

PECATONICA PRAIRIE PATH COMMISSION

Friday, September 15, 2017
Pecatonica Public Library
400 W. 11th Street
Pecatonica, Illinois
9:30 a.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order Meeting called to order at 9:33

1. Roll Call

Directors Present: Steve Ehlbeck, Freeport Park District (Retired); Tim Bragg, Alt. Delegate, Rockford Park District; Jim Gastel, Delegate, Stephenson County; Mike Holan, Delegate, Forest Preserves of Winnebago County; and Claire Webb, Delegate, Stephenson County

Other Staff Present: Carlos Molina, Winnebago County Highway Department; Jack Carey, Freeport Park District Others Present: Randy Bukas, Lowell Crow, Michelle Cunningham, Vivian Gaines, Paula Hachmeister and Janet Klinger,

2. Approval of Minutes – June 16, 2017 (Tim B.)

Jim Gastel moved; Mike Holan seconded approval of the minutes from the June, 16 2017 meeting of the Pecatonica Prairie Path Commission. Motion passed.

3. Presentation

None

4. Treasurer's Report – (Claire W.)

Treasurer Claire Webb stated she was still awaiting payment from Stephenson County for the annual agency member contributions. The Commission had received notice to renew the website domain name. Mike Holan moved; Tim Bragg seconded approval to process payment to renew the website domain name for five (5) additional years at a fee of \$180. Motion passed.

5. Legislation (17-003) Resolution Electing the Pecatonica Prairie Path Commission Officer for FY 2018

The Commission discussed the current slate of officers (Steve Ehlbeck, Chair; Mike Holan, Vice Chair; Clair Webb, Treasurer and Tim Bragg, Secretary). Chairman Ehlbeck opened the floor for discussion of the current roster and nominations for new officers. With no additional nominations, the discussion was closed. Jim Gastel moved; Mike Holan second, to approve the current slate of officers for FY 2018. Motion passed.

Legislation (17-021) Resolution Establishing the Date, Time and Location of each Pecatonica Prairie Path Commission Meeting for FY 2018

An error for the September meeting date was discussed (September meeting should be September 15th.) Mike Holan moved; Jim Gastel seconded, approval of the resolution approving the date, time and location of the commission meetings for FY 2018 as amended. Motion passed.

6. Reports –

a. Staff

Winnebago County (Carlos M.)

The DeGarmo trailhead is completed and in use by patrons. Additional signage is planned for the trailhead with regards to snowmobile use.

The Winnebago County section of path (Weldon Road to Meridian Road) closed due to the sanitary sewer project remains closed. A date to reopen the section of path is forthcoming.

Two structures within Winnebago County are in need of repairs; however there is resistance to initiate repairs since the path is open. The limits of the ComEd lease is fourteen feet (14') wide; not the entire 100 feet ComEd right of way. The commission has not undertaken any improvements along the path and awaits feedback from ComEd.

Stephenson County

Stephenson County likewise met with ComEd regarding matters tied to roles regarding the lease. Stephenson County received concessions regarding sharing costs to upgrade structures to handle the load limits of ComEd service trucks. Stephenson County also discussed possible discrepancies in lease agreement renewal documents (review lease expiration dates with ComEd for Winnebago County vs. the lease expiration date for Stephenson County). Shaun Gallagher had been updating the lease term to 20 years tied to construction activity in Stephenson County.

ComEd Bridge Issues

Commission members discussed the breadth of prior structure inspections by either Pecatonica Prairie Path Commission or ComEd. Winnebago County has a qualified inspector and conducts regular inspections. All structures within Winnebago County are currently safe for path use. Commissioners also discussed securing Mary Mohaupt's files as a possible source of past inspection records.

b. Publicity/Marketing:

Steve Ehlbeck plans to meet with Connie Sorn by the end of the month to develop a routine schedule for website updates.

The Forest Preserves of Winnebago County will continue to serve as the primary point of contact to process special event permits. The Village of Winnebago will

sponsor a special event race along the path on November 11th. Commissioners discussed that all events are to be contained within the 14' wide leased right of way. Commissioners reviewed the permit requirements and following discussion; Jim Gastel moved; Mike Holan seconded approval of the event permit requirements. Motion passed.

c. Maintenance Report:

Current maintenance activities have included addressing path washouts (near Blomberg and Hoisington Roads). Mowing is taking place as needed; including a volunteer in Stephenson County mowing west towards the Winnebago County line. Future maintenance items may include striping sections of the path.

7. Old Business

The Village of Pecatonica recently installed a kiosk and memorial bench in honor of Mary Mohaupt. Commission members discussed options of a suitable memorial for the PPT Commission to honor Mary Mohaupt for service to the Trail with member of the audience suggesting directing funds towards path improvements as an appropriate memorial.

8. New Business

No report

9. Adjourn / Recess

The meeting adjourned at 10:26am.