

## Jennings County Parks and Recreation Board Meeting

Meeting minutes: January 23, 2024

Park Board Meeting: 5:30

Present:

Board Members: Avis McGovern, Samantha Wilder, Jennifer Sanders, Wayne Zamora, Kristin Wiley

Staff: Greg Martin

Guests: Francis and Mike Walker, Terri Doran

1. Guests or Guest Reports: Terri Doran asked why the meeting minutes had not been uploaded to the website prior to September, 2023. Mike Walker added that he would like to have access and read them. It was reported that minutes for 2023 would be uploaded to the website.
2. Approve Minutes - Minutes from the November meeting were approved.
3. Elections  
Wayne will remain President - Sam made a motion, Jennifer seconded, motion carries  
Avis will remain Vice President - Wayne made a motion, Sam seconded, motion carries  
Kristin will be Secretary - Wayne made a motion, Avis seconded, motion carries
4. Old Business - see directors report
  - Eco Park Update - see director's report
  - Committee Meeting Update from NLTG - properties have been acquired, Soil & Water conservation report was started  
Francis Walker asked about orange and green markers she noticed on the trail. Wayne said he could look into this, it was possibly from a house that recently sold and was surveyed.
  - Eclipse Event
  - Muscatatuck Upgrades - Wayne asked Greg to contact him this week to discuss. Greg is estimating \$350,000 to add campsites, sewer sites, and upgrade electrical. He will be looking at a Land Water Conservation Fund Grant to see if it is an option. It is a 50/50 grant.
5. New Business
  - Minutes - 2023 minutes and minutes going forward will be posted to the website.
  - Eco Park Grand Opening - there was discussion of having a grand opening around the time of the eclipse event - Mid April - further discussion needed.
  - Wayne discussed the Jennings County Community Foundation is working on collecting individual groups' wish lists, top plans to submit as part of a countywide

plan toward a planning grant (Gift Initiative). Wayne asked Greg to send out the 5 year plan to the board to review to see what we could submit to JCCF before their next meeting on Thursday, February 1.

- MTN Bike Race in October (possible)- High School Mountain Biking Race - Greg will have more details next weekend.
- Sarah Abel contacted Wayne regarding signs. Greg confirmed the signs are placed.

Greg made the following requests:

Computer \$1000  
Sewer Pump \$5000

Wayne made a motion to approve \$1000 for computer and \$5000 for sewer pump as requested. Avis seconded, motion carries.

6. Director's Report - see attached

Campground at Eco Lake has been approved by IDOH. Greg is expecting an inspection report. Greg is working through some list items for Eco Lake including a 50 amp is being changed to a 30 amp, a conduit is going to be replaced when ETC is out, discussed brush/ash removal, dirt work, trail posts have been posted. Greg discussed a possible volunteer day to clear the inside perimeter along the lake. Greg saw 3 otters. He called a regional biologist to see what the balance is between otters/fish as many people will want to fish. His next stop is to contact public access site (in charge of fisheries) regarding a possible fish inventory. Last inventory was completed in 2011. Greg shared campground maps that will be posted on website reservation system. Should be able to go live in 2 weeks to make reservations. Possible opening date - March 1 or Mid March.

Proposed 2024 campground pricing was reviewed.

Wayne made a motion to approve the 2024 new rates, Avis seconded. Motion carries.

Tourism

Demonstration Garden - Megan Ayers with Jennings County SWCD and Urban Soil Health wants to start a community garden and workshops. Greg will ask her to come to the next meeting.

Wayne made a motion to approve Megan's request for a community garden. Avis seconded, motion carries.

7. Approve claims - Wayne motioned to approve budgetary claims, Jennifer seconded. Motion carries.

- 8. Next Meeting - February 27, 2024
- 9. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 6:57.

Jennings County Parks & Recreation Board Meeting  
January 23, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Wayne Zamora	_____
Avis McGovern	_____
Samantha Wilder	_____
Kristin Wiley	_____
Jennifer Sanders	_____

