WHITEWATER PARK STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
May 20, 2019
8:00 AM
Stoughton City Hall – Hall of Fame Room

Present Members: Regina Hirsch, Brandon Holstein, Carl Chenoweth, and Parks & Recreation Director Dan Glynn
Guests: Eric Olsen, Mayor Tim Swadley, Paul Woodward, Ryan Wicks (phone), Mark Petrovich (phone)

1. Call to Order
Meeting called to order at 8:17 am.

2. Approval of the April 15, 2019 Minutes
Motion by Chenoweth and second by Holstein to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Communications
Chenoweth covered the County's plan for phasing to improve flow through the Yahara River system. He explained that flow wouldn't improve until the third year under the current plan.

New Business

4. Sediment Sampling & Bathymetric Survey Update
Glynn shared that the sediment sampling and bathymetric survey will take approximately 6-8 weeks to complete. Interfluve would be doing the survey this coming week.

5. Mandt Park Master Plan Update
Glynn shared that the City selected MSA to do the master plan. He will need to go to the Finance Committee and City Council for approvals.

6. Janesville Dam Removal
Paul Woodward share the history of the Janesville Monterey Dam removal. The City of Janesville was faced with the decision to repair or remove the dam. It was more cost effective to remove the dam than to repair it. Woodward emphasized the ongoing costs of repairing the dam versus the one time cost to remove it. The City of Janesville created a citizen committee to make a recommendation. The committee recommended to the Janesville City Council to remove it. There was some opposition to remove the dam. These were from people who had emotional attachment to it. Their river restoration efforts included angler access points, large boulders for fish habitat, and fishing has improved. They held two community engagement forums prior to removal. He recommended if the City of Stoughton moves forward with the project to acquire permits prior to bidding.

7. Manchester, IA Dam Removal & Whitewater Park
Ryan Wicks shared the history of the Manchester, IA dam removal and creation of their whitewater park. The project started from a community group that examined how to improve population retention and growth. The group found that they needed to improve the quality of life in the community. This led to them having a feasibility study done by Recreation Engineering and Planning. They hosted multiple public meetings during the process which had good attendance. They encountered opposition for historical preservation and fishing groups. Wicks shared that the dam removal and whitewater improvements improved fish migration which the Iowa DNR tracked. The whitewater park had a HEC-RAS (hydraulic) model done before construction and it the upstream water levels are consistent after construction to the model. It took 5 years from concept to reality.

8. West Bend Dam Removal & Riverside Park
Mark Petrovich shared the history of the dam removal in West Bend which created Riverside Park. Their communication efforts at the time centered around creating a community park and improving the ecology of the Milwaukee River. There was some opposition from adjoining landowners which worried about aesthetics. The City of West Bend did extensive research to

understand who owned the land under the water. Once they found out who owned the land, they documented the shoreline with dam in with surveys.

9. Future Agenda Items
- Mandt Park Master Plan
- Sediment Sampling Update
- Phase II of Whitewater Park Engineering

Adjournment
Motion made by Chenoweth and seconded by Hirsch at 10:08 am. Motion carried unanimously.