

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR EDA MEETING HELD MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2008 –
6:00 P.M. – ROCKVILLE CITY HALL.**

The meeting was called to order by President Vern Salzl. Roll Call was taken and the following members were found to be present: President Salzl, Bill Becker, Ed Karls, Duane Willenbring, Heidi Peper, & Rena Weber. Absent: None. *(It should be noted that Jim Pflapsen is no longer a resident of the city due to the detachment order).*

MINUTES OF 10/13/08 – *Motion by Member Willenbring, second by Member Karls, to approve the minutes of 10/13/08 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT – Heidi Peper reported on the following:
SIHOVEL READY APPLICATION – Heidi had presented a copy of the draft application for review. A copy was presented to Bill Molitor for his use.

GREEN JOBS – Heidi reported on the recent recognition of Anderson Trucking Company and their expansion to include the wind turbine hauling equipment. This seems to be a big item that the EDA should keep in mind and focus on for future development. The Governor is focusing on incentives for green projects and this is being worked on.

BUSINESS SUBSIDY CRITERIA REVIEW – Heidi presented the current copy for review and discussion. Rena reported that the present criteria does not allow for retention of business and asked if members wished to consider and amend the form. Heidi reported that our form is geared from what the State requires and we did draft ours based on what other cities have done. Predominantly the subsidy is given for a business with the creation of 10 or more jobs.

Duane suggested we contact Greg Simones to see if he knows of other policies that would cover retention.

Motion by Member Willenbring, second by Member Becker, to authorize Heidi to check on other policies regarding retention of the business subsidy policy. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP – Heidi presented a breakdown of the current roster and how that should be filled. More research will occur on the by-laws. Rena will bring this to the attention of the council and will re-advertise. Mayor elect Hagen will decide on the replacement.

NEW CONTRACT – Heidi will present a new contract from SEH (Executive Director Services) for 2009 to Rena for distribution to the Board.

OLD BUSINESS

FIRE HALL UPDATE – Rena Weber reported that Shingobee cashed the last check issued on the fire hall leaving a balance of \$28,700. No action was taken.

CITY HALL HEATING/COOLING UPDATE – Duane Willenbring & Rick Hansen reported on the change to the heating/cooling system that was changed on 11/7/08. It was reported that the sophisticated system was outdated when it was put in. Nine motorized dampers were removed by Scott Vossen.

Rick reported that there is still an issue at the Fire Hall as well. Rena Weber will contact Tim Peterson later on this.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Rena Weber reported that the Cash Balance report shows \$479,726.27 which is down approximately \$37,000 from last month. This is due to the \$36,000 bond payment to Stearns Electric and SBI's payment of \$1657.72.

Rick Hansen was present to report on the number of bills received from Hansen Mechanical in the amount of \$3,592.02.

Motion by Member Becker, second by Member Karls, to approve the list of bills as presented and the 11/10/08 financial report. Motion carried unanimously.

PURCHASE OF MICROPHONES – Rena Weber presented a bid for 8 new microphones. Discussion was held regarding the Channel 10 station in itself and how it is still hard to hear.

Motion by Member Becker, second by Member Willenbring, to approve purchase of the audio equipment as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE HALL LIGHT – Rick reported that the light on the north side of the Fire Hall was never installed and needs to be done so that the generator can be wired to the same pole. Rick estimated that the cost would be more than the \$1786 previously approved.

Motion by Member Willenbring, to authorize up to \$2100 to put the light in as proposed due to the cost of steel going up.

The motion was seconded by President Salzl.

AYES: Willenbring & Salzl

NAYS: Becker & Karls

Motion tied.

Rick to bring back to the next meeting.

FLAG POLES – Rick Hansen reported that Roger Schmidt donated three flag poles which were aluminum. A flag pole came with the building which is bronze in color. Discussion was held regarding what to do with the extra pole. It was determined that Duane would get a group of people together to volunteer their time and take down the bronze pole and put up the three new ones. The bronze pole will be used somewhere else in the city.

NEXT MEETING – 12/8/08

ADJOURNMENT – ***Motion by Member Karls, second by Member Becker, to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.***

**VERENA M. WEBER-CMC
SECRETARY/TREASURER**

**VERN SALZL
PRESIDENT**

NOTES FROM A FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2008 – 7:00 P.M. – ROCKVILLE CITY HALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Susan Palmer. Roll Call was taken and the following members were found to be present: Chair Palmer & Bill Becker.

