

AGENDA

Eau Claire County

• Advisory Committee on Parks & Forest •

Wednesday, October 12, 2022

10:00 am

Room AG 203

Dial In: +1-415-655-0001 US Toll Access Code: 2591 281 5204 Meeting password: M4iaGrHVy22

For those wishing to make public comment, you must e-mail Winnie Parker at Winnie.parker@eau Claire County.gov at least 60 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. 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. Roll Call
3. Review/Approval of Advisory Committee Minutes - **Discussion/Action**
 - a. September 14, 2022
4. Public Comment
5. Discussion on policy regarding off-road motorized vehicle use in Eau Claire County Forest
6. Future Committee Meetings and Items for Discussion

Next Meeting – November 9, 2022 at 10:00 am

7. Adjourn

Prepared by Winnie Parker, Parks & Forest

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**Eau Claire County
Parks and Forest Citizens Advisory Committee
Wednesday, August 10, 2022**

Agriculture and Resource Center 2nd Floor, with WebEx virtual option, 10:00 AM

Members Present: Michael Lea, Rick Rosen, Kevin Stelljes, Jolene Smith, Tom Feck, Gary Gibson, Pat Lavelle (In person). Geoff Goodland, Bobbi Barone and Laura Hurd (Webex virtual).

Members Absent: Jay Plummer

Staff Present: Josh Pedersen, Jody Gindt, Jacob Tumm, and Kyle Johnson (WI DNR).

Members gave a brief introduction to all and stated their interest in the committee.

Director Pedersen gave a summary of some of the history of the off-road vehicle usage on the forest and the intentions of the Parks and Forest Committee to develop a detailed policy on off-road vehicle usage in the county forest.

Stelljes discussed the policies of the Flambeau Forest and how the Forest Service maps out all trails and identifies ones for motorized use and ones for non-motorized. Siting this forest area as a good example of one to look at for helping formulate a plan here.

Lavelle mentioned that there is a long history of off-road users and there have been several issues over the years. Particularly in the town of Seymour.

Feck referenced an article in the Back Country Journal from the summer of 2022 that discussed the modernizing map land act. This act produced digital maps for the public to use for roads.

Goodland mentioned that the group would need to be consistent with classifications of forest roads and trails and the need for accurate maps that people could get access to.

Lavelle discussed the merits of putting an ad in the Friday paper that would let the public know that the advisory committee is looking into this topic and seek some additional public input.

Stelljes suggested that the advisory committee should look to have a policy recommendation formed by the end of the calendar year.

The committee discussed next steps and will look to meet on a monthly basis moving forward. Next meeting date would be set for September 14 at 10:00 AM.

Rosen suggested that we try looking at the southeastern part of the state for examples due to the higher population basis and increased demand for public lands. Committee members were to do some homework in looking for other examples and bring to the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:07 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Josh Pedersen