

AGENDA

**County Of Eau Claire
Committee On Parks & Forest
Tuesday, March 8, 2016 – 5:00 p.m.
Ag & Resource Center
227 1st Street W, Altoona WI 54720**

Members note: Please call the committee chair or office if you will not be attending the meeting.

1. Confirmation of meeting notice
2. Approval of minutes from February 23, 2016 meeting – Discussion/action – Pages 2-3
3. Public Input
4. Pinter Pines/Coon Gut Property Future Plan – Discussion/action
5. Request to place a memorial bench at Lowes Creek Park- Mark Anderson – Discussion/action
6. Approve 2016-2020 County Outdoor Recreation plan/resolution 15-16/137 - Discussion/action – Pages 4-5
7. Presentation/approval of Emergency Fire Wardens for 2016 by Jed Kaurich, DNR Fire Ranger – Discussion/action
8. Resolution 15-16/144 offering free camping night May 19, 2016 – Discussion/action – Pages 6-7
9. Correspondence – Donation request
10. Staff and committee reports
11. Advisory Committee Input/Assignments
12. Exposition Center Advisory Committee Input/Assignments
13. Committee Education
14. Future and pending items: Next meeting date: March 22, 2016, 5 pm at Ag Center

PLEASE NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities through sign language, interpreters or other auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request the service, contact the County ADA Coordinator at 839-4710, (FAX) 839-1669 or 839-4735, tty: use Relay (711) or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703.

**EAU CLAIRE COUNTY
COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND FOREST**

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 23, 2016, 5:00 p.m.
Eau Claire County Exposition Center
5530 Fairview Drive, Eau Claire WI 54701

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Gibson, Patrick LaVelle, Paul Lokken, Kevin Stelljes and Bruce Willett

EXPO ADVISORY MEMBERS PRESENT: Geoff Goodland, Letecia Papke, and Richard Ziemann

EXPO ADVISORY MEMBERS ABSENT: Kim Nimmo, Jay Plummer, and Michael Strubel

OTHERS PRESENT: Bob Burch, Cole Long, Carl Walters, Al Hudacek, Kristian Hudacek, and Garrett Walters, Eau Claire Ski Striders and Chippewa Valley Nordic Team; Scott Biederman and Jeff Thompson, Eau Claire Curlers; Brooke Ludwig, WDNR Forester.

STAFF PRESENT: Jody Gindt, Josh Pedersen and Bobbi Barone

The meeting was called to order by Chair Patrick LaVelle at 5:00 p.m.

1. Confirmation of meeting notice – Meeting notice was confirmed.
2. Approval of minutes from January 26 and February 9, 2016 meeting – Paul made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 26 and February 9, 2016 meetings as written; motion carried.
3. Public Input – No members of the public were present for this item.
4. Eau Claire Ski Striders' request to rename Cross-county Ski Trail System at Tower Ridge Recreation Area – Bob Burch was present to make the request that the trail system be named "Karl Andresen Trail System" which would mean adding a line on the trailhead sign. After some discussion, Paul made a motion to rename the cross-county ski trail system at Tower Ridge Recreation Area to "Tower Ridge Recreation Area Karl Andresen Trail System". Motion carried.
5. Chippewa Valley Nordic Cross-country Ski Team request to place a trophy case in chalet at Tower Ridge Recreation Area – Cole Long handed out details on the proposed display case and answered questions of the committee. After discussion, Bruce moved to approve placement of the award cabinet; motion carried.
6. Eau Claire Curling Club/Expo Center Report – Josh reported he spoke with the County Administrator about this issue. She stated the Facilities Working Group will hopefully have a report by May of this year. Scott Biederman of the Curling Club stated they would have to begin planning at the end of this season should the county not extend their lease for 5 additional years. The current lease expires 2020 and the club would need all of the four years to find a new site, fund raise, and build to be ready for the 2020 season. Kevin suggested the committee set a deadline for the Facilities Working Group to bring forth a proposal of the committee should take back responsibility to come up with a proposal with the Curling Club. Gary made a motion to have a deadline of May 1 for the Facilities Working Group to come up with a

proposal; motion carried. Letecia Papke developed a report but will share it first with the Expo Advisory Committee and then present it to the Parks & Forest Committee. Kevin and Gary felt the Expo Advisory Committee would have many issues to take up if given the opportunity.

7. Lake Altoona Dam Repair Update – Josh stated that Phase 1 is done and Phase 2 is not started. The contractor will start March 7 and plans to be done March 29.
8. Fitz/West Wisconsin Land Trust Property in the Town of Brunswick Update – Bruce passed around 16 questions he would like answered prior to moving forward with any kind of agreement on the property. Pat suggested the committee wait until Tim Sullivan, Corporation Counsel, gives an opinion prior to moving forward. Kevin thought the subcommittee should submit a recommendation to the Parks & Forest Committee then schedule a meeting with the land trust, perhaps at the 2nd meeting in March.
9. Correspondence – Nothing to report
10. Staff and committee reports – Josh reported he made a request to an engineering firm for an estimate of cost to develop handicap road engineering plan and should be getting a cost yet this week. Josh and the Highway Commissioner met and discussed setting up an equipment fund using a percent of excess revenue from timber sales. The bridge on Highway H (North Fork) will be replaced this year. Paul mentioned a change in Managed Forest Land in which townships may get back \$6-\$7/acre.
11. Advisory Committee Input/Assignments – The committee will be meeting March 2.
12. Exposition Center Advisory Committee Input-Assignments – A meeting date will be set.
13. Committee Education – Time did not allow

