

AGENDA

Eau Claire County

• Committee On Parks & Forest •

Monday, June 14, 2021

5:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

Dial In: +1-415-655-0001 Access Code: 1459 34 7531

For those wishing to make public comment, you must e-mail Winnie Parker at Winnie.Parker@co.eau-claire.wi.us at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. You will be called on during the public session to make your comments. Public comments are limited to 3 minutes per person and 30 minutes maximum for the public comment period.

1. Call to Order and Confirmation of Meeting Notice
2. Review/Approval of Committee Minutes - **Discussion/Action**
 - a. May 19, 2021
3. Public Comment
4. Chippewa Valley Lightning Bolts request to hold cross country meet on Oct 16, 2021, at Tower Ridge. - **Discussion/Action**
5. Request from Eau Claire Fair to close Expo Center entrance to Lowes Creek Park during the 2021 Fair. - **Discussion/Action**
6. Review free park entrance/free camping weened program. - **Discussion/Action**
7. Senior discount for Annual Park Vehicle Pass. - **Discussion/Action**
8. County Forest Stewardship Projects - **Discussion/Action**
9. Director's Report
10. Future Committee Meetings and Items for Discussion

Next Meeting – July 12, 2021, at 5 pm

11. Adjourn

Prepared by Winnie Parker, Parks & Forest

Please note: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals 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) 8391669 or (TDD) 8394735 or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources Department, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Ave., Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703.

MINUTES

Eau Claire County

• Committee on Parks & Forest •

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

5:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

Members: Kevin Stelljes, Joe Knight, Missy Christopherson, Gary Gibson

Others Present: Josh Pedersen – Director, Jody Gindt – Supervisor, Winnie Parker – Administrative Specialist III (Committee Clerk), Kyle Johnson – DNR County Forest Liaison, Jacob Tumm – EC County Forester, Erika Gullerud – Finance Analyst, Greg Leonard – Land Conservation Manager, Rod Eslinger – Planning and Development Director, Matt Michels – Senior Planner, Regan Watts – Recycling and Sustainability Coordinator

Chair Stelljes called the meeting to order at 5 pm and confirmed public posting of the meeting.

Verbal roll call was taken by the committee clerk and is noted above under present.

No members of the public were present.

The committee reviewed the minutes from the May 10, 2021, meeting. Supervisor Knight moved to approve the minutes as presented. The minutes passed unanimously.

Carbon Credits – The Committee discussed and reacted to the April 12, 2021, presentation by Forest Gibeault of Steigerwaldt Land Services on Carbon Credits. Given the county's carbon neutral goals, more information is needed to assess appropriately whether this program fits with these goals. The workload on staff up front is an issue, but this opportunity should still be considered. A cost/benefit analysis should be conducted as the value of credits may outweigh the cost involved. It may be beneficial to hire someone to do the field studies. Knight motioned to have Director Josh Pedersen proceed with an inventory of the county forest not to exceed \$7,000.50. All in favor, none opposed.

Stewardship Parcels – Director Josh Pedersen presented three (3) parcels for acquisition. See attachment.

Parcel #1 Mine Site – This parcel has great potential due to its size, river frontage on both sides of the river, and may fit in with the county's carbon neutral goals.

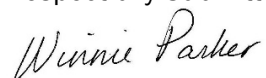
Parcel #2 North Center Road – The Black Creek snakes through this property, and it is connected to existing county forest land near Coon Fork.

Parcel #3 Black Creek – This parcel has the greatest potential to harvest timber and the Black Creek also runs through it. The Committee should consider these and any occasion to acquire land when the opportunity presents itself. It was decided to charter a sub-committee of interested parties to go out and start a discussion with property owners without making a commitment. A stewardship meeting should convene as soon as possible to discuss the county's options.

The next meeting date was set for June 14, 2021, at 5:00 pm virtually.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,



Winnie Parker

Committee Clerk

Administrative Specialist III – Parks & Forest

MINUTES

Eau Claire County

• Committee On Parks & Forest •

Monday, March 2, 2020

5:00 p.m.

