

Recreational Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 30, 2017

1st Flr. BoardRoom - Courthouse

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

Staff Present: Guy Fischer, Dan McLaughlin

Audience/Guest Participation Per Agenda: Randy Thoreson, Patrick Hollister, Clark Lee, Blakely Larson, Marsha Watland, Brian Shoenberger, Mike Neusser, Dave Larson, Mark Lindquist

- 1) Welcome and Introductions
- 2) Approval of February MM; Del motion, Hank 2nd, motion carried
- 3) Approval of May Agenda; Del motion, Dennis 2nd, motion carried
- 4) Open Forum –
 - RAC member Katherine Warren stepping down; will try to find a WE representative who could replace her. (Open Appt. – John Okeson)
 - Brian Schoenberger – support for new trails at Mt. View
 - Blakely Larson – concern about buckthorne at Dunton Locks
 - Marsha Watland – importance of management plan to address/treat invasives. Wondered if Class 5 being proposed for Mt. View trails was coming from a certified gravel pit. Types of equipment to be used for proposed new trail development at Mt. View (A. shovels, basic tools).
- 5) LAMBAT proposal for Mt. View Discussed:
 - Q. about proposal for bike trails at Mt. View (date/was this passed by Co. Bd.?) Dan to look into this. The proposal discusses building 3 miles of single track trails. Knutson noted that this had already been done. No mention of more trail development in this previous proposal.
 - Interest in adding 1.5 miles of new single track bike trail to existing bike trail system; important for local economy. Create destination for those coming to our area.
 - Concerns about conflict of use in particular with horses – Knutson – don't want to eliminate other users – can get crowded. Horses predominately use cross country ski trails, but occasionally do go on the single track bike trails. Minimize trail conflicts with horses by reducing amount of trail crossings that would occur per developing new mt. bike trails. Importance of building trail right / process considerations. Interest in talking to horse riders and get their input at next RAC meeting.

- Trash also an issue; in particular with unused bike ramps/structures that were brought into Mt. View. LAMBAT will remove ASAP.
- Concerns about invasives (Watland).
- RAC to meet at Mt. View on June 13th at 2:30 to review/walk trails to get a feel for space/conflict considerations; RAC Mtg. to be held at 4:30 that same day.

6) Shell Lake Block:

- Phase I review handout (Land Inventory, Access, Wayfinding/Signage, Improvements, Communication)
- Under Access: School land (trail/road runs through this) must be fee based in order to access property. This means that the trails/recreation opportunity must be identified such as hunter walking trails so that the activity offered is connected with fee based recreational activities that the State of MN charges for. No additional fees charged for using Shell Lake Block. Dan to search out past email/language that spells this out.
- Some discussion of Shell Lake Township annual meeting and email from Melanie Pihlaja to staff forwarding their concerns about public safety and maintenance of a campground at SLB. RAC: No interest in developing a designated campground at Shell Lake Block.
- Clark Lee – important public resource – desire for the area to be closed to camping 2 weeks prior to archery season to 2 weeks after muzzle loader season. No alcohol, ATV access, but no 4x4/truck access.
- Cleone had sent email to staff interested in getting map details about trail locations for inclusion as a potential bird viewing area.
- Site plan needed. Randy/NPS can help to develop (Thoreson)
- Invasive species inventory recommended (Watland)
- Car parking lot – bring in some class 5 – potential for 15 car spots.
- Determine if well works/test water.
- RAC recommended staff/County to move forward with SLB Phase 1; bring applicable cost items to NRM for discussion/consideration (Knutson).

7) Dunton Locks Improvements

- Existing grill at Dunton locks (by tram – made of river rock) will be retrofitted with a drop in grill insert. Cement work to be conducted on interior of grill will fill the gap in the U shape of the grill and act as a foundation for the grill insert.

8) Lake Access Improvements:

- Co website has been updated to provide drop down information on individual lake accesses including pictures. Work in process, but link provided for RAC members to review/comment.

- 9) Border to Border trail – potential use of trails/roads in Becker County being proposed. No input from Becker County – no notification of past meeting; no further meetings in the queue; status of this initiative TBD.
- 10) The meeting was adjourned at approx. 6 p.m.

DRAFT