

Minutes
Hazard Mitigation/ River Use Commission
Waverly Civic Center
7:00 pm, January 15, 2013

Attendance

Commissioners: Triplitt –Present Nielsen –Absent Engel –Absent Jacks –Present Turnball –Present Schloemer –Present Neuendorf –Present	Staff: C.E. Cherry –Present C.A. Jones –Absent	Guests: Steve Main Kip Ladage Fred Waldstein Marv Ott Chuck Kromer
	Liaison: C.C. Lieb –Present Mayor Brunkhorst –Absent	

Approve Agenda

Motioned - Turnball, seconded - Jacks, passed 5-0

Approve Minutes:

Motioned - Schloemer, seconded - Neuendorf, passed 5-0

Questions/ Comments

- Three individuals attended (Waldstein, Ott, and Kromer) to share their opinions on the new water level to be maintained on the river during the summer. The individuals live on Cedar River Drive and have noticed the effects the river level has had on their properties over many years. They all support recreation on the river and recognize the river as a positive resource. Their concern is for smart recreation and potentially enforcing a “no wake zone” along that stretch of river, from Greenview Park going north. Their concern is regarding the speed of jet skis and boats going up and down that stretch and the erosion that is caused from the wake. The speeds also could be dangerous for other river users as that stretch of river is also very popular for kayaking, fishing, and families spending time at a sandbar. Waverly did submit a request to the DNR to allow the pool level to be maintained at 905.8’, about 4” higher than previous. The City would like the new permit to reflect the capabilities of the new dam. The DNR sent letters to landowners along the river that could be affected by this new level. These individuals did share their opinions with DNR, as requested in the letter. The level of the old dam was 904’, 905’ with boards on the dam. The normal pool level with the boards on the old dam was about 905.4’ with the water flowing over the boards. Cherry will speak with the DNR about a “no wake zone” and whose jurisdiction that would fall under.

Unfinished Business

- **Winter “Snow Fest” Discussions and Plans** – Plans are ready for the Snow Fest and a poster was shared with the group. The big concern now is how cold it is supposed to get and the lack of snow. Some events will not be affected by the lack of snow but others may have to be cancelled.

New Business

- **Switch to Quarterly meetings** – The commission is required to meet at least four times per year. The group would like to plan on meeting quarterly unless there is a need for additional meetings. Schloemer motioned to meet quarterly, Neuendorf seconded, passed 5-0. Discussion was held about the upcoming review of Waverly’s Hazard Mitigation plan in 2014. Ladage said the county and other communities have updated their plan in the last year. The state is no longer funding individual plans as they would like to see more multi-jurisdictional plans. Ladage wondered if Waverly could review and modify the current plan and tag it as an attachment to the county plan and then update everything in five years when that plan is due for review. Cherry stated this is something Jones will have to be involved with the decision making on.

Turnball moved to proceed with requesting a review of the current plan to Jones, Triplitt seconded and it was passed 5-0. If this group is involved with the review, additional meetings will be necessary.

- **Electing new chairs** – Triplitt motioned for new positions and Turnball seconded. The new positions were passed 5-0.
 - Chairperson – Schloemer
 - Vice-Chairperson – Turnball
 - Secretary – Jacks

Tabled Items – None

Project Status Report

- **Water Trail and Signage** – Jacks updated the commission on the most recent Water Trail Steering Committee meeting. It still sounds like it could be 3-5 years before project completion and state designation. Cherry stated INRCOG updated their maps with the Waverly access points. The city is ready to purchase signs as soon as the DNR would approve the prepared sign inventory. Ladage stated he would contact the DNR and try to speed up the process from an Emergency Management perspective. The next meeting is January 31st.
- **Dry Run Creek Improvements** – The third public input meeting was held. During the January 28th study session, Cherry reported the council will be asked to proceed forward with the project. State Flood Mitigation funding will become available in March and Waverly would like to have an application ready to ask for 50% funding of eligible costs.
- **AmVets Riverbank Restoration Project** – Cherry reported plans are done and the city is ready to hold a public input meeting. Bid letting will take place in February. Construction is set for April and May. The grant from the DNR provided \$61K for this project.

Subcommittees

- **River Use** – No report
- **Planning and Zoning** – No report
- **Soil and Water Conservation District** – No report
- **Community Action Plan** – No report

Group Discussion

- Ladage shared that 23 people joined to kayak at Brookwood Park on New Year's Day. It was the 21st year he had paddled on January 1st.
- Main stated he attended the Upper Cedar River Management Authority meeting in December. At that point the funding was not approved. There is another meeting on February 26th for more funding discussion. Main also attended the Cedar River Watershed Coalition meeting in December. He stated the next meeting would include flood modeling from the Iowa Flood Center.
- Lieb shared an email from Jones about setting up a work session to generate common ground between commissions. This could help commissions work together and move forward with research, current and future projects.
- Cherry stated that Stanley has created a map of the flood plain reflecting the new dam. A Letter of Map Revision will be submitted to FEMA to review and approve. The council will review this at their January 21st meeting.

- An email was sent to the commission requesting our goals for the year. These will be shared at a study session on January 28th.
 - Goals:
 - Follow through and completion of submitting a Letter of Map Revision to FEMA
 - Review of the Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - Progressing with the Water Trail – signage
 - Dry Run Creek Improvements
 - Recognize 5 year anniversary of 2008 flood & 20 year anniversary of 1993 flood
 - Completed Projects:
 - Two river clean-up events
 - Snow Fest planned
 - Community Action Plan review and Tabletop exercise

Adjournment: Motioned – Turnball, seconded - Triplitt, passed 5-0