Agriculture & Resource Center – Room #203

227 1st St W • Altoona, WI

Members: Gary Gibson, Pat LaVelle, Bert Moritz, Kevin Stelljes

Others: Josh Pedersen – Director, Jake Tumm – Forester, Ali Moe – Administrative Specialist III (Committee Clerk), Kyle Johnson – WDNR Liaison Forester, Nick Smiar – County Board Chairman, James Melville – Eau Claire Rifle Club, Michael Zwoniarkiewicz – Eau Claire Rifle Club

Chair Stelljes called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. and confirmed public posting of the meeting.

The committee reviewed the minutes from the February 10, 2020 meeting. Moritz moved to approve the minutes as presented. It passed unanimously.

No members of the public were present.

WDNR Liaison Forester Kyle Johnson gave an informative presentation on the boundaries of the flood plains in Eau Claire County. The committee would like to have another discussion on this before any final decisions are made regarding the code or timber sale extensions. No action was taken at this time.

James Melville and Michael Zwoniarkiewicz represented the Eau Claire National Rifle Club to give a report on estimates for the rifle range sound abatement plan. They discussed pros and cons for both wall options. Melville also proposed putting in a parking lot to keep vehicles off the road. Gibson made a motion to encourage the Rifle Club to continue to explore these options moving forward, and keep the committee posted.

Director Pedersen provided the committee with a report based off financial estimations of senior citizen annual pass purchases. Moritz made a motion to give a \$10 discount to senior citizens, bringing down the cost of an annual pass to \$20. Additional passes registered to the same household will remain \$10. The motion passed. Pedersen will write up a draft resolution and forward the draft to Finance & Budget and the Parks & Forest Committee for approval.

Pedersen presented Resolution 19-20/106 to the committee to apply for motorized trail aids. The approval was unanimous.

Pedersen gave an update on the Lake Altoona utility study. The study is about halfway complete. No action was taken.

The Emergency Fire Warden plan was approved unanimously.

Pedersen gave a report on the Tower Ridge skills park project. Haas has almost completely cleared the area of trees. Hauling sand into the area might need to wait as the frost thawing at this time could be problematic.

The fifteen year forest plan is coming along. Pedersen met with three members from UW Extension to discuss their role in implementing a public meeting in Eau Claire on June 9. Stelljes would like to discuss the addition of a couple chapters on carbon neutrality & climate change impacts.

The next meeting date was set for March 16th at 5:00 PM at the Ag Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm

Respectfully Submitted by,

Ali Moe
Committee Clerk
Administrative Specialist III – Parks & Forest

ANNUAL PARK VEHICLE PASS COMPARISON

NOTE:

- The number of passes sold dose not reflect the Veteran passes which are at no charge.
- There is no charge for replacement stickers.
- The base fee for an Annual Park Vehicle Pass is currently \$30. There is a \$10 fee for additional Annual Vehicle Passes for cars registered in the same household having the same address.
- The total revenue does NOT reflect daily park vehicle entrance fees.

2019 TOTAL PASSES SOLD: 3,543

2019		ANNUAL REVENUE	PASSES SOLD	SENIOR PASSES SOLD AT \$15 EACH	SENIOR PASSES SOLD AT \$20 EACH
		\$94,821.00	3543		
				<u>LOST REVENUE</u>	<u>LOST REVENUE</u>
low	20%	\$21,258.00	709	\$10,600.00	\$7,090.00
high	25%	\$26,572.50	886	\$13,300.00	\$8,900.00

2020 TOTAL PASSES SOLD: 5,175

2020		ANNUAL REVENUE	PASSES SOLD	SENIOR PASSES SOLD AT \$15 EACH	SENIOR PASSES SOLD AT \$20 EACH
		\$134,219.00	5175		
				<u>LOST REVENUE</u>	<u>LOST REVENUE</u>
low	20%	\$31,050.00	1035	\$15,525.00	\$10,350.00
high	25%	\$38,812.50	1294	\$19,410.00	\$12,940.00