

MINUTES
STATE PRESERVES ADVISORY BOARD
Wallace State Office Building
January 9, 2009

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ed Tormey, Acting Interim Deputy Director

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT BY TELECONFERENCE

Cindy Peterson, Chair
Stephen Dinsmore
Armando Rosales
Deb Lewis
Gail Brown

STAFF PRESENT

John Pearson
Daryl Howell
Lisa Nissen

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Cindy Peterson called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM on January 9, 2009 at the Wallace State Office Building.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Deb Lewis to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Stephen Dinsmore. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No changes were made to the October 3, 2008 minutes and were unanimously approved.

WILLIAMS PRAIRIE STATE PRESERVE

Harry Graves (teleconference) and Jennifer Filipiak (present) from the Nature Conservancy presented the following:

The Iowa Chapter of The Nature Conservancy is currently the owner and manager of the 21 acre preserve in Johnson County. The Iowa Chapter requests approval from the Preserves Advisory Board to proceed with a "trial" 3-year management agreement that will transfer management followed by ownership to the Johnson County Conservation Board if management requirements were met.

The management plan used by the Nature Conservancy will remain the same when transferred.

Motion was made by Armando Rosales to approve the management transfer with the provision that the Board would re-visit and review all reports and management plan in 3 years. Seconded by Gail Brown. Motion carried unanimously.

STARR'S CAVE STATE PRESERVE

This is a 184-acre preserve owned by the DNR and managed by the Des Moines County Conservation Board (DMCCB). In October 2007, the DMCCB asked the SPAB to allow the construction of a bicycle trail through Starr's Cave. At the April 2008 meeting, a motion was made and carried to deny the trail through Starr's Cave as proposed. This decision was made after fully evaluating the purpose of the preserve as well as maintaining its quality and integrity.

The DMCCB has since then met with Director Leopold regarding their trail proposal. The Director is currently re-evaluating the issue and will inform the DMCCB as soon as possible.

John Pearson asked for further clarification of the Board's decision in recommending denial of the bicycle trail through the preserve is requested. Components in question are:

1) Denial of bicycle use.

The Board members original intent was to deny any new bicycle use in the preserve.

2) Denial of repair, rehabilitation and relocation of substandard segments in existing pedestrian network.

The Preserve Board does not disapprove of repair and rehabilitation to existing trail segments.

3) Denial of pedestrian trail extension through the west boundary.

The Preserve Board agrees that this issue was brought up at the very end of the October 2007 meeting with the understanding that the Board would be re-visited at a later time.

Motion was made by Gail Brown to confirm that the board's decision was to deny the use of bicycles but we do approve of the repair, rehabilitation and relocation of existing segments in the pedestrian trails and to postpone the pedestrian trail extension through the west boundary until a proposal is presented. Seconded by Deb Lewis. Motion carried unanimously.

NEXT MEETINGS

April 9th – Tour near Honey Creek Resort

April 10th - Meeting at Honey Creek Resort State Park

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Armando Rosales to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Gail Brown. Motion carried.

With no further business to come before the State Preserves Advisory Board, Chairperson Cindy Peterson adjourned the meeting at 1:30 AM on January 9, 2009.

A
Adjournment, 3
Approval of agenda, 1
Approval of Minutes, 1

B
Board Members Present, 1

C
call to order, 1

N
Next Meeting, 3

S
staff present, 1
Starr's Cave State Preserve, 2

W
Williams Prairie State Preserve, 1