussed. How to manage any program was a topic of concern.

Lonsdorf will draft a one-page long-term plan about maintaining the Town Hall prairie (with a point that a burn will happen in Spring 2023).

Next meeting will be January 18 at 6:30 pm. Two members would not be available on the second Tuesday of January.

Motion to adjourn by Tucker, Second by Lonsdorf, Passed 5-0 at 7:50 p.m.