Bruce made a motion to adjourn the committee meeting at 6:30 p.m.; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bobbi Barone
Committee Clerk

Parks & Forest Committee Staff Report
2016-2020 County Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP)
March 8, 2016

The first Eau Claire County Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) was first adopted in 1973. Since that time, the County has routinely updated the CORP every 5 years to meet the requirements of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and maintain eligibility for grant funding opportunities through various state and federal programs. The requirements and funding authorization for outdoor recreation programs is set forth in Wisconsin Statutes Section 23.30. The main purpose or goal of the program is to “promote, encourage, coordinate, and implement a comprehensive long-range plan to acquire, maintain and develop for public use those areas of the state best adapted to the development of a comprehensive system of state and local outdoor recreation facilities and services”.

The proposed 2016-2020 CORP would replace the 2011-2015 plans that is currently in effect. The draft plan includes several updates and modifications to past plans and has been developed with the assistance of a stakeholder committee composed of various county park users, as well as input received through a user survey administered in June, 2015. Included within the 2016-2020 CORP are the following required components:

Eau Claire County

1. Eau Claire County Vision Statement and specific goals as determined by the Outdoor Recreation Plan Stakeholder Committee, Parks and Forest Advisory Committee and Parks and Forest Committee
2. Social and physical characteristics data relating to Eau Claire County
3. An inventory of supply of outdoor recreational facilities and activities
4. An assessment of “needs” standards based on NRPA guidelines compared to inventory
5. An assessment of the SCORP and comparison to the Eau Claire CORP to incorporate consistent measures and efforts
6. Series of maps of County facilities
7. 5-year Eau Claire County Action Plan – items identified here may be eligible for funding assistance through LAWCON programs

Participating Municipalities

1. An inventory of supply of outdoor recreational facilities and activities
2. Historic population information and projections for each municipality
3. An assessment of “needs” standards based on NRPA guidelines compared to inventory
4. 5-year Action Plan based on recommendations developed by each municipality to meet their current or anticipated needs – with priority rankings
5. Map of existing municipality facilities

Plan Updates

Since the last update, which was adopted by the County Board on December 18, 2012, the plan has been updated in a number of areas, including:

1. Addition of Eau Claire River access map, table, and plan for improvements
2. Addition of equestrian-related improvements
3. User survey (Appendix A)
4. New, updated maps
5. New photographs
6. Updated recreation inventory and needs assessment for County parks and each participating municipality
7. Updated 5-year plans for each participating municipality
8. Updates and revisions to plan text and statistical data throughout document

4 - ADOPTING THE EAU CLAIRE COUNTY OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN FOR
5 2016-2020 -

6 WHEREAS, every five (5) years, a county outdoor recreation plan is prepared to plan for
7 proposed improvements to the outdoor recreation facilities within the county; and

8
9 WHEREAS, adoption of the plan maintains the county and other municipalities within
10 the county eligibility to receive state and federal recreation grants including LAWCON (Land
11 and Water Conservation Fund), Stewardship, and other programs that may be administered by
12 the WDNR; and

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14 WHEREAS, inclusion of projects in the plan does not guarantee or insure their
15 development because all projects are subject to review and approval through the annual budget
16 process; and

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18 WHEREAS, the cities of Altoona and Augusta; the villages of Fall Creek and Fairchild;
19 and the townships of Brunswick, Pleasant Valley, Seymour, Union, Washington, and Wilson will
20 approve the sections of the plan which pertain to their respective jurisdictions.

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22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Eau Claire County Board of
23 Supervisors that the Eau Claire County Outdoor Recreation Plan for 2016-2020 is hereby
24 adopted.

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Parks & Forest Department will administer the
27 plan and oversee its implementation as it pertains to county recreation facilities.

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29 ADOPTED:

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40 Committee on Parks & Forest

41 Committee on Planning and Development

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44 Dated this ____ day of ____, 2016.
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FACT SHEET

TO FILE NO. 15-16/152

In the interest of introducing Eau Claire County campgrounds to the public, the Parks & Forest Committee is recommending offering free camping the night of Thursday, May 19, 2016. The regular camping season opens in May of each year and campsites prior to the Memorial Day holiday are underutilized.

Fiscal Impact: 2015 - \$45

Respectfully Submitted,

Josh Pedersen
Parks & Forest Director

JP/bb

Ordinance/15-16.152 Fact

1 Enrolled No.

2 RESOLUTION

3 File No. 15-16/152

4 - DESIGNATING MAY 19, 2016 AS A FREE CAMPING Night FOR ALL EAU CLAIRE
5 COUNTY OPERATED CAMPGROUNDS -

6 WHEREAS, the parks and forest committee have decided that they would like to designate a
7 free camping night for the 2016 season; and

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9 WHEREAS, the free camping night is to provide an opportunity for everyone to enjoy
10 the campgrounds, while doing it in the less busy beginning portion of the regular camping
11 season; and

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13 WHEREAS, all campsites will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis at the
14 campground on May 19, 2016 with no reservations accepted; and

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16 WHEREAS, check -out time is 3:00 p.m. on Friday, May 20, 2016.

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19 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors
20 designate May 19, 2016 as a free camping night for all Eau Claire County operated Campgrounds.

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34 Committee on Parks & Forest

35 JP/yk

36 Dated this _____ day of _____, 2015.

37 ORDINANC/15-16/152