

Recreational Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

10.12.2016

EOC - Courthouse

Committee Members Present: Karen Mulari, Hank Ludtke, Del Bergseth, Larry Knutson, Ben Grimsley, Dennis Hopman

Staff Present: Guy Fischer

Audience/Guest Participation Per Agenda: Tom Holmes, Blake Larson, Dave Larson, Randy Thoreson, Willis Mattison, Patrick Hollister, Matthew Davis, Brent Alcott, Mike Beacroft

- 1) Welcome and Introductions
- 2) Approval of August MM; Del motion, Hank 2nd, motion carried
- 3) Approval of October Agenda, Dennis motion, Del 2nd, motion carried
- 4) Open Forum – Patrick Hollister mentioned the upcoming Public Meeting in Frazee at the Event Center for MNDOT’s Hwy 87 Project; October 18th, from 6-8 p.m.
- 5) Dunton Locks Update: Blakely mentioned 3 trees down on cross country ski trail. Brief review of the status of various improvement projects and related costs. Staff seeking recommendation to move ahead with dog waste station at a cost of \$300. RAC members recommended project move forward. Also mentioned need to take out old stone grill by tram.
- 6) Shell Lake Block: Reviewed vision statement options: RAC recommended #4 with change to read, “Shell Lake Block is a natural destination recreation area for non-motorized trail use, primitive camping and continued seasonal hunting.” Motion to accept by Hank, 2nd by Dennis, motion passed.
 - a. SLB Recreation Recommendations:
 1. Trail types: RAC recommends Walking, Interpretive, Cross Country Skiing, Snowshoeing and Snowmobiling.

Trail Use Intensity: Design implications; Randy mentioned if an intensity level were to be chosen he would recommend medium per the need to improve trails. RAC – trail type will dictate intensity of use.

2. Camping Types: RAC – design will look at this.

3. Picnicking Amenities: Tables¹ RAC o.k. with providing tables where appropriate.
4. Seasonal Hunting: RAC Recommends – Permitted Hunting Allowed

Permanent Deer Stands: No consensus; see what Shell Lake Township recommends.

- b. Facilities/Infrastructure Recommendations
 1. Access Road Improvements: RAC recommends Limited Access Road Improvements
 2. Trail Connections from Access Road: RAC recommends that Design process will identify opportunities for discussion.
 3. Parking: RAC recommends that Design process will identify opportunities for discussion.
 4. Restrooms: RAC recommends that Design process will identify opportunities for discussion.
 5. Enclosed Structures: RAC recommends none.
- c. Natural Resource Use
 1. Balancing Resources and Management: RAC Recommends to keep things as natural as possible.
 2. Forestry: RAC Recommends using selective cutting concepts were appropriate.

Desire to have maps which will be provided as part of design process; Randy/Tom with the National Park Service had conversations with Becker County Soil and Water which will provide various maps to help with the effort. They were out at SLB and spent two hours exploring different parts of the SLB area.

- 7) County Lake Accesses: Review of Accesses and suggested maintenance improvements. Changes to table included: Big Sugar Bush - eliminate fire ring and picnic table, add dock. Height of Land - eliminate Vault toilet. Eliminate all trash cans suggested under various lake accesses unless deemed absolutely necessary. Some discussion of South Twin access and need to improve launch area. Chilton Park opportunities discussed and staff will continue to explore – possible trail from access to northern part of the property along lake – will look at once leaves are off trees. Costs provided were initial estimates that will need to be shored up and developed into individual decision packages for review/consideration. Vault toilet payback discussion vs. Satellite rental comparing costs/options. Some interest expressed by audience participant in compost toilets as a potential option where appropriate. No word back from DOT regarding help with replacing old vault toilet at Osage Rest Area. Will ask again. Ben mentioned desire to provide google links to access

¹ Include tables near campsites.

and provide more information on each access as to what is available at the access. Staff will work with IT to develop.

- 8) Mt. View Update – maintenance: explore options to work with local Mt. Bike club to provide maintenance for bike trails. Maintenance agreement with DMRA – anticipate agreement to be signed by DMRA and will bring to County Bd. for their consideration. Overview of various infrastructure improvements and trail projects with initial cost estimate provided. There is a need for development of a trail plan and an IMBA Trail Crew Workshop could help build local capacity and help develop/locate the proposed modifications of existing trails and new trail additions. Some master planning is anticipated as part of requesting GMRPTC funding for making improvements at Mt. View.
- 9) Connecting Mt. View and DMRA to the Heartland Trail – update on recent attempts to integrate design of Hwy 10 and Co., 54 intersection with trail segment that would come from Tower Rd. to intersection and then using DOT ROW go to the underpass.
- 10) Next RAC meeting in November: staff will work to set something up in third week of November – the week of the 14th.