

TOWN OF NEW GLARUS
SPECIAL PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 26, 2024
6:00 PM

Attending: Harry Pulliam, Mark Pernitz, Rose Pertzborn, Kelly Ruschman, Chris Narveson

Absent: Jason Neton, Mona Sue French

Also attending: Nancy Streiff, Town Deputy Treasurer

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Chair Pulliam at 6:03 pm.
2. **Proof of Posting** – Streiff attested to proof of posting.
3. **Public Comments** – None
4. **Discuss and Consider User of Funds from DNR Grant for Trails within Park.**

Narveson reported having a phone conversation with Cheryl Housley of the DNR advising her of our difficulties in obtaining the necessary easements for the proposed multi use trail along STH 39. Their discussion evolved to the possibility of shifting the \$45,000 grant funds to develop a hike/bike or cross country ski trail within the park property. Housley requested several documents be provided in early July to consider this change in proposed scope.

A discussion took place about possible trails within the park. A cross country ski trail is not practical because of unpredictable snowfall and the equipment needed to groom trails. Alternative ski trails are already available in Madison and Middleton with snow making equipment.

Pernitz suggested a bike/hike trail running generally north south from the northern portion of the park to the southern limits. It would follow paths previously identified in the Vierbicher Concept Plan #3. A mixture of blacktop and crushed limestone would be used. This section of trail would constitute one segment of a future trail system linking Durst Road to the Town Park on the north and the Town Park to Legler Valley Road on the south. This is consistent with the original plan of the multi-use trail on CTH NN being linked to a trail along CTH N and CTH H for which the grant was awarded.

At the trails focus group meeting held during the planning phase of the park, Dennis Haak, the New Glarus high school cross country coach, expressed an interest in using the Town park trails for cross country practice and possibly home meets. Pernitz contacted Haak and he is very interested in pursuing this idea.

Grass trails could connect to the north south bike/hike trail segment to create the necessary loops for a cross country running course. Pernitz and Narveson will meet with Haak at the Town park to explore this idea.

One requirement of transferring the grant funds to a new site is an intergovernmental cooperation agreement, such as with the School or Village, for maintenance, etc. An option would be if the cross country team members agreed to devote some of their volunteer requirement time to maintaining the park trails. This is similar to the agreement we had with the Boy Scouts to help maintain the proposed trail along CTH NN.

Motion: Pernitz moved that we proceed to develop plans to satisfy the DNR requirements to transfer the \$45,000 grant from the HWY 39 to Durst Road trail to developing Town park trails. Rose seconded the motion. Motion passed.

5. **Adjourn** – Motion to adjourn by Pernitz, second by Pertzborn, motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm.

Approved: July 18, 2024

Minutes prepared by Streiff, Deputy Treasurer