Absent: Randy Volkmuth & Brian Herberg.

Staff members present: Rena Weber, Amy Goerger & Rick Hansen.

Also present: Duane Willenbring and Jeff Hagen.

SMITH BARNEY – Rich Knowlton was present to give the committee information on the history of the stock market and how it affects what cities can do.

- LONG TERM U.S. GOVERNMENT SECURITIES
- 10 YEAR TREASURY YIELD: 1978 – 2008
- HYPOTHETICAL 7 YEAR INVESTMENT LADDER – NOVEMBER 2008
- FED RESERVE MEETS EVERY 6 WEEKS – DECEMBER 2008
- STANDARDS & POORS ACTION PAGE

Chair Palmer asked if there are any other securities the city could purchase that gives a better interest rate. Rich Knowlton explained the state legislature law prohibiting purchase of certain securities and limiting the time length.

Chair Palmer asked if any of the bonds the city currently has have call provisions. Rena reported that a debt management study is done yearly and should be presented to the Finance Committee for review again.

- Fire Relief Assn. – discussion was held regarding the investment portfolio of the Relief Association and that the Finance Committee will review their investments due to the fact that the city is accountable for the guarantee of the \$1500/year pay out.

Chair Palmer asked about the purchase of commercial paper. Rich Knowlton indicated this is something the city could purchase, but did not recommend it.

BUDGET UPDATE – Amy Goerger presented an updated expenditure/revenue budget with changes due to the new person, new electric rates, etc. It was determined that detachment issues would be listed and given to the Committee for a decision on whether to keep, reduce budget, etc.

NEXT MEETING – 11/25/08 – 6:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT - Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Submitted by Rena Weber
Administrator/Clerk

Rockville Park & Recreation Board Minutes of September 4, 2008 Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:10 at Pleasant Lake Lions Park
(where we began our tour of the area parks)

Present: Scott, Steve, Rick, Lori

Listed below is a summary of what we found on our tour of the parks:

1. Lions Park: The sand point is in along with a pump, and a steel pump house over it. Now, with hoses, the outfield can be watered. The outfield is looking green. It has been weed sprayed once and probably will be once more this fall. Any community building would probably go in on the East end, as there is really not enough room by the playground. Lions Club may need to replace the flag soon. Need to get outlets put in the shelter. Playground equipment looks good – no damage. Some weeds need killing or pulling in the playground area, and some timbers on the side by the swings need fixing.
2. Community Park: Path needs some work – a lot of weeds – we felt the city should maintain this “sidewalk”. Playground equipment looks good. The benches need to be re-set next year as they are tilting. The hockey rink looks better than last year – thanks to an Eagle Scout project. New hinges need to be put on the gate, and there is still a problem with a heave in the tar that makes icing it hard. A board needs to be replaced in the bench by the parking lot.
3. Community Ball field: Concession stand looks good. There are broken boards on the picnic table. Field is in good shape. The fence protector in the outfield still has a gap in it.
4. At 8:20 the meeting continued at City Hall. Minutes from the Aug. meeting were read and approved with a motion by Steve and a second by Rick.
5. A summary of the Aug. 19, Lions Park meeting, were handed out and reviewed. Steve will give copies to the Lions members that were there and Lori will send a copy to Gwen B. from the PLAHA.
6. Nature Parks and Trails update: We signed a Thank You card for Julie Zimmermann who is leaving city hall. We had a sample sign at the meeting to possibly use for informational signs at Eagle Park. Sunday from 2 – 4:00 anyone is welcome to help stake some plants at Eagle Park. John will do a summary for the city newsletter. Linda has replaced some plants that did not make it. Pecks will be removing the Martin house for the winter. SCSU did a river clean-up project, but they did not take away the garbage!
7. Ball Program: Still questioning about paying umpires. Will check how Richmond, Cold Spring, and Kimball do it. Steve did contact the coach who was paying umpers and informed him that we would not reimburse him. The Over 35 League needs to contact Steve with their schedule. Note: If the concession is open – no beer can be brought in.

