



Property Committee Agenda
Room 400, Government Center
Thursday, March 5, 2009
8:15 a.m.

1. Roll Call
2. Chairman's Approval of Minutes – February 5, 2009
January 20, 2009 Stand-Up
3. Departmental Matters:
 - A. Mike Steffa, Director, Parks and Recreation Department
 - 1) Items to be Presented for Action:
 - a) Request Approval of a Resolution of the McLean County Board in Memory and Recognition of the Late John W. English 1-3
 - 2) Items to be Presented for Information:
 - a) General Report 4
 - (1) Tri-Shark Triathlon
 - (2) Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Bass Fishing Tournament
 - b) Other
4. Other Business and Communications
5. Recommend Payment of Bills and Transfers, if any, to County Board
6. Adjournment



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
(309)726-2022 FAX (309)726-2025 www.mcleancountyil.gov
13001 Recreation Area Dr. Hudson, IL 61748-7594

TO: Honorable Chairman and Members, Property Committee

FROM: Michael J. Steffa, Director of Parks and Recreation

DATE: February 24, 2009

RE: John English Memorial Nature Trail & Prairie Resolution

The Parks Department was saddened to hear that former County Board Member John English passed away on January 6, 2009. Mr. English was a County Board member from 1974 to 1982. His love of the outdoors and horticulture knowledge allowed him to be an active volunteer in the planning and development of COMLARA County Park. He personally was responsible for the planting of many of the trees and prairies that are at the Park today. In addition to the County Board, Mr. English served on the Unit 5 School Board, the Parkland's Foundation Board, the McLean County League of Women Voters, and the McLean County Soil and Water Conservation District Board. He was also involved in many other community programs, and was the very first recipient of the WJBC Spirit of McLean County Award in 1977.

Under McLean County Ordinance 5.19 the Parks Department would like to propose a resolution renaming the Deer Island Access Trail at COMLARA County Park as John English Memorial Trail. This trail was chosen because it receives more foot traffic than any other trail in the park. It starts next to the Visitor Center and runs south along Evergreen Lake to Six Mile Creek Prairie near Six Mile Creek Bridge. It is approximately 1.5 miles in length. We would also like to name this 7-acre prairie, which was planted with Member English's personal volunteer assistance the John English Prairie.

We would like to have a formal dedication for the trail and the prairie on Saturday, May 16, 2009. The Parks Department would change signs at both ends of the trails and at the prairie to recognize the memory of Mr. English.

RESOLUTION of the McLEAN COUNTY BOARD
IN MEMORY AND RECOGNITION OF
THE LATE JOHN W. ENGLISH

WHEREAS, John W. English faithfully served the McLean County Community through his leadership and dedicated service as a member of the McLean County Board, having been first elected to the County Board in 1974 and then re-elected in 1978 to serve the citizens of McLean County; and,

WHEREAS, John W. English served the McLean County Community through his leadership and dedicated service to the Unit 5 School Board, the Parkland's Foundation Board, the McLean County League of Women Voters, and the McLean County Soil and Water Conservation District Board; and,

WHEREAS, John W. English served the McLean County Board and the McLean County Community through his leadership skills, love of the outdoors and horticulture knowledge allowing him to be active in the planning and development of COMLARA County Park; and,

WHEREAS, John W. English served the McLean County Community by enhancing the quality of life for citizens by planting many trees and prairies at COMLARA County Park; and,

WHEREAS, John W. English generously offered his many talents and his time in the service of McLean County and the McLean County Board and, in so doing, John W. English improved the quality of life for all the citizens of McLean County; and,

WHEREAS, it is fitting and appropriate for the McLean County Board to recognize the accomplishments, dedicated service, and contributions of the late John W. English to the McLean County Community; and,

WHEREAS, it is fitting and appropriate for the McLean County Board and the McLean County Department of Parks and Recreation to establish the John W. English Memorial Trail and the John W. English Prairie at COMLARA County Park now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the McLean County Board, now meeting in regular session on this the 17th day of March, 2009, that the McLean County Board expresses its sincere appreciation for contributions to issues of community interest in memory of the late John W. English.

ADOPTED by the McLean County Board this 17th day of March, 2009.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Peggy Ann Milton, Clerk of the County Board
McLean County, Illinois

Matt Sorensen, Chairman
McLean County Board

5.19 POLICY AND GUIDELINES ON RECOGNIZING, NAMING AND DEDICATING COUNTY FACILITIES, ROADS AND HIGHWAYS.

5.19-1 The following process of approval shall be established to recognize, name and dedicate County facilities, roads and highways:

(A) The request shall be presented to the appropriate Oversight Committee of the County Board for the Committee's review and approval.

(B) The recommendation of the Oversight Committee shall be presented to the Executive Committee for review and approval.

(C) Upon approval of the Executive Committee, the recommendation to recognize, name and dedicate County facilities, roads and highways shall be presented to the County Board for review and approval.



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TO: Honorable Chairman and Members, Property Committee

FROM: Michael J. Steffa, Director of Parks and Recreation

DATE: 02/25/09

**RE: Informational Items: Tri-Shark Triathlon Special Permit Issued
Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Bass Tournament**

1. **Tri-Shark Triathlon** – As part of the change to Ordinance 35.14-1 adopted by the County Board on August 16, 2005 to allow swimming in Evergreen Lake as a special event, the Parks Department has issued a Special Use Permit to Colleen Klein, Tri-Mom Events LLC. Normally, the Tri-Shark Triathlon is held at Moraine View State Park every year. Because of the closing of that state park as well as the uncertainty of it reopening, Mrs. Klein requested the use of COMLARA Park/Evergreen Lake. This event will take place Saturday, June 6, 2009. Mrs. Klein also holds the Evergreen Lake Triathlon at COMLARA Park/Evergreen Lake in July. She is very familiar with running these types of events, and has made sure safety is a top priority. Also, the County Board approved a Special Event Road Closure Permit for this event on February 17, 2009, and her Insurance Certificate is in order.

2. **Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Bass Fishing Tournament** – For the first time ever in the history of the United States, the state of Illinois will have competitive bass fishing on the High School level starting this spring of 2009. This sport will be governed under the Illinois High School Association or IHSA. The state will be divided into different sections from north to south, and the different high schools will compete in “Sectional” Tournaments. The Parks Department is pleased to announce that Evergreen Lake has been chosen to host a Sectional Tournament on Friday, April 24, 2009. There will be twelve high schools participating in the Evergreen Lake Sectional. Those schools include Deer Creek-Mackinaw, Metamora, Fieldcrest, Morton, Normal Community, Normal Community West, Pontiac, Roanoke-Benson, Streator Township, Streator Woodland, Midland, and Washington. The Parks Department will work closely with IHSA officials to ensure this tournament is a success.