

1000 ISLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER BUILDING & GROUNDS SUB-COMMITTEE

City of Kaukauna
Nature Center Building
1000 Beaulieu Court, Kaukauna



Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 4:00 PM

MINUTES

In-Person

1. Call to Order

Chair Hietpas called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Members Present: Hietpas, Breitzman, Carlson (left at 4:40), Pautz

Also Present: Nowak, Garrity

2. Reading and Approval Minutes

- a. 1000 Islands Building & Grounds Sub-Committee Minutes of November 16, 2022
Carlson moved to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the November 16, 2022 Building & Grounds Sub-Committee Meeting. Seconded by Breitzman. Motion carried.

3. Old Business

a. Nature Center Siding Project

There was discussion on the need to replace the siding on the nature center building. Nowak informed the group that funding through the capital improvement plan was pushed back to 2024. Nowak and Garrity met with Street Superintendent Van Gompel and Foreman Nelson regarding the project. They feel that the street crew would be able to install the siding during slower times over the winter months. This would drastically reduce the overall cost of the project. Nowak will inquire with Finance Director Van Rossum to verify if any of the labor costs would be deducted from our budget. Nowak will start to get some ideas of material costs and evaluate possibilities to fund the project without capital improvement funds.

b. Boardwalk Replacement Plans

Garrity and Nowak gave a review of the boardwalk replacement project. \$200,000 was allocated as part of the American Rescue Plan Act Funds for boardwalk replacement. This amount is likely not enough to hire someone to complete the project. In order to move forward, Nowak would like to have someone take a look at the project to give a better idea of total cost so that additional funding sources can be secured before going to Council for approval or starting the bidding process. Pautz has a contact that she will check with for help on getting a rough estimate on the project. Hietpas inquired what we plan on doing with the old boards. That will be determined once we know what the removal process will be for the old boardwalk. Repurposing as much as we can and reducing the volume that goes to the landfill is the goal.

4. New Business

a. Discuss use of old goat browsing area

Nowak gave overview of the plans for the original goat browsing area. This will include an off-trail exploration area for kids as well as a tree planting area. Pautz asked about the anticipated time frame. Nowak is hoping to have a conceptual design completed over the summer. Garrity continues to cut new buckthorn growth in the area and will start planting trees as time allows. He would like to move some of the deer exclusion fencing from the Upper Woods to protect the new plantings in this area from deer.

5. Other Sub-Committee Items

Hietpas continues to have concerns about the natural trail section between the boardwalk, past the overlook to the gravel trail. The desire is to have a professional look at the area and give suggestions.

Pautz inquired about off-trail hammock use. Nowak explained that 1000 Islands policies do not restrict hammock use, but visitors are expected to stay on the trails when using hammocks.

Pautz inquired about the need to better sign and name the different trail sections on the property. Garrity explained the progress he has already made in the Upper Woods. Nowak mentioned the plan to install emergency location markers on all of the trail sections as part of the 5 year strategic plan.

There was discussion about Island #3 and hopes to make some improvements to it. Nowak mentioned that this is also on the 5 year plan and will include the island in the annual property tour this fall.

6. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Pautz moved to adjourn. Breitzman seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:14 PM.

NOTICES

THIS MEETING IS ACCESSIBLE TO THE HANDICAPPED. IF REQUESTED THREE (3) DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING, A SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AT NO CHARGE.

1000 Islands Environmental Center Mission Statement: To provide children, adults and families the knowledge and skills needed to build a sustainable balance among the environment, economy and community through education, conservation and recreation.