



WOOD COUNTY, WISCONSIN

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Approved Minutes for SPARKS Committee –July 19, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chair Rhonda Carrell.

A quorum was declared.

Chair Carrell went into a 15 minute recess.

Meeting resumed at 6:15 pm.

There was no public comment during the meeting.

Minutes for the May 16, June 9, and June 20, 2022 meetings were approved with corrections. Leichtnam moved and Snyder second. Motion passed unanimously.

Fred Heider from North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission gave a short presentation to kick off our Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. After a brief overview of the process to create a recreation plan, there was discussion over the survey questions which will soon go out to the community. We decided as a committee that it is beneficial to both the Town of Saratoga and to Historic Point Basse if we include them in the survey. The outdoor living museum is in need of more volunteers and funding to avoid closing their doors. It would be a shame to see this historic piece of property which is important to the local paper industry, our town, and our county go to waste. Including Historic Point Basse in the Saratoga Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan will potentially open up the non-profit group to more funding opportunities through grants, and it will cost the town little other than our time and support.

A meeting time was set to have Fred Heider return to the SPARKS committee when the survey results were completed and compiled. The September meeting has been rescheduled from September 19 to September 26, 2022 at 6:00 pm. This meeting will focus on reviewing the results of the survey and brainstorming our goals and objectives. Historic Point Basse was invited to join us for this meeting.

Representatives from Historic Point Basse thanked us for our help. They informed SPARKS that they took our advice and applied for the Wood County CEED Grant too. Questions were raised about a possible land swap that may have been made when Blue Water Landing was installed. Historic Point Basse was directed to reach out to Gordy Wipperfurth. Historic Point Basse will

try to attend all of our meetings going forward and will keep us updated on their progress and needs.

The town resident wishing to speak to us in regards to the Nepco Lake Public Access parcel was absent. We will continue to place this on future agendas.

Kretschmer presented the quote she received from Schalow's Nursery for the design of the Nepco Lake Public Access parcel. After review and discussion, Leichtnam made a motion to send a recommendation to the town board to hire Schalow's Nursery as the design consulting firm for the Nepco Lake Public Access on South Shore Drive. Snyder Second. Motion passed unanimously.

Carrell presented the Wood County Planning and Zoning Application for permits and discussion followed. Parking lot size was examined. Leichtnam will take and submit the application to the Wood County Planning and Zoning Department. During discussion, Kretschmer moved to recommend to the Town Board to designate the Nepco Lake Public Access property on South Shore Drive as "Turtle Bay Public Access." Snyder second. Motion passed unanimously.

Leichtnam informed that the Wood County CEED Committee doesn't have a date or time yet for public review of the Economic Development Grants. However, it will be soon and we need to be prepared to present our request to the committee. Kretschmer will design and prepare a picture booklet for each CEED committee member, and if her schedule allows she will plan to be at this meeting when requests are being reviewed.

Next meeting will be August 15, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.