



## Berthusen Advisory Committee Minutes October 25, 2022

### 1. ROLL CALL:

**Members Present:** Harlan Kredit, Dave Timmer, Larry McPhail, Joel Vander Hoek, and Karen Steensma -Virtually  
**City Staff Present:** Parks Director Brent DeRuyter, and Park Administrative Asst. Nancy Norris  
**Guest:** Tim VanBeek

### 2. ACTION ITEMS:

#### A. **Reading and Approval of May 18, 2022, Minutes**

The minutes of May 18, 2022, were approved as presented.

#### B. **Information and Sign-Up for Trail Project- Tim VanBeek (guest)**

Tim VanBeek with WTA and Backcountry Horsemen are hosting another trail project out at Berthusen Park on Saturday November 5, and Sunday November 6, 2022. Mr. Van Beek encouraged BAC members to volunteer and encouraged friends and family to participate in this trail project. Mr. Van Beek shared with BAC the trail location project and how it will be built. Mr. Van Beek also shared the idea of building an ADA trail loop on the northern trails of the old growth forest.

### 3. INFORMATION ITEMS:

#### A. **Sign Update-** Still in production, but meet in November and help install?

Jim Sutterfield with Signs Plus had sent an email stating the sign is still in production they hope to have it completed and ready for installation in November. Brent will email BAC members of the installation date.

#### B. **Continuing to work on Noxious Weeds/Ivy**

Harlan asked Nancy if she could identify any noxious weeds and ivy patches for a coordinated student spring clean-up project.

#### C. **Trail Signs-** Updates have been made and Trail Signs repaired.

Harlan asked if the city could recognize the Eagle Scout who updated the "You are Here" Signs and added the smaller directional "you are here" signs. Eagle Scout was Porter Wilhite and Jeffery Propersi, project assistance Gracie Lamb and Frank Propersi.

#### D. **Berthusen House Roof Project-** FYI Complete and painted

#### E. **Briefing on Tractor Show**

Larry Reported the Tractor Show was a huge success. The Club celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Show this year. It was the largest show by far that they have ever had. The kid's candy hay digs in the years past had an average of 100 kids per day, this year the number of



## PARKS DEPARTMENT

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kids was around 400 each day. The show has really become a popular show for the whole family.

### F. **Safety in the Park-** Updates and Gate possibility

Nancy reported that between April-Sept. authorities were called for after hour incidents, 3 abandon vehicles, 1 unresponsive person drug overdose. There were 3 incidents that required Nancy's assistance, 1 group of teenager assault issues where parents were called by LE, and 2 medic responses for medical emergencies. Twice LE were called by park users upset with other park users' activities. Nancy reiterated to BAC that 90-95% of people visit the park are there to enjoy it, and the ones who are there for other reasons try to hide and keep a low profile.

Park Gate: BAC would like to see the entrance have a wider apron and then after the gate 5ft gravel or black top pull outs on each side of the road where cars can get past each other easier and not bottleneck the entrance/exit.

### G. **Rental Number/Usage-** Back to 2019 levels!

### H. **NSEA projects in and around the park**

Harlan noted that he spoke with Darrell Gray about the huge patches of Policemen's Helmet and the continued effort to control the Japanese Knotweed. Karen shared how Japanese Knotweed is a worldwide problem and a renowned professor of the noxious weed spoke at her school about how they are trying to combat this weed.

### I. **2023 Budget Items-** Open shelter roof repair, 2<sup>nd</sup> bathroom upgrades, etc.

## 4. **ITEMS ADDED:**

- A. Larry brought Hans Berthusen's Ax that was found when the tractor club was stabilizing the barn, the Ax and story will be displayed in a shadow box inside the entrance of the Barn

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:38pm.**

**NEXT MEETING DATE**  
**January 18, 2023**