

Charlevoix County Parks Committee

Meeting Minutes

11/21/2016

Opening

The regular meeting of the Charlevoix County Parks Committee was called to order at 5:45 on 11/21/2016 at Charlevoix County Building, by Susan Vron dran, and followed by recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance.

Present

Committee members: Susan Vron dran, Caroline Kobylczak, Tim Wieland, Pete Gaskin, Brian Williams, Dennis Jason

County Commissioner Liaison: Shirley Roloff

Parks Staff: Director Ross Maxwell, Planning Coordinator Kiersten Stark.

Absent: Jessica Parks

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the 10/17/2016 were approved as distributed. Motion Made by D. Jason and seconded by P. Gaskin and passed unanimously.

Public Comment: None

Financial Reports:

- **Park:**
 - There was \$620 in camping fee collected in October
 - Motion made by Denny, supported by Pete to approve financial report.
Approved unanimously
- **Non-Motorized Trail:**
 - There are \$88,600 in local match for Phase I
 - We have \$1,095,700 in grant funds for Phase I
 - Phase I will be approximately \$100,000 dollars in the red, but should be able to cover.
 - We may have to apply for another grant to cover Phase II
 - The County general fund took the money that was budