

DRAFT
MARATHON COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

Date and Time of Meeting: November 1, 2022 at 10:30am Location: Room 5 at 212 River Drive, Wausau WI 54403

Park Commissioners present: Dawn Herbst, Jean Maszk, Allen Opall, Kelly Zagrzebski-(via-webex)

Park Commissioners excused: Carol Lukens, Lou Larson, Rick Seefeldt

Staff present: Jamie Polley-Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director, Andy Sims-Assistant Director-Operations, Marcus Aumann-Assistant Director-Community Services-(via-webex)

1. Call to Order – Vice-President Herbst called the Park Commission meeting to order at 10:35am. Official notice and the agenda for the meeting was posted publicly in accordance with the State statutes.

2. Public Comment – none brought forward.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the October 4, 2022 Park Commission Meeting – Motion by Maszk, second by Opall to approve the October 4, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 4-0.

4. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee

1. Marathon County Rural Bike Route Network Map – Polley explained that the purpose of the development of this map is to identify low traffic routes that connect people with places (i.e. citizens to parks, citizens to communities and parks to communities) as well as provide the Highway Department with a map of the roads that should include enhancements for bicycles at the time the road needs work. The type of bicycle facility added during construction will vary based on the road. The Infrastructure Committee has approved the map. The Highway Department will use this map when they apply for funding and be more deliberate about which roads should have an extra wide shoulder, separate trail, painted bike lanes, etc. so that they are improved for bike/pedestrians. Members discussed some preferred changes to the route from Mosinee to Big Eau Pleine Park. Questions were answered and discussion followed. **Motion** by Opall, second by Maszk to move to adopt the Marathon County Rural Bike Route Network Map. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 4-0.

5. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution:

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee - None

B. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee to Forward to the Environmental Resource Committee for its Consideration – Proposed Amendments to Chapter 19 of the Marathon County Code of Ordinances – Polley discussed the proposed changes. The first item is to add words to the sentence that reads no person shall deposit or leave any residential or commercial “*belongings or*” waste material in any waste receptacle or other area in any County park. This is to discourage people from leaving items such as food, blankets or supplies in the parks. The second item is where parts of the ordinance say “established” roads and parts of it say “paved” roads to make it all consistently say “established” roads. This comes from allowing ATV/UTV’s in the parks on all established roads because not all campground roads are paved. The third item is to make it clear that hiking and running is not allowed on groomed ski and snowshoe trails by adding the words “*groomed*” and “*snowshoe trails*” to the existing language. Under camping regulations, the wording under campsite capacity will be changed to say that no more than “*two sleeping units may occupy a campsite. Two units may consist of*” one travel trailer, pickup truck camper or motorhome “*and one tent or two tents with no camper/(the word trailer may also be added in)*” ~~shall occupy a campsite~~. The number of campers has been clear but not how many tents. **Motion** by Maszk, second by Opall to forward the proposed amendments to Chapter 19 of the Marathon County Code of Ordinances on to the Environmental Resources Committee with the changes as suggested. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 4-0.

6. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination for Consideration by Environmental Resources Committee

A. None

7. Educational Presentation/Outcome Monitoring Reports for Discussion

A. Project Update – Winterizations – Water system winterization is nearing completion, including irrigation. Campgrounds closed on 10/31. Sports Complex closed on 10/31. Boat launches have been removed for the season. Boat and Camper storage is complete. Nine Mile Updates – Ski trail restoration underway at Nine Mile. Kiosk upgrade at Nine Mile. Memorial Benches – Two memorial benches completed (Rib Falls, Marathon Park). Marathon Park Ice – Second sheet of ice at Marathon Park opened on 10/29.

8. Announcements

A. Next Meeting Date & Time, Location–Tuesday, November 29, 2022 at 10:30am, 212 River Drive, Room 5, Wausau, WI 54403.

Polley mentioned there was a timber sale bid opening where one of the sales is at Big Eau Pleine Park. This is a second sale in the park that is being managed to take out dead, dying and diseased trees. The first sale was done in the south campground last year and this one will be done in the west campground. Staff has worked with the highest bidder on a sale before and they do a good job. Polley said our maintenance specialist, Mark Ruthe, had passed away a couple days ago and it has been hard on staff.

B. Future Agenda Items – none brought forward

9. Adjourn - Motion by Herbst, second by Maszk to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 am. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 4-0.