**MINUTES**Eau Claire County
• **Committee on Parks & Forest** *•*

Monday, June 12, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

Agricultural and Resource Center

227 1st Street West., Altoona – Rooms 103 and 104

Members Present: Joe Knight, Missy Christopherson, Tami Schraufnagel, Dane Zook, Jodi Lepsch, Nick Smiar – Ex Officio Member

Others Present: Jody Gindt – Supervisor, Winnie Parker – Administrative Specialist III (Committee Clerk), Todd Johnson – Parks and Program Manager, Erika Gullerud – Finance Analyst, Kyle Johnson – DNR County Forest Liaison, Mike Lea - Parks and Forest Advisory Committee Member, Nick Meyer – CORBA Representative

**Call to Order Committee on Parks & Forest and confirmation of meeting notice**

Chairman Knight called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and confirmed public posting of the meeting.

**Public Comment**

No members of the public wished to make a comment.

**Review of May 8, 2023, Committee Meeting Minutes**

Supervisor Schraufnagel moved to approve the minutes from May 8, 2023. All in favor.

**Resolution 23-24.018 Withdrawal of County Forest Land**

Mike Lea has requested the withdrawal of two (2) proposed sand spoil sites adjacent to one another, about 9.94 acres from the Eau Claire County Forest Program. After approval from the Committee on Parks and Forest, further approval will be needed from the County Board and then from the Department of Natural Resources. This site was chosen because of its close proximity to the sand traps near the boat landing on the Eau Claire River, which feeds into Lake Eau Claire and because of the low timber quantity and quality on these sites. These traps and sand spoil sites are necessary to keep the boat landings safe and open. Supervisor Zook moved to approve Resolution 23-24/018 as written. All in favor, none opposed.

**Light Up the Woods request at Lowes Creek Park**

Nick Meyer from CORBA requested permission from the Committee on Parks and Forest to host a CORBA Fundraiser called “Light Up the Woods.” This fundraiser would involve lighting and projected lighting throughout the trails at Lowes Creek Park. Along the trails there would also be beer tents whereby the beverages would be included in the sale of tickets. Supervisor Zook moved to postpone action on this request until the July 10, 2023, Committee Meeting to allow County Corporate Legal Counsel to review the request and approve the specific details, especially regarding the presence and handling of alcoholic beverages. All in favor, none opposed.

**Coon Fork 40 Bike Event**

Nick Meyer, from CORBA presented the proposal to host a fundraiser gravel bike riding event to start and finish at the Coon Fork beach side. Gravel events such as these are gaining popularity and work for all types of bikes. The monies raised from this event would be used to maintain the already established trails and develop new trails. Supervisor Schraufnagel moved to approve the Coon Fork 40 Bike Fundraiser Event pending review from County Corporate Legal Counsel. All in favor, none opposed.

**Jeremy Doro Land Sale**

Landowner, Jeremy Doro, is interested in selling a 40-acre parcel of land that butts up to county property. This parcel consists mainly of white pine, which would not likely be logged. Access is from the north and has a gated easement. Supervisor Schraufnagel moved to forward the proposal to the Land Stewardship Subcommittee for their review and to see if there are grants available to allow for price matching. All in favor, none opposed.

**Comments Made**

Please take a look, if you haven’t done so already, at the Lake Altoona Park Parking Lot renovation, which is substantially complete, as well as the Big Falls Park Parking Lot renovation, which is underway. Please review the documents in preparation for the Joint meeting with the Committee on Finance & Budget.

**Future Parks & Forest Committee Meetings and Items for Discussion**

*Next Meeting – July 10, 2023, at 5 p.m.*

*Joint Meeting, Committee on Parks & Forest/Committee on Finance & Budget – August 14, 2023, at 5 p.m. at the Ag Center*

**Committee on Parks & Forest Adjournment**

The Committee on Parks & Forest adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Winnie Parker

Committee Clerk

Administrative Specialist III