

Charlevoix County Parks Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday --August 15, 2106

Whiting County Park

Members Present: Pete Gaskin, Caroline Kobylczak, Dennis Jason, Jessica Parks,  
Susan Vrondran and Brian Williams.

Absent Member: Tim Wieland

County Commissioner Liaison: Shirley Roloff

Staff: Director Ross Maxwell, Planning Coordinator Kiersten Stark, Park Rangers  
Josh Cline and Robert Brown

Guests: Ed and Ruth Jameson, Thumb Lake Residents

Call to Order: The monthly meeting of the Charlevoix County Parks Committee was called to order at 5:47 PM by S Vrondran, with recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: The motion to approve the minutes as amended, for July 18, 2016 was made by P Gaskin and seconded by B Williams. Passed unanimously.

Public Comments on Agenda items-- none

Financial Report: Director Maxwell commented that some Revenues were way higher than last year at this time while others are lower. A motion to approve the Financial Reports was made by D Jason and seconded by P Gaskin. Motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report and Status Report:

After much discussion, the motion to approve the Report was made by D Jason and seconded by P Gaskin. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Thumb Lake Eurasian Milfoil treatment expenses of the County's portion will be \$10,000 for this budget year, out of the 2015-16 Parks Department Budget. Next year the cost should be lower since Volunteers will be doing the work and less chemical will be needed-- in the maintenance plan for Thumb Lake Park 2016-17.

Whiting Park Improvement Plan Update - handout of potential 'cost sharing distribution' was discussed briefly with the need to prioritize and encourage more discussion, while the Non-motorized Trail is also another recreation need of resources simultaneously.

Recreation Plan Evaluation - 2016 most of the recommendations are being addressed except the Boat Launch at Whiting Park and the foot bridge at Porter Creek

Nature Area.

New Business:

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Phase 1- September 1 at 11 AM near the entrance **of Young State Park** in one of the parking areas. DNR Grant process requires each Phase to be dedicated. It was unanimous that the Parks Committee host this with many donors and supporters invited to speak briefly.

Parks Committee Meeting on Beaver Island- D Jason reminded us that this is an essential recreational area that is part of our County so we should be aware of these resources first hand. A straw vote was taken with each member's input on the expenditure and value of this daylong meeting. It was a consensus to research these possibilities and to inform members and the public by September 1, 2016.

Thumb Lake Park parking lot gate- Ruth and Ed Jameson said they felt uncomfortable being responsible for locking and unlocking a gate daily, so the Law Enforcement Officials will be contacted to check on the Park at night more often when possible.

Public Comment- B Williams requested that a few invasive, taller shrubs be cut for a better view of Lake Charlevoix for some campsites **at Whiting Park**.

Adjournment: meeting was adjourned at 7:27 PM with a motion by J Parks and seconded by B Williams. The next meeting will be on September 19, 2016, on the Beaver Island Recreational/ Educational tour or at Whiting Park at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Caroline Kobylczak (acting Secretary)