

Charlevoix County Parks Committee

Meeting Minutes

June 20, 2016

Opening

The regular meeting of the Charlevoix County Parks Committee was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on June 20, 2016 at Thumb Lake Park by Susan Vrondran, and opened by reciting Pledge of Allegiance.

Present

Jessica Parks, Susan Vrondran, Tim Wieland, Brian Williams, Dennis Jason.

County Commissioner Liaison: Shirley Roloff

Staff: Parks Director Ross Maxwell, Planning Coordinator Kiersten Stark, Park Ranger Josh Cline, Park Ranger Robert Brown

Guests: Leslie Helwig, Ruth Jamison, Doug Waldo, and others

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 16th meeting were approved as written, by Denny Jason and Seconded by Brian Williams.

Financial Report

The Committee reviewed the Parks Department Expense and Revenue Budget for period ending May 31, 2016. Kiersten will e-mail the members a copy of the Non-motorized Trail Budget. Motion to accept was approved by Tim Wieland and seconded by D. Jason.

Directors Report

Ross explained what had been going on verbally. Buoys at Whiting are in, with adjustment for high water. The new landscape rake works well. There are multiple Porta-potties that have been placed. There is a replacement fence being built around the septic tank behind the green building. Picnic tables are being refurbished.

Thumb Lake porta-potties will be delivered this week.

Porter Creek has been mowed and parking lot dragged.

Little Traverse Wheelway - donated bench will installed.

Phase One

Project on time, may have pavement on in two weeks. There is one concern about wetlands, coming into Boyne City, which a meeting this week will address.

Phase Two

We will need to amend the Project Agreement for the Trust Fund Grant from the DNR to extend the project time period and to reflect the changes that were made to the trail route after the grant was approved. Bid letting should happen in August, with construction start date of no later than July of 2017. We need to block off the trail until it is officially open. It was suggested to put an article in the paper stating such. Ross will contact Steve Crain to advise on this. Verbal director's report was approved with a motion by B. Williams and seconded by Jessica Parks. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

1. The new County website is online as described in previous meetings. Brian suggested adding video for the parks page.
2. Thumb Lake. There was further discussion of the Milfoil issue at Thumb Lake. There was discussion regarding Hudson Township's Parks Millage application for funds to treat the Milfoil. The project did not receive Parks Millage funds because the funds would have gone to a non-profit organization as opposed to Hudson Township, and the project was not located on property owned by Hudson Township. The Parks Committee will try to use \$10,000 from the Parks Department budget. Ross will go in front of the Building and Grounds Committee at their next meeting.

A motion was made by D. Jason and seconded by B. Williams, to use \$10,000 from the Parks Department Budget for treatment of Milfoil on Lake Louise/Thumb Lake, for the 2015/2016 fiscal year. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Whiting park wireless service. The only quotes that Kiersten had were from last year. She will contact Charter Business to see if their rates have changed. Brian asked if she can bring the information to the next Parks meeting. Ross stated that he wanted to budget for it in next year's budget. We are hoping to get a seasonal rate. We would have to pay for and install any repeaters that we need.

New Business

1. The Lake Louise Christian Community pizza party will be held July 7, 2016 at Thumb Lake Park.
2. Swim buoys at Whiting Park. Brian has had requests, from fellow boaters, about reducing the swim area on weekends. No one from the swim school was in attendance, but Ross had talked to the director, and stated that "She totally disagrees with you", even though Brian's purposed changes have never been

discussed. Boaters were hoping to have more of a sand bottom area than the clay and rock bottom. Would it possible to change the swim zone, when there is not classes being taught. There was a suggestion to take a census of the swimmers/boaters on July 4th weekend.

A motion was made was made by D. Jason to ask the County Administrator, if it is ok to approach the County's civil counsel, to ascertain if there is a legal reason why we can't move the swim buoys on the weekend. The motion was seconded by B. Williams. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Ruth Jamison complimented the County Parks about the improvements that have been done at Thumb Lake Park, but is concerned about motorcycles riding in unauthorized areas in the park. There was discussion about gating off the park after dusk.

Brian Williams would like to revisit the capital improvements as stated in the parks plan.

Denny Jason questioned about the welcome to Whiting park signs. Ross stated that they would cost \$8,000, and we just didn't have money to do it.

Adjournment

Motion was made by B. Williams and seconded by J. Parks to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m. by Susan Vron dran. The next general meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. on July 18, 2016, at Whiting Park.

Minutes submitted by: Tim Wieland