

**Walworth County Board of Supervisors
Park Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 17, 2021
Walworth County Government Center, County Board Room 114
100 West Walworth Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin**

Chair Nancy Russell called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Roll call was conducted and the following members were present, either in person or by remote attendance: Chair Nancy Russell; Vice Chair Dan Kilkenny; Supervisor Brian Holt; and Citizen Members Merilee Holst and Mariette Nowak. A quorum was declared.

Others in Attendance:

County Staff: County Administrator Mark W. Luberda; Director-Public Works Richard Hough; Deputy Director-Asset Management (PW)/Park General Manager Matt Mortwedt; and Corporation Counsel/Director of Land Use and Resource Management (LURM) Michael Cotter.

On motion by Supervisor Holt, second by Vice Chair Kilkenny, the agenda was approved with no withdrawals.

On motion by Supervisor Holt, second by Vice Chair Kilkenny, the March 15, 2021 meeting minutes were approved.

Public comment

The following individuals appeared at the meeting, expressed their concerns, and spoke in opposition of the draining of water from the Town of Richmond into Lake Lorraine:

- Lillian Roy, President of the Property Owners Association on Whitewater Lake
- Ernest Roy, Team Leader for the Whitewater Rice Lake Management District
- Don Huntington

The following individuals expressed their concerns remotely via telephone and spoke in opposition of the draining of water from the Town of Richmond to Lake Lorraine:

- Rich Charts, Chairman of the Whitewater Lake Management District

Diane Carlson represented Richmond Township and noted the very high water levels and excess debris.

Consent Items

7a) Reports

1) Park Summary Report – May 2021

Chair Russell addressed the remaining balance in the Parks Capital Budget. She explained she would like to see those funds utilized at White River Park for an additional parking lot and needed improvements to the barn. Citizen Member Holst also commented by noting the assessment of parks by Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) found the need for additional parking at Natureland Park.

2) Park Workday Schedule Update – 2021

Chair Russell inquired about the invasive species removal event on May 8th in Natureland Park. Deputy Director-Asset Management (PW)/Park General Manager Matt Mortwedt discussed attendance and advertisement for the event. He also highlighted the events added to the schedule per the request of the committee at the previous meeting. Discussion followed.

New Business

8a) Lake Lorraine DNR Permit Update

Director-Public Works Richard Hough provided an update on the Lake Lorraine Department of Natural Resources (DNR) permit. Hough shared the various communications and information he has received since the last meeting, which is included in the packet. This process is still in the permit stage, as the permits submitted thus far have been rejected and the DNR is requesting further information from the Town of Richmond. In addition, Hough explained the likelihood of an alternative solution to the issue which may result in no impact to Walworth County. As a result, Hough recommended continual monitoring of the process but no action is required of Walworth County at this time. Discussion followed.

Reports/announcements by Chairperson- There were none.

Confirmation of next meeting: The next meeting was confirmed for Monday, July 19, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

On motion by Vice Chair Kilkenny, second by Citizen Member Holst, Chair Russell adjourned the meeting at 2:34 p.m.