

Charlevoix County Parks Committee

Meeting Minutes

5/16/16

Present

Pete Gaskin, Dennis Jason, Jessica Parks, Susan Vron dran, Tim Wieland, Brian Williams.

County Commissioner Liaison: Shirley Roloff

Staff: Director Ross Maxwell, Planning Coordinator Kiersten Stark.

Opening

The regular meeting of the Charlevoix County Parks Committee was called to order at 5:30 on 5/16/16 at Whiting Park by S. Vron dan, and open with recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were approved, after some clarification of wording regarding the Building and Grounds. The motion to approve was made by D. Jason, and seconded by Brian Williams.

Public Comment

Brian Williams question where the status is of getting Wi-Fi in Whiting Park. Kiersten said that she wasn't exactly sure what the current status was, but she would talk to Kevin and get the process started again. Discussion followed about not waiting for the County to get their fiber network up and running in Boyne City and just go with Charter for the present time. Ross questioned as to whether or not there would be money available for this, depending on the budget over run on the non-motorized trail.

Approval of Financial Report

It was requested that the non-motorized trail has its own budget information sheet. There was question about the phone bill, a motion to approve was made by T. Wieland, and seconded by P. Gaskin. Passed unanimously.

Directors Report

Ross started with opening of the park and let the park employees describe what was done so far in each building (e.g. cleaning and repairs in shower building). The water tower that was damaged last year, has been replaced. The finishing touches of cleaning are being done, before camping season kicks into high gear.

Porter Creek needs to be raked and touched up. Thumb Lake should be cleaned and ready to go by the end of this week. Phase 1 non-motorized trail: met with Doreen Wood, Dorn Davis, and Johnsons to solve their respective issues. He informed Mr. Zitka that we wouldn't be needing an easement from them.

Ross wasn't sure about the bid letting for phase two, hoping for starting this year. The report was approved with a motion by P. Gaskin and seconded by J. Parks. Passed Unanimously.

Old Business

- New Employee: Robert Brown, Journeyman's license plumber.
- Boyne City – Charlevoix non-motorized trail: Phase 1 completion date is 7/31/16. Denny questioned about phase 2 completion date being in this year, as opposed to 2017 in regards to contractors being busy for the rest of this year and saving money with a 2017 completion date. Ross stated "that we just need to get the bids in" to keep the project going. It was decided to let the engineers handle this issue.
- Pay increase for parks employees. Ross isn't looking for an increase at this time, but is hoping for one for the seasonal staff.
- Parks Millage Appropriations: All millage requests were approved, per the work group, except Boyne City's request for \$25,000, which was funded in the amount of \$10,000. The total appropriation for the year was \$95874.66.
- The millage request for Thumb Lake/Lake Louise request, which the parks committee requested to approve, was turned down because it was not requested by a township entity. Much discussion followed about the mats that are used to control Milfoil. Ross questioned whether the parks department disbursement should be a flat rate distribution or a percentage of the money spent by the local township. Brian said that we should look at this as a preventative measure, at a lesser cost. Denny suggested Ross contact Neil Goody with the DNR to request assistance. Ross once again stated that it should be "some percentage" of monies spent.
- The new web site is still not live but should be up by June 1st.

New Business

- Kierstan will check with Leslie about when she would be able to come up to do her presentation to the County Board about the milfoil treatment.
- The County published the new county brochure. The County parks were listed, but it appears that we will have to publish our own brochure. Susan noted that they didn't use pictures from our parks.

Public Comment

Brian request that at the next meeting, we revisit the swim buoy situation at Whiting Park.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:52 by S. Vrondan, with a motion by J. Parks and seconded by D. Jason. The next general meeting will be at 5:30 on June 20, 2016, at Thumb Lake.

Minutes submitted by: Tim Wieland