8. Rockfest: Attendance was down this year. The Kiddie Tractor Pull worked out well being back on main street, but only had about 20 kids this year. The cost for this event was approx. \$500. The date for Rockfest may be changed back to the week after July 4th next year.
9. Scott will contact Glenn I. to see if he officially wants to resign from the Park Board. He could still help at special events.
10. Starting next month our meeting reminders will be e-mailed instead of post cards being sent out.
11. Motion to adjourn by Rick with a second by Steve.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Next Meeting is October 2nd, 2008 at 7:00pm at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Lori Anderson

Rockville Park & Recreation Board Minutes of Oct. 2, 2008 Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:15 pm by Chair Scott Stenseth
Present: Scott S., Steve H., Lori A.

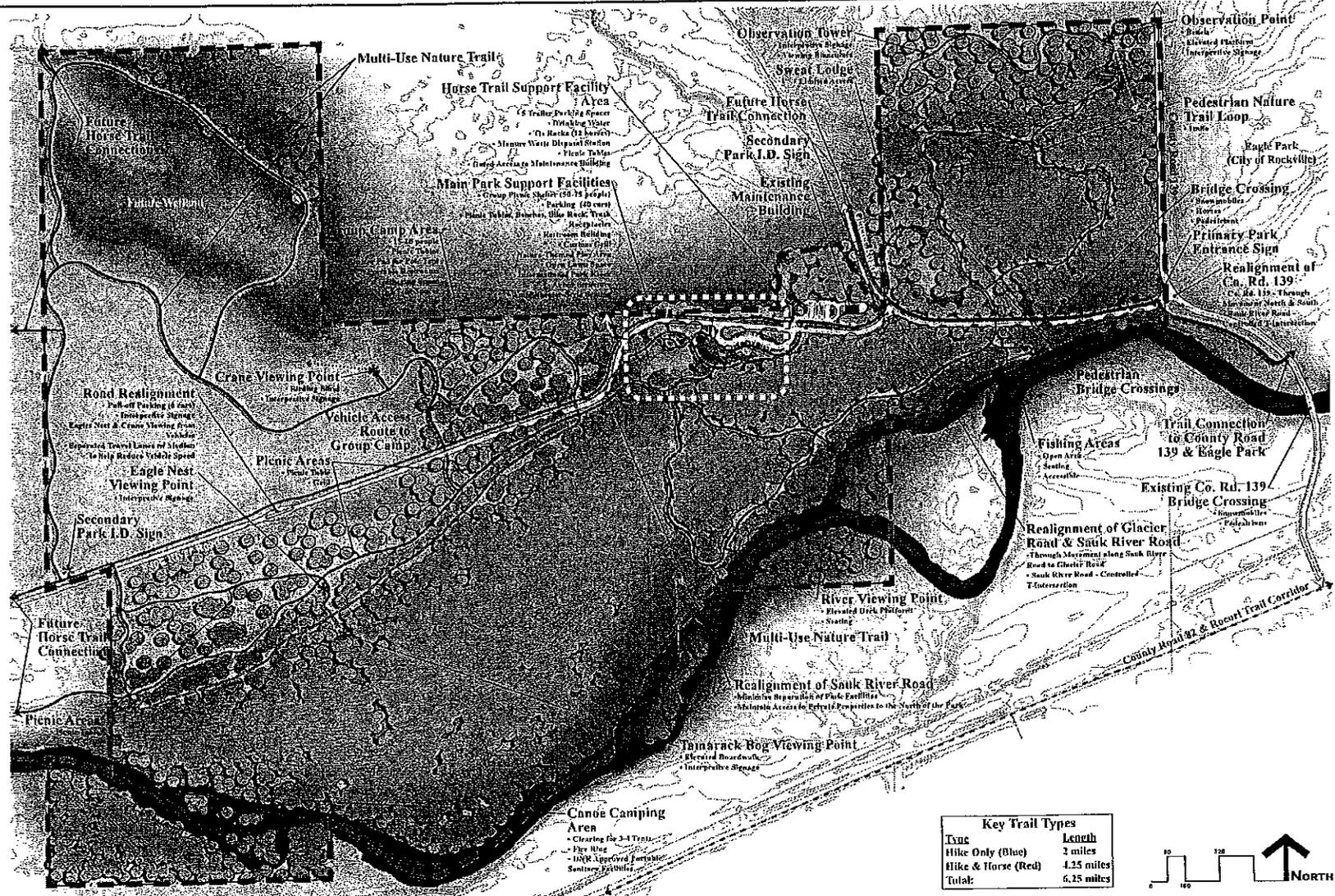
1. Passed out Sept. meeting minutes. These were approved (with 1 minor change) with a motion by Steve and a second by Lori.
2. We received a "Thank You" from the Rockville Royalty for touring the parks.
3. Michele Monson has submitted her resignation from the Park Board due to conflicts with her work schedule. Scott will present this to the council, along with a resignation from Glenn Imholte also.
4. Trails Update by Lori: We looked at some more options for the first sign at Eagle Park and picked one out. We will try to solicit sponsors for this sign to cover the costs of it. Now that this "rock formation" sign is decided upon, what signs do we want to do next? Eagles? Plants? Lightning tree? We have bills to be paid of \$2500.00 for mowing, \$3000.00 for herbicides, to North American Prairies, which Scott will present to the council to be paid. This covers about 15 acres. Also at this meeting was Julie, who donated a book on Native American plants, and can possibly get us plants to transplant. People were seen taking photos in the garden area at Eagle Park. Rockville County Park and Nature Preserve is pursuing ideas for this park, such as walking and horse trails, playground, camping, canoeing, XC skiing, etc. The next meeting on this is Oct. 28. For the next few Sundays from 2-4:00 there is buckthorn removal at the county park.
5. Santa Day is set for Sunday Dec. 7, 1:00 - 3:00, at City Hall. Lori & Suzanne will chair this again this year.
6. Trying to find new members for the Park Bd. is a priority now that Michele and Glenn are no longer members. We will have Tootie put something in the Cold Spring Record. Maybe we should also have her put a summary of our minutes in there too. We need more voices !
7. Motion to adjourn by Lori, and seconded by Steve.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm

Next Meeting is Nov. 6, 2008 at 7:00 (Preceded by the Nature Parks and Trails
Advisory Gr. Meeting at 6:00 pm)

Respectfully submitted by Lori Anderson

ROCKVILLE COUNTY PARK NATURE PRESERVE



**ROCKVILLE COUNTY PARK
& NATURE PRESERVE**

Ecological Vision Plan

Management Unit	Natural Community Types	Goals
1 – Wetland Restoration	Wet Meadow Mesic Prairie Floodplain Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore wet meadow and wet prairie habitat. • Provide habitat for wetland animals, such as sandhill cranes. • Create a range of communities along the moisture gradient from mesic prairie to wet prairie to wet meadow. • Remove invasive species from floodplain forest and let it mature as a forest.
2 – Prairie Restoration	Prairie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a large block of prairie habitat in the park. • Provide habitat for grassland animals, such as meadowlarks.
3 – Oak Savanna	Oak Savanna Oak Woodland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a transition of changing tree cover from prairie to forest. • Restore the oak savanna understory. • Remove invasive species. • Use prescribed fire to maintain the sunny character of savanna.
4 – Oak Woodland	Oak Woodland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thin trees & remove existing invasive species to create a more open woodland tree canopy. • Use prescribed fire to maintain an open forest character.
5 – Mesic/Wet Forest	Tamarack Swamp Wet Forest Mesic Forest Rock Outcrop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve existing high quality habitat. • Provide habitat for forest animals, such as red-eyed vireos. • Allow the forest to reach an old-growth character. • Remove invasive species.
6 – Floodplain Forest	Floodplain Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let the forest develop to maturity. • Remove invasive species.

Approved

Nature Parks and Trails (Advisory) Group
(Formerly Trails Task Force)
August 7, 2008 Rockville City Hall

PRESENT: Lorie Anderson, Linda & John Peck, Rosie Steil, Michelle Monson, Scott Stenseth, Tim Gross

CTO by Linda at 6:07 p.m. MINUTES for June 7, 2008, approved as presented.

EAGLE PARK Daryl has mowed path edges twice. Gary has been filling water pails with river water after Pecks have watered the plants in the demo garden, which still have excellent survival. Linda has been cutting thistles and pulling weeds from the path.

North American Prairies has been mowing and herbiciding for weeds. Rick Hanson from the City has mowed thistles on the grazed part of the park.

Young purple martins have fledged from their house.

A pair of eagles is frequently seen in the park.

