

## Recreational Advisory Committee

### Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2018

County Board Room

4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:** Karen Mulari, Larry Knutson, Lonnie Neuner, Del Bergseth, Ben Grimsley, Dennis Hopman

**Staff Present:** Guy Fischer, Marsha Watland, Dan McLaughlin

**Audience/Guest Participation Per Agenda:** Roger Welters, Craig Anderson, Jess Roberts, Dick and Connie Kobala, Kate and Daniel Kangas

- 1) Meeting Called to order - welcome and introductions (4:00 p.m.)
- 2) Approval of August MM; motion to approve Dennis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Del – motion carried.
- 3) Approval of August Agenda; motion to approve Dennis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Del – motion carried
- 4) Open Forum: N/A
- 5) Chilton Park Recreation Survey Discussion: Review of survey results:
  - Respondents are overwhelmingly local year round residents (approx. 72%) with an additional 12% being seasonal residents and 12% being visitors.
  - Currently existing land use allows all recreational uses at Chilton Park. Some survey respondents expressed (Q5 – What recreational uses would you like to see less of at Chilton Park?) concerns about certain recreational uses namely: ATV (57%), Horseback Riding (35%), Camping (33%), Hunting (30%), Primitive Camping (25%).
  - Other concerns included: late night use of access and concerns that more use will lead to more degradation of the high biological lake and environment; some respondents expressed a desire to keep changes to a minimum or not at all.
  - Under Q6 (additional comments) many respondents had never heard of Chilton Park; many supported more multi-use trails for silent sport users, picnicking and lake access (swimming). There was a desire that motorized ATV use should be kept separate. Many respondents also expressed concerns about recreational overdevelopment – a desire to keep things the way they are; or to eliminate certain uses: ATV, camping, horses.

RAC members began discussions and commented:

- Access: explore dock or fishing pier that does not interfere with swimming off the point where it is sandy and level – bring attention to the drop off in the area (signage).
- Parking – explore both sides for parking opportunities; take a look at park lands east of 39.
- Quiet recreation
- Multi-use trails

Marsha Watland with Soil and Water/staff referenced the Management Plan to help “reinforce and enhance existing recreation use” with the plan providing management recommendations based on existing vegetation, soil type/structure, invasive species management, forest management and preservation of the Shore Impact Zone.

An initial question asked of the RAC which they in turn changed in the course of their discussion was “Given the Chilton Survey responses is there interest for enhancing recreational opportunities at Chilton Park?” Their response: “Yes – enhance what’s there”.

A suggestion was made to visit Chilton Park in the Spring to visit the park. RAC recommended tabling further discussion on Chilton Park till after the RAC can meet at Chilton Park in the Spring to take another look at the site and invite others from the community to join in the tour.

- 6) Lake Eunice Access Project – Dan provided an update. Staff was asked to determine if the proposed new site being explored would work as an access; Dan compared the existing access and the proposed site and found them similar in their utility for boat launching. An estimate for the land cost of \$200,000 was thrown out as preliminary as the County has not established a value for it yet. Grant options would be explored, but need to know land value as acquisition would constitute the majority of the grant request.
- 7) Dunton Locks: Numerous projects are being explored for Dunton Locks:
  - Spillway Conversion: recent repairs have been made to the wing walls of the spillway; DNR has recommended that the spillway be converted into a rock weir with bridge and is developing an estimate. Staff have been reviewing the work that was done for a similar project at Shell Lake to explore cost and grant funds have been explored; the watershed district has expressed its interest in the project and is willing to provide site revegetation assistance. Grants have been identified which could be applied for.
  - Septic System: staff discussed need for exploring septic system replacement at Dunton Locks.
  - Kitchen in VFW Shelter: staff discussed need to assess repair/replace/upgrading of kitchen.
  - Shelter by Tram: potential to build shelter over existing concrete slab by rock grill.
- 8) Update on Trail Connection Project (Hwy 10/Co. 54 to underpass). Due diligence underway; Letter of Intent developed for Phase III/segment 3 going from Co. 54 intersection (no. of BNSF tracks to Tower Rd. to DMRA property line; est. cost \$296,000 requiring \$59,200 dollar match (County, DL potential partners to provide match); suggestion that SMART funds might be applicable.
- 9) Other Issues: Round Lake – ATV activity; Del request for update; staff will contact Woods N Wheels to provide update. Next meeting will be in January. Some suggested that might be sufficient to meet every other month; explore 4 Tuesday of month to establish a steady meeting date – some back in forth on days of the week, but staff to reach out to members to establish best day. Meeting Adjourned 5:30 p.m.