

Heritage & Outdoor Recreation Commission

September 25, 2019
Lemont Village Hall
418 Main St. Lemont, IL 60439

Minutes

1. Call to Order 6:30 pm
Verify Quorum - Attendance:

Jeff Rath, Dan Ganzer, Gregg Vavra, Ryan Shaughnessy, Dennis Voltarel, Jim Helbling, Dave Maher

Jeff motion to approve the minutes, second by Dan- motion carried, minutes approved

2. **Chairman comments:**
 1. Trail closed now from gazebo to first foot bridge while clearing is taking place for
 2. The Forge. Bridge should be open in 2-3 weeks again.
 3. Mark Pawlak has gone to the Planning/Zoning board, now there's a vacancy.
 4. Congressman Lipinski will be in Lemont on October 13th, 2019 at 1:00pm.
He is doing a ride from Willow Springs Rd to Centennial Trail-sent out to all cycling clubs in Illinois.
3. **Action Item (General Discussion)**
 1. Eagle Scout project proposal from Bryan Janusz for fish wire.
Decided that working with public works is the best option, and will have final say location, signage and configuration. Jeff will be the contact with the board and Jim from public works.
 2. Citgo grant email was read-grant is closed. There is a fund for maintenance project, possibly over in the future, for bank/buckthorn clean up.
Much discussion and also how much The Forge could possibly be involved.
Jim will get a few quotes for bank cleanup from Pollyanna to KA Steel.
4. **Unfinished Business**
 1. No Boat launch up date, but part of the bridge detailed engineering will include parking lot, bridge and boat launch.
 2. Drone footage- no update but the village is currently in the middle of having the website updated.
5. **New Business**

1. Dennis brought up and much discussion on various websites that post activities in the area and some locations even have bikes that are installed along the trails. It seems Lemont was excluded and we should look into it-bridge may have been the reason for this was also brought up. Reference made to Facebook I & M Canal National Heritage Area group.
2. Ryan discussed that residents ask him about traffic concerns for The Forge and K/A Steel access. Was talked about that traffic would be more consistent due to scheduled time slots vs. influx in AM or PM.
3. Group had long discussion on bike racks and their future locations with consideration of where traffic flow will exit- hopefully downtown.
4. Gregg brought up wildlife should be promoted, not sure how. Group talked about ideas and that this is also a long term discussion. Dan referenced a bird watchers article and the reference that there is less birds to watch- we should promote we have a lot of birds here.
5. Dave asked that a clean-up day be added to the agenda for the next meeting along with a discussion.

6. Audience Participation - none

Motion to adjourn - Dennis seconded by Jeff Rath. Motion carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM