



# COUNTY OF BECKER

## *Recreational Advisory Committee*

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### **RAC Meeting Minutes**

**August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**County Board Room**

**4:00 – 5:30 p.m.**

**Committee Members Present:** Karen Mulari, Ben Grimsley, Hank Ludtke, Larry Knutson

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

**Audience/Guest Participation Per Agenda:** Lin Peterson, Patrick Hollister, Paige Perry, Alisha Haken, Marsha Watland

1. Chair Welcome & Introductions – Mulari; Paige Perry introduced – interested in being considered for RAC.
2. June Meeting Minutes: Review/Approval – No quorum
3. Agenda: no quorum, but staff provided updates of projects/activities
4. Heartland Trail/Connecting Trails Update – Guy/Jim
  - Bonding Request: \$2M in bonding bill (DL/Frazees segment): needs legislative approval; additionally bonding requests: \$1.85M bonding for Museum, \$2 million for Itasca Spur and \$1.6M for Perham to Pelican Rapids Trail.
  - DL to Frazees Segment: Acorn Lake and Acorn Lake to Underpass: construction underway along acorn lake and will be underway soon from acorn lake to underpass.
  - Mountain Link Trail Project (Connecting Trail)
    - Phase I : Underpass to Co. Hwy 54 (2020): Project cost \$196,000 will need to be bid out which should be done soon, Estimated that the project will take 5-10 days to complete; fall construction.
    - Phase IV: Mt. View to Detroit Mountain: Work with City to request GMRPTC funding; routing study/preliminary estimate has been completed; anticipate need for preliminary design and engineering (outreach inclusion of applicable Townships) work to shore up estimate/route for connecting Mt. View to Detroit Mountain. (2021-2022).
  - Dunton Locks Trail/Fish Eye Trail (Heartland Trail segment):
    - Underpass and trail segment by Bowling Alley to Co. 22: Still discussion about which side of the road the Heartland Trail will be on after Co. Hwy 6. Co. Engineer suggested that this project for connecting the underpass and trail segment by the bowling alley to Co. 22. (2021-2022) was relevant and should be considered. Meeting was held on site (Pelican River Watershed, Parks and Rec, Soil and Water and Hwy) recently to discuss improving the trail in particular as there have been

numerous complaints about stormwater getting into the underpass and the trail segment is in tough shape. Also, the trail coming south out of the tunnel would be altered to improve the turning radius to improve line of sight. No wetland impacts anticipated per the modification. Additionally, it is being proposed that the trail connect into the eastbound shoulder of County Hwy 22.

- Heartland Trail Segment in Detroit Lakes (Co. 22): Legion Rd. to County 6 (2021): Hwy. engineer referenced a video link available on DL website that shows the proposed changes to Hwy. 22 from this segment.
- Explore Southern route of Heartland Trail towards Shoreham: Will be assessing routing options from Dunton Locks down to 22 this fall once the leaves are off the trees. 3 options: 1) Fish Eye Trail to Hwy 59 underpass then use 59 ROW So. to Co. 22 (some slope/wetland issues), 2) Dunton Locks Trail thru WE Fest Grounds running along the east side of Sally (but not close to Lake; road by golf course an option to link into?), and 3) Trail also goes thru Dunton Locks and then seeks to hew along east side of the Dunton trails adjacent or perhaps utilizing private land bringing it out to Hwy 59 (by WE Fest ) with the idea being to get around Muskrat/wetland issues and then following Hwy 59 South to Co. Hwy 22.

#### 5. Dunton Locks Update – Dan/Guy

- Dry Dock Project Status – Almost Completed as some minor tweaking needs to occur at the 1<sup>st</sup> Rock weir to improve fish passage; some increase to project cost, but there are sufficient grant funds to cover these costs (construction/materials) and staff has been in touch with DNR to discuss these added costs. Work to be performed tomorrow.
- Septic System Assessed: good for another 10-15 years.
- VFW Shelter: Will be exploring improvements to kitchen, bathrooms and shelter structure this year per CARES funding availability; preliminary rough estimate is that 25% of improvements could be eligible under CARES. (preliminary estimate of improvement costs is \$40,000). NRM will take a closer look at costs and the work to be considered.

#### 6. Cross Country Ski Trails: Lin talked about signage and kiosks installation (Frazee trails, Pickerel Hills) and cost for trail signage (Tamarac) some funding shortfalls and seeking help from Rotary. Seeking heavy equipment for digging footings at Frazee Trails – Hank to help coordinate equipment. Club interest in grooming trails at Dunton Locks for multi-use that could accommodate cross country ski enthusiasts.

#### 7. Disbursed Camping Update – Dan: Larry/Dan and Ben have/will be visiting various areas to determine their potential for providing disbursed camping sites. Most sites would be developed by water/lakes. More to report once the leaves have come off the trees.

#### 8. Wannigan Park Update – Hank Ludtke/Guy/Dan/Marsha

- Site Acquisition: Application assistance form was submitted to Lands and Trails; subsequent discussion per their review (requesting \$836,000 to purchase land) will be held tomorrow (Friday) to find out how we fared with our request.
- Archeological Survey – request for grant funding for a Phase 1 archeological survey has been resubmitted.

- Site Assessment/Base Map – sensitive areas identification needed working with IT and NPS to develop a Base map(s) which would include this overlay.
  - Master Plan (Timeline: Submit to GMRPTC by December 2020)
    - NDSU to help with the development of the Master Plan and their scope of services is under review by the NPS who will pay for their contract.
  - Survey available at [https://frazee.city.com/process.php?option=com\\_news&task=detail&id=21](https://frazee.city.com/process.php?option=com_news&task=detail&id=21); staff encouraged RAC members and others in attendance to apply.
  - Park Ownership/MOU – discussion about potential/eventual ownership of the regional Park; development of an MOU (draft) between the County and City to help frame that discussion as well as ongoing park, trail, and facility(ies) maintenance, education/activities, access/parking areas and campsites. Future Farmers of America (FFA) interested in collaborating with City/County on the educational component of the Park.
  - Draft Master Plan Sections: draft sections are due for review by mid-October.
9. Open Forum/Other Issues – explore nearby/adjacent land in vicinity of Wannigan Park to determine if it might make sense to include in the Park. Explore swapping county land for private land.
10. Adjournment