

NIZC Tourism, Recreation & Environmental Committee Minutes  
June 1, 2006 @ Mahoney State Park

Committee members present: Katie Torpy, Rodney Verhoeff, Sue Brauckmuller, Jerry Maxwell, Marlin Petermann, Christian Hornbaker, Inez Boyd.  
Chairman Marlin Petermann & Vice Chair Jerry Maxwell.

The committee designated 3 key areas to focus on:

1. Tourism – Trails System, good start, Omaha and Lincoln are working together to connect with Lied Bridge – this will also bring communities together.  
River Access – designated areas, better access.  
Key tourist attractions and destinations.
2. Environmental Issues – Need Floodplain/floodway maps  
Need to Identify public and private lands  
Protection resources – preserving area in the Platte River Basin and possibly others  
Water Quality and Quantity  
Bring in DEQ about consulting committee about environmental issues and concerns.
3. Recreation – what do we have now and what can be developed  
Listing of Recreational waters available – promotional piece
4. Other Key issues – Are we to be all things to all people?  
What is the focus – Conceptual or issue driven?  
Everyone working together to bring people to this area  
Look beyond the Platte River –include community resources

Resources Needed: Water supply/water quality studies

Wastewater studies

Tourism/Recreation Impact (Economic) and Needs & Opportunities

Consider Reports/Case studies from other related states –nation wide

Environmental Impact and capabilities; what will more people and development have as an effect upon our resources and are we able to handle it?

Lodging facilities – the opportunities & needs – appropriate addition

Inventory of what is currently available for Recreation and Tourism

Create/Establish and protect a “wildlife Corridor”

Consider what other states are doing for key Recreation – Quality of life enhancement projects (tourism)

Other key members to invite to participate in the committee; Representation from Fontanelle Forest, NA & PC, HDR (water quality and quantity studies on both sides of the rivers.

Additional Questions:

Agri –Toursim, to be included under tourism opportunities  
Radius of the committee or Commission – leave open for now but committees can limit to make area more manageable – focus on grasping the big picture without limitations – a regional approach as a connector of communities.

Next meeting – Aug. 3 @ Mahoney State Park.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rodney Verhoeff, LPRCA