

Boone County Conservation Board special meeting
Thursday, December 5, 2024
Boone County Courthouse, 2nd floor boardroom

Members present: Randy Johnson, Jennifer Schieltz, Gary Nystrom, Pat Hagan
Members absent: Marilyn Jordan
Employees present: Chris Call, Cooper Sanor

Acting Chair Hagan officially called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

Nystrom made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Johnson. Motion passed.

Nystrom motioned to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Johnson. Passed.

Old Business:

The board continued discussion from last meeting of possibly allowing the Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club to groom a section of the High Trestle Trail from Madrid to Slater in the winter for snowmobile use. After checking into the proposal and researching several of the components, member Nystrom made a motion to deny the proposal for snowmobile use of the trail. Seconded by Johnson. Our insurance is through ICAP, who insures the county and other government agencies. Member Nystrom reports that we would have to go through a process to ask for insurance coverage for snowmobiles and if approved it would likely increase our cost very significantly. Currently no other counties have insurance coverage for snowmobiles. The county attorney recommends that we do not proceed without insurance and that we make sure there are signs along the trail saying “no snowmobiles”. Member Nystrom reports that our county attorney does not feel that current laws related to snowmobiles are enough to protect us. Board members also noted concern over snowmobiles and pedestrians on the same path, high rates of speed, and impacts on wildlife. Motion carried. Snowmobiles will not be allowed on the trail at this time.

New Business: None

Other Board Discussion: There will be a ribbon-cutting on December 12 at 10am at Swede Pointe Park for Phase 2 of the High Trestle trail to Swede Pointe bike trail. Those who have donated to this project have been invited and it is open to the public. The board noted topics to be added to the agenda for our regular December meeting (Dec 17), including reviewing user fees for next year and golf course management. Our new executive director starts on January 2.

Schieltz moved to adjourn, Nystrom seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:38 pm.

Pat Hagan, Acting Chair

Jennifer Schieltz, Secretary

Action Items

- Gary meet with possible engineer for clubhouse design plans
- Staff: order new signs for our parks; find out what needs to be done for the \$5,000 grant received for this project
- Staff: look at our current user fees (for golf, camping, cabin rentals, etc.) and propose any suggested rate increases for 2025 at our next meeting