

**EAU CLAIRE COUNTY
LAND STEWARDSHIP SUB-COMMITTEE**

**MEETING MINUTES - WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2016
AGRICULTURAL & RESOURCE CENTER – ALTOONA, WI**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Stelljes, Doug Burrows, Bruce Willett, Dave Carlson, Monica Lewis, Rick Koziel
MEMBERS EXCUSED: Randy Tews
STAFF PRESENT: Kelly Jacobs (P&D - Land Conservation Division) & Josh Pedersen (Parks & Forest)
OTHERS PRESENT: Public

1. Call to Order

Kevin Stelljes called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm.

2. Approve Minutes

Motion by Burrows to approve the minutes from May 18, 2016. Second by Carlson. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. Land Stewardship Subcommittee Membership Nomination

Nominations of member to replace Tews. Two individuals were considered and both had at least a couple strengths that could benefit the Land Stewardship Subcommittee. Motion by Lewis to nominate Dave Dresel for Randy Tews' seat and invite Mahlon Peterson to be an alternate if one was needed in the future. All in favor. Motion carried

4. Land Acquisitions Proposals for Consideration

JF property:

The subcommittee reviewed the current owner's purchase last fall of \$111,000 as related to the current asking price of \$150,000 and appraised price of \$184,825. Is the group interested in pursuing this? Nice piece to have for County Forest Management and the Lake Eau Claire Association would likely support it due to Eau Claire River bank stabilization needs and accessibility; however, does it financially pencil out? Possibly. Need to meet face to face with current owner to discuss offer with contingencies and State Stewardship options. Possibility to do it by the end of the year.

Lewis made the motion to authorize Stelljes to approach him with the standard terms and conditions and a contingent offer of \$125,000 with authorization to offer negotiations of up to \$135,000 without additional approvals from the Stewardship Subcommittee. Discussion included the possibility of Kevin discussing fundraising event options with him too. Hoping to close by end of 2016 or as soon as we can. County Board approval would also be contingent upon DNR grant. All in favor. Motion carried.

5. Finalize the White Paper on Long Term Land Stewardship in Eau Claire County

Round 1 review to: Lance Gurney, Kathryn Schauf, Gregg Moore, Gary Gibson, Robin Leary, Steve Chilson, Pat LaValle, Jon Johnson, Land Stewardship Subcommittee members.

Round 2 review to: Chris Straight, Home Builders, Sierra Club, Beaver Creek Reserve.

6. Cooperative Agreement for Fitz Property

Doug met with Bob from the Trust on May 23rd to discuss and he thought it sounded like a great idea. He will be talking to his Board tomorrow and will get back to Doug. Then they would formalize and put something together. They want to publicize accessibility. Fitz property was back on Parks agenda in January for the cooperative agreement. They are still working at getting the house out of there (more than just picking it up as it also is complicated by the driveway not being wide enough).

County Department on Parks & Forests probably won't publish a new County Outdoor Recreation Map for a while, but when they do it could be included as a Non- County parcel that is open to public. Develop a partnership program to recognize County Steward Partner?

7. Review fundraising opportunities

Donation came in the form of a “transfer on death” agreement. Option to hold a picnic or event at a proposed property (like the JF property)? Stelljes is also following up on the RS property. Lewis and Stelljes talked to the potential buyer of the RS property about the concept of an easement there.

8. Set Next Meeting Date

Next meeting scheduled for July 13, 2016 at Noon.

9. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Lewis. Second by Carlson. Meeting adjourned at 1:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Jacobs
Subcommittee Clerk