

MEETING MINUTES
DISABLED ADVISORY COUNCIL (DAC)
HANDISHOP INDUSTRIES, INC.
JANUARY 12, 2007

Members in attendance: Chair Werner Burkat, Tom Zimmer, John Kocourek, Dave Lato, Joe Greene, Steve Johnson, Jim Rutledge and Dave Stinson.

Member absent: John Mitchell and alternate Dale Petkovsek.

DNR staff in attendance: Julie Amakobe and Al Czeshinski.

Chair Burkat called the meeting to order at approximately 10:23 a.m.

The meeting began by reviewing/approving the agenda. Two additions were made to the agenda. One was to add utility vehicles to the Segways item and the second one was to add to read the letter from Bill Schwengel during the Member updates.

Joe made a motion to approve the agenda with the additions, Dave S seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Next on the agenda was the review and approval of the DAC meeting minutes from September 25, 2006. There were no changes suggested.

Jim made a motion to approve the minutes of September 25, 2006, Steve seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Agenda item – Elections. Werner led this item. First was the item of the 3 member terms that expired as of December 31, 2006. The members with expired terms were Tom, Steve and Dave L. All 3 agreed to another 3-year term. Thank you and CONGRATULATIONS to Tom, Steve and Dave L. Second, nominations were accepted for Chair. Jim nominated Werner, Dave L seconded. **Dave S made a motion to close elections for Chair, Joe seconded.** By a closed ballot, Werner was selected as Chair for 2007. CONGRATULATIONS Werner! Third, nominations were accepted for Vice-Chair. Jim nominated Tom, Joe seconded. **Joe made a motion to close the election for Vice-Chair, Steve seconded.** By a closed ballot, Tom was selected as Vice-Chair for 2007. CONGRATULATIONS Tom!

Agenda item – Handishop Industries Inc. Joe led the discussion because we were meeting at his place of business. Joe welcomed us to Handishop Industries. They were happy to have us. Handishop Industries, Inc. is a classic sheltered workshop. They employ about 100 people. They do basic assembly work, mailings, etc. Since the beginning, they have increased payroll by 10 times. It is their 35th anniversary this year. They have a building area of about 50,000 sq. ft. They have about 24 vehicles. Handishop Industries does the rest area maintenance for the State basically from Osseo to Belmont. And they have an adult day center at Sparta.

Agenda item – Action Requests review (continuation from July 2006 meeting). Julie led this discussion. She gave everyone a handout. The Action Request will be listed first followed by the status.

1. Brad is starting to do a revised questionnaire. The questionnaire needs to get out before the end of March or April 1st at the latest...complete.
2. DNR needs to have clearer information and a list of where and when you can use an ATV on state lands. DNR should look at a new rule for Class A permittees to use a crossbow in Chronic Wasting Disease areas where a doe is required to be shot before a buck. Can the rule that one can get a buck before a doe with a gun also apply for the crossbow?...Tom will contact John Mitchell, and we will discuss at the next meeting.
3. Bill said he would get the DAC the intent of the language that allows waterfowl hunters to have an uncased and unloaded firearm in a moving boat...Jim is going to follow up.
4. DNR should strike out the words currently in manual code "no person may participate in more than one special gun deer hunt in one calendar year"...Julie to follow up and this will be discussed at the next meeting.
5. DAC supports the proposal that any person may use a crossbow because it allows DNR to capture hunters that don't fit into the current crossbow legislation and criteria...complete.
6. Dotti will draft a letter for Werner's signature outlining the DAC's support for this proposed legislation...complete.
7. Julie and Dotti will write a memo or letter to the Waukesha Service Center indicating that the DAC has discussed and reviewed this issue and believes the Class B permit application be approved based on current law and proposed legislation...complete.
8. Julie and Dotti will let the Secretary know about the idea to have an alternate DAC member...complete.
9. Julie and Dotti will forward John Mitchell and Joe Greene as the recommended two new Council members and Dale Petkovsek as the alternate to the Secretary's office for approval...complete.
10. Dotti is going to follow up with her federal contact regarding the use of ATV's in the National Forests because it looks like the Feds. have revised their use policy...complete-at the next federal audit this should be brought up again.
11. DAC members are to e-mail Dotti their 05/06 goals. She will compile a list...complete.
12. Dotti is working on the policy for docks and piers and will have something ready in the spring...complete.
13. DAC needs to start to work on its 05/06 goals: This should be ongoing - Promote cabins, initiate administrative code changes, turkey hunting surveys, CFA grants and importance of accessibility, education/outreach, DAC at audit meetings, Conservation Congress input, and publish materials on accessibility...ongoing.
14. Werner will send a letter to the DNR Secretary and the Conservation Congress relaying the DAC's motion that would reduce the minimum age for hunting to 10 years...complete.
15. A technical sheet is in draft and hopefully will be available by the July meeting. (Piers and Docks)...complete.
16. Natural Bridge, Nelson Dewey, New Glarus Woods, Buckhorn, and Mirror Lake State Parks will be surveyed for accessibility by Council Members...complete. Joe will follow up with Paul Zajackowski, Manager at Mirror Lake State Park, about moving the blind that he noted during his survey.
17. Dotti will write a letter requesting permission for DAC members to visit and do a survey at the State Parks...complete.

