

**TOWN OF NEW GLARUS
PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 31, 2015
MINUTES**

ATTENDING: Harry Pulliam, Chris Narveson (arrived 7:42pm), Dana Emmerton, Chris Reis and Andy Elkins.

ABSENT:

ALSO ATTENDING: Steve Fabos, Indigenous Restorations

CALL TO ORDER: H. Pulliam called the meeting to order at 7:41 p.m.

AGENDA:

1. Proof of Posting: S. McCallum stated the meeting was properly posted.
2. Discuss and consider July 15, 2015 minutes:
D. Emmerton moved to approve the July 15, 2015 minutes, 2nd C. Narveson. Motion carried.
3. Public Comments: None.
4. Deputy Clerk updates and handouts: S. McCallum presented information on Facebook – 58 likes, newspaper article on Scout money awards and TPE newsletter.
4. Discuss follow-up to joint meeting with the Village of New Glarus: C. Narveson stated that there are sign-ups all over town regarding a dog park without clarification if they are from the town or village. There was discussion regarding proposed locations in the village, funding difficulty based upon Town survey results and the potential impact of a petition being distributed. In review of the proposed agenda for September 9, it was decided to remove the Update trails process and change bridge project to Backtown; Update /Discussion location, date and notification of Ice Rink; add discussion regarding plans of softball diamond relocation and leave the rest as proposed.
5. Review and consider BBRC maintenance plan and consent form: H. Pulliam asked for clarification regarding projected costs in email 7-15-15. S. Fabos said he cleared along northern edge property owner brush and trees into BBRC. He wasn't aware that the landowner was contacted in regards to this work and there may still be funds to be applied for through US Fish and Wildlife, Mike Engel has an office in Madison, McCallum will get contact information for Pulliam. They reviewed the costs; \$1,500 for brush/tree removal fall of '15 and winter '16, spray woody re-sprouts and invasive plants \$650 (this is considered the maintenance portion, this is a 3 year process and by year 4 -5 just spot pulling of invasives) in spring and summer of 2016, seeding spring 2016 \$300 and time to apply about 3 hours for \$100. There is a remnant prairie there already south and west of oaks, so there is only 2 acres that need seeding. There is an additional land owner that has a small boundary along the northwest. He said that the East boundary also has issues due to prickly ash and sumacs. D. Emmerton suggested replanting with another bush such as Elderberry to entice boundary owners to accept the removal of sumacs. Fabos suggested hazelnut. H. Pulliam totaled the amount at \$2,550 for 2016 restoration. D. Emmerton thought a workshop to identify prairie plants might be beneficial, and what time of year would this be appropriate. He felt right after a burn if there are spring flowers, middle to late

May. They asked S. Fabos if he would be interested in presenting the information, he thought he could. A. Elkins asked if Fabos had a recommendation for trees to order for their annual tree sales. Ecologically he would recommend a Burr Oak. H. Pulliam suggested to invite, with a special invitation, to all the landowners bordering the park to the October meeting and inform them of our plans, this would be in lieu of a fall workshop. There was agreement to this schedule and Fabos agreed to be present for an October 28th meeting date. D. Emmerton suggested an RSVP is in order which would allow for a confirmation of attendance for Fabos. C. Narveson suggested this is also a recruitment opportunity.

The commission reviewed two different draft property consent agreements and directed McCallum to change as discussed creating a generic form for all BBRC boundary work.

6. Discussion / recommendation regarding impact fees: The members reviewed opinion from Town Attorney and engineer, that the funds have to be expended within 10 years of collection.

a. Discuss and consider mower purchase model: H. Pulliam did additional research on trail mowers that were presented at a previous meeting. He spoke with a Kunz distributor in Stevens Point and they are manufactured in Illinois. He felt the DR line is too expensive and the Swisher has a tongue reliability issue. The Kunz distributor also said they don't recommend a lawn tractor but something larger such as an ATV. All agreed the Kunz manufacturer is the best choice. C. Narveson suggested speaking with the Patrolman regarding using the equipment for his mowing as well, he will speak to him. The commission will review this at their November meeting for continued discussion.

7. Discuss trail location and land prices: Listen.

8. Adjourn: Set agenda and meeting date. Joint September 9, 7pm Town Hall. Regular Commission meeting following to include Budget and draft invitation to landowners. October agenda, tree orders.

D. Emmerton moved to adjourn at 9:53 pm, 2nd by A. Elkins. Motion carried.