On the morning of July 16, lightning struck the bur oak tree near the trail junction just beyond the parking area. The fire department came and hosed it down, but later Ralph Walz had to return with his boom truck to cut off major parts of the tree that were still burning. The fire chief and assistant and Rick all agree that the remaining tree is not a hazard and can be left alone. Even if it dies, it still has wildlife value, such as nesting cavities for birds. Maybe this tree can be a site for a future educational sign.

We discussed how to best communicate and coordinate with Rick. Scott will ask Rick to contact our group before doing things associated with the managed part of the park. We want to be sure, for example, that wildlife shrubs don't get mowed.

COUNTY PARK About 50 people attended the public input meeting Aug 5, including Tim, Rosie, John and Linda. There was a lot of input from horse people and handicapped hunting proponents. Our group does not favor an archery course or disc golf. Is the Rockville bridge really unsafe for bikers?

John spent a full day with the park planner's ecological consultant, Kim Chapman, looking at sensitive areas and areas for possible restoration activities.

ROCORI TRAIL John and Linda attended the August 8 meeting at Rockville City Hall. The group is still waiting on firm decisions regarding railroad abandonments. It will save a lot of money to plan and build using the existing railway bed. However, some of the funding is related to a schedule.

MISC We decided we should be a "Group" rather than a "Task Force" or "Subcommittee". Task force implies a limited time looking at a specific problem. Subcommittee would imply that we are all members of the Park and Recreation Board.

Some concern was expressed over possible ecological damage from geocaching.

Concern was re-expressed over Rockville ordinances forbidding hunting within 1/2 mile of a city park.

NEXT MEETING 6 p.m., September 4 ADJ 7:05 p.m. MINUTES by John Peck

Nature Parks and Trails Advisory Group
Sept 4, 2008 meeting
Rockville City Hall

PRESENT: Tim Gross, Rosie Steil, Tudy Hermanutz, Linda & John Peck, ^{LORI} Laurie Anderson

CTO by Linda at 6 p.m. MINUTES for August 7 approved as presented.

OUR NAME The Park and Rec Board approved our new name at their last meeting.

JULIE ZIMMERMAN Linda passed around a card from our group thanking Julie for cheerfully helping us with city financial reports. We wish her luck in her new job.

EDUCATIONAL SIGNS Linda showed a sample, from Stearns County Parks, of the type of sign we may get from Pannier in PA. She also brought out the potential layout for our first sign on corestones. It was done for free by Larry Davis, SJU geologist. He suggests 2' by 3'; he can send a disc to Pannier.

We looked at the text and format options. We chose: yellow background, 2' by 3' size, remove hand lens from the granite photo, label and circle the granite components, change village to city, have the corestone title in black lettering with a red border (slightly thicker). We'll acknowledge of the designer and sponsor on the support.

We discussed sign holders used by Stearns County Parks, the holder choices available from Pannier, and Rick's willingness to make them based on county designs. We prefer a "slanted presentation". Linda will check further on costs, and Rosie will check with the teacher at John Clark who expressed interest in sponsoring this first sign.

WORK We'll do some Eagle Park work Sunday afternoon, including transplanting a shrub, staking shrubs and removing the stick and twine borders from the demonstration garden. Some "accidental" virgin's bower could use some type of trellis to climb on. Any ideas to help label plants?— they're overgrowing the present labels.

PUBLICITY John will prepare articles for the next Rockville Newsletter and the next Rocori Local. Rockfest tours went to both Eagle Park and to the County Park/ Peck's Farm.

MARTIN HOUSES Two of the four eggs produced young – typical for a first year. We can expect them to return next year. The house will come down, get cleaned and be stored over winter at Peck's.

MISC: RIVER REFUSE The city had to remove a pile of river refuse left at the Park landing. John is trying to locate the culprit Samaritans. BENCHES are all paid for except the Don Merten one. BUCKTHORN removal at the county park every Sunday in October, 2 – 4 p.m. at the shed. MASTER PLAN for County Park due in December. ROCORI TRAIL still waiting for Wenner's Gas to accept rail abandonment. HANSONS WOODS – The 6th grade wants to help do trail work and pull buckthorn. ADJ 7:10 p.m.

approved

Nature Parks and Trails Advisory Group
October 2, 2008

PRESENT: Linda & John Peck, Lori Anderson, Rosie Steil, Julie Lintgen, Tудie Hermanutz, Tim Gross

CTO by Linda at 6 p.m. MINUTES for September 4 meeting accepted with minor corrections.