18. Have a DAC handout ready for the Farm Technology Days...complete.
19. Bill Schwengel will draft a response to the Class B applicant with the bad eyesight...(note taker didn't note the status of this request)
20. Anthonette Gilpatrick to get additional information from Andrea Mezera from Wildlife Management re:3 year trial for disabled turkey hunting at Interstate, Newport and Willow River State Parks and new locations in South Central Region (Devil's Lake, Governor Dodge, Mirror Lake and Wyalusing State Parks)...Julie to follow up w/Anthonette.
21. Dotti, John Mitchell and Tom Zimmer to do follow-up re: long-term Class B's being permitted to apply for deer and turkey special hunts...(note taker didn't note the status of this request)
22. All members should review list of Outstanding Action Request Forms that Julie handed out for the next meeting...(note taker didn't note the status of this request)
23. Joe Greene needs to report back to the Council on getting the current blind at Mirror Lake relocated so it can be used for turkey hunting... Joe will follow up with Paul Zajackowski, Manager at Mirror Lake State Park, about moving the blind that he noted during his survey.

It was 11:49, time for lunch, so we broke for lunch, and will continue with this agenda item after lunch since Carl was absent. He was supposed to be on for the first 30 minutes after lunch.

At 12:42 we continued with:

24. Steve Johnson and Anthonette will survey Wyalusing State Park...Julie to follow up w/Anthonette.
25. Dotti will survey Interstate and Willow River State Parks...complete.
26. Werner to visit Newport State Park re:getting a blind...Al to follow up.
27. Werner to write a letter to support question # 37 from the 2005 Spring Hearings and to include that this also should apply to the spring turkey hunts as well...complete.
28. Jim Rutledge needs to follow up on the Action Request re:uncased/unloaded firearm issue...ongoing.
29. Werner to follow up on Action Request re: statutory change defining "mobility devices"...complete (but ask Carl).
30. Julie to send out a new updated Regional fish experts contact list...complete.
31. Bill Schwengel to pursue a definition for "traditional" to be included in the statutes...Carl assigned to follow up.
32. Julie to send out a hunter safety list...this is now on a web site.
33. Werner to write a letter to ask that ss. 29.193(2)(cr)(1) be amended so that Class A or Class C permit holders can take a deer of either sex by firearm or archery. The letter should be addressed to the Bureau Directors of Law Enforcement and Wildlife Management, to Paul Heinen-Policy Initiatives Advisor and to Laurie Osterdorf, Land Division Administrator...on HOLD.
34. Dotti to write a letter to Community Financial Assistance re: grant language should highlight accessibility...ongoing.
35. Dotti to notify the DAC Chair when federal audits are scheduled...ongoing.
36. Dotti, Julie and Al to update the cabin brochure...complete.
37. Julie to send the New Glarus Woods and Belmont Mound surveys to all members...complete.

