

EXHIBIT G

<http://www.ozaukeeexpress.com/images/030812/parkSM.png> **Board agrees to keep all of former Magritz property intact for use by public**

An effort by Ozaukee County Supr. Rose Hass Leider of the Town of Fredonia to have the county sell a house, pole building and 10 acres of the former Magritz property — which was acquired 10 years ago through foreclosure due to unpaid taxes — failed Wednesday by an 8-16 vote.



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The board voted, 20-4, to designate 56 of the 62.5-acre parcel as a county park for passive recreation. The remaining 6.5 acres with the house and heated pole building will be used for park operations and closed to the public.

The 56 acres encompass critical Milwaukee River mesic woods that the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission has classified as a natural area of even more environmental importance than the county's Lion's Den Gorge, noted Supr. Jennifer Rothstein of Mequon, a member of the Natural Resources Committee that proposed the resolution.

“The county has a responsibility to protect this critical natural area,” she said.

However, Leider and Supr. Don Dohrwardt of Fredonia were dogged in their efforts to allow the developed area to be used for a home site, proposing two additional amendments.

Dohrwardt’s proposal to designate 52 acres as a park and 10 acres for parks operation was defeated 8-16. Leider then proposed designating only 56 acres as a park and leaving the 6.5 acres and buildings out of the resolution. That failed 7-17.

Noel Cutright, a noted bird and environmental expert, said he has changed his mind since writing a letter in support of the Town of Fredonia’s efforts to have the county sell the house and land so the town could receive an estimated \$700 annually in taxes.

“It’s better to put it all into the park system,” Cutright said. “Someone could put in a horse farm.”

County Board Chairman Robert Brooks said the county can decide at any time to sell a portion of the land, regardless of its park designation. He successfully persuaded the Natural Resources Committee not to cover any portion of the land with conservation easements that would prevent development.

Supr. Ray Meyer of Port Washington said rural developments are urbanizing the county and threatening its rural character.

“Quite frankly, those who argue for taxable property are sounding a death knell,” he said. “We need to think differently. By preserving property like this, we’re enhancing the value of the entire county.”

Image Information: Ozaukee County supervisors, who toured the county-owned property off Shady Lane in the Town of Fredonia earlier this year, voted Wednesday to add the land to the county's park system, a move that will eventually open it to the public. Photo by Sam Arendt