CORESTONE SIGN Larry Davis made most of our desired changes and brought a disc to Linda. Judy Neu was able to make some additional corrections and made copies of various graphic possibilities for us to consider. We chose a light yellow background and to have the title slightly larger with no border.

We should be seeking out sponsors for this and future educational signage. Ideas for similar larger signs included: floodplain and braided streams; bald eagles, including significance to native Americans; burr oak struck by lightning.

PRAIRIE RESTORATION North American Prairies submitted their bill for this year's work: \$3000 for herbicide applications and \$2500 for mowing. Scott will see if City Council action is required. If so, John will go along to explain and answer questions. The amount of herbiciding should be less next year.

NATIVE AMERICAN PLANT USE Julie has met with Objibway biologists to talk about our park, and they donated to us a book on their use of plants in the "ceded territories", which includes much of eastern MN, but not Stearns County. Julie can get plants for us. We discussed possibilities of a separate garden to demonstrate native American uses of plants and/or movable educational signage to put out along the trail next to plants used by Objibway and/or Sioux.

ROCKVILLE COUNTY PARK AND NATURE PRESERVE This is the official name. John summarized the various concepts being considered, including cutting off Sauk River Road east of Peck's. Tудie summarized the most recent public input meeting. The horse people want more than they are being offered.

ROCORI TRAIL There was no meeting this month. The Regional Rail Authority does seem open to the idea of helping to fund right-of-way acquisition.

HANSON'S WOODS John Clark Elementary 6th graders plan to come and help with paths and buckthorn. Julie and Lori offered to help Pecks, if the date works out. Also, there will be BUCKTHORN BUSTING every Sunday afternoon in October, 2 - 4 p.m., in the county park. Meet at the shed at the corner of Glacier Road and Sauk River Road.

NEXT MTG 1st Thursday in November. ADJ 7 p.m. MINUTES by John Peck

Eagle Park Financial Summary

Donations from Organizations and Individuals:

\$2500 grant from the Initiative Foundation towards producing a master plan (8/23/06)
\$2000 grant from the Initiative Foundation for 2007 work days, etc (10/11/07)
\$600 from Rockville Sportsmen's Club to purchase wildlife shrubs from MNDNR
\$175 granite Eagle Park sign engraving from Steils.
\$3000, plus cost of engraving, for six granite benches – from six sponsors
\$13,455 to pay for initial prairie restoration (5 sprayings, mowing, grass seed) from Pecks
\$650 donation to buy a purple martin house from Dave Volkmuth
\$2500 grant from Knife River: \$2200 for class 5 granite and \$300 for future prairie seeds
\$442 plugs of prairie plants for demonstration garden – donations from four families

TOTAL DONATED \$25,322

Also donated: Hundreds of hours of labor: planting and caring for wildlife shrubs, removing old fencing, installing ½ mile granite trail and one bridge, installing granite benches, mowing trail edges and parking area, planting and caring for prairie plant demonstration garden, hand cutting thistles near large rocks, weeding the trail, etc Plus lots of meetings, phone calls and writing. The graphic for our first educational sign on “corestones” was recently donated by a SJU/CB geology professor.

Paid by the City of Rockville out of Eagle Park Development Fund:

\$6150 Cost for master plan exceeding the 8/06 Initiative Foundation grant
\$774 Cost for supplies for the work days exceeding the 10/07 Initiative Foundation grant
\$1331 Expenses to finish the trail and bridge in May, 2008

TOTAL PAID BY CITY \$8255

Balance in Eagle Park Development Fund (#202-45122-511) as of 7/10/08: \$16,608

Future Expenses: The major cost for 2009 will be some spot spraying for weeds and some mowing. If all goes well, a prairie flower mix will be drilled in the fall, otherwise in 2010. Once the flowers are in, the management should consist of only mowing, then burning every few years. We are seeking donors for additional education signs. The DNR may put in a better canoe landing by the fishing pier.

NOTE: Stearns County has committed over \$200,000 to the development of the 283 acre Rockville County Park and Nature Preserve, which is immediately west of Eagle Park. A master plan will be completed this year. The county park will very likely have a parking area, shelter, camping area, horse and foot paths, picnic tables and a toilet.

Prepared by John Peck, secretary, Nature Parks and Trails Advisory Group, Oct 15, 2008