38. Dotti and Al need to procure awards based on nominations from the Council...complete.
39. Invite Parks Trail Coordinator to April 2006 Council meeting to address “mobility devices such as a segway” for use on State Trails...couldn’t make the April 2006 meeting, so will extend an invite when a DAC meeting is close to Madison.
40. Werner to write letter to Friends Groups to see if they will assist in a “State Trails for the Disabled” Day...complete.
41. Joe will draft a letter for Werner’s signature regarding state purchasing and the statute requirement (goal) that 2% of the supplies and services the State uses should come from vendors with disabled employees...Joe to do.
42. The Governor’s Committee should also be contacted about the statute requirement (goal) that 2% of the supplies and services the State uses should come from vendors with disabled employees...complete.
43. Carl Mesman agreed to contact the Turkey Federation about the agreement that exists between them and the department...Al to follow up w/Carl.

At one point during the discussion of Action Requests, we looked up the members of the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature. The members are: Representatives Gunderson, chair, J. Ott, vice-chair, Bies, LeMahieu, Williams, Moulton, Nerison, Mursau, Black, Molepske, Steinbrink, Hraycheck, Hebl and Mason.

Agenda item – Segways and Utility vehicles. Steve led the discussion.

There was a discussion on needing a definition of “mobility devices”, and in the end, this discussion was tabled. Included with this is the question “would “mobility devices” include UT’s (utility vehicles) and segways”?.

Dave Stinson stated that utility vehicles account for 8-10% of total sales, and are being allowed on county lands in the northern part of the state.

Jim made a motion that the present ATV language should be changed to include ATV/UT vehicles, meaning where ATV’s can go, UT’s can go, Joe seconded, and all were in favor.

Agenda item – 2 recent Disability Permit applications. Julie and Al led the discussion.

The first application was involving a Class A, and then a Class B for the same applicant. The doctor basically was leaving the decision up to the department if this should be approved because of safety. The applicant has epilepsy.

The second application was for a Class B and the doctor was not endorsing the applicant to be allowed to hunt from a vehicle.

The Council took the position, for each one, to take the recommendation of the doctor. In both these cases, the applications should be denied.

It was suggested that Wildlife Management should let DNR Service Centers know there are forms for the special turkey hunts for the disabled available on the Open the Outdoors and Outdoors Wisconsin websites. It seems that some Service Centers aren’t aware of this.

Agenda item - Member's updates/Other issues.

Werner at this point read the letter from Bill Schwengel. Basically it was a thank you letter regarding the receipt of a past DAC award for outstanding service.

Dave L said that he had participated in Dale's deer hunt in Clark County, and actually was a spotter for a blind hunter.

Steve said the parking lot at Lake Neshonoc was being paved. 28 hunters were at the "nuisance" deer gun hunt on Goose Island City Park and the bagged 38 deer. Average weight of the deer was 40-50 lbs. One 12 year-old doe had no teeth and weighed 63 lbs.

Jim said his son attended an early season hunt. He is assisting in setting up a hunt for paralyzed veterans that will be held on 500 acres near Antigo.

Dave S invited us all to attend the 20th anniversary event of his Fishing Has No Boundaries chapter being held May 18, 19 and 20.

Werner said the Wheelin' Sportsmen of Green Bay was going to be holding an event soon. Contact is Jeff Pritzl. This would be a chance to get info out on youth hunts.

Joe agreed to be considered for the State Trails Council. Al will let Brigit Brown know.

Al mentioned for John Mitchell, via e-mail message, that he thought the DAC should request approval for disabled archers to shoot any deer in case we have earn-a-buck again. And the Adaptive Sportsmen is doing this spring a pheasant hunt and 3D archery tournament in March and an ATV ride in May. More details are on their web site.

Dave S suggested a future meeting could be held up in his area, like at Lakewoods Resort in Cable.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, April 20, 2007 at Schmeckle Reserve in Stevens Point.

Werner suggested that we adjourn the formal meeting since it was 2:40. Joe made the motion, John seconded, and all were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned.