

**TOWN OF WESTPORT
PARK COMMITTEE MEETING**
Kennedy Administration Building
Community Meeting Room
5387 Mary Lake Road
Waunakee, WI 53597

MINUTES - April 7, 2010 5:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order at 5:32 p.m.

Members present: Bridge, Enge, Sipsma
Members absent: Holm, Schall

Others present: Jim Stephenson, Brad Robinson

2. Approve Minutes

The minutes of the September 2, 2010 were amended to show Brad Robinson present at the meeting and then approved as amended on a unanimous vote.

3. Public Comments On Matters Not On the Agenda

None.

4. Park/Trail Maintenance and Development Discussion/Recommendations

Jim Stephenson, Jackson Landing Project Manager, appeared to discuss the status of the site. Stephenson presented a document which is attached and incorporated to these minutes, reviewing 2009 activities and goals for 2010. Stephenson also presented a billing for his services for the second half of 2009 which was recommended for payment by the Committee. The Committee also recommended Stephenson continue as the Town's manager for the site in 2010 and that he continue to be paid commensurate with 2009.

In addition to his written report, Stephenson informed the Committee that Jeff, from Hooper Construction, had contacted him regarding additional clearing work that could be performed at the site in 2010. Stephenson will get an estimate for the work which he recommended be done on the west side of the area. Bridge reported the site is being used increasingly by visitors this Spring. Both Bridge and Stephenson stated additional signage for trails would be helpful.

The Committee, Stephenson and Robinson had an extended discussion regarding the proposal to install a pier at the site which would be paid for, partially, with money from grants. It was agreed by all that installing a pier at Jackson Landing was undesirable. By a unanimous vote, the Committee recommended no pier be installed. Reasons for its recommendation were:

a. A pier would interfere with the aesthetics of the area. The shoreline at the site is in a pristine state which would be spoiled by the installation of a pier. The sightlines across the water to additional undeveloped shoreline would also be broken by a pier.

b. A pier would not further the vision for or use of the sight which is to have it remain in an accessible but natural state that promotes indigenous flora and fauna. How a pier would be accessed from the ground was unclear and of concern.

c. The construction of a pier did not appear to have any public benefit to the site.

In other business, Enge reported he had cleared some of the Six Mile Creek water trail. He reported he would be meeting with Tim Ziegler to discuss this year's trail maintenance needs. The outdoor "kiosk" information for the Town's trails has been completed on the display boards on the shelter building at the Town Center.

The Committee agreed that refurbishing or replacement of the tennis courts remains a high priority while acknowledging this is a costly venture. The Committee requested information on the status of park funds available for this project.

Enge reported he has had inquiries on the cracks in the surface of the basketball court at Mary Lake Park.

There was a brief discussion on monitoring the trail plans and linkages for the Highlands of Bishop's Bay development. Robinson indicated a meeting is planned for later this month on the development and that this meeting would present a good opportunity for discussion.

5. Miscellaneous Business/Forthcoming Events

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Administration Building.

6. Adjournment at 6:22 p.m. by unanimous vote.

Reported by:

Kenneth R. Sipsma
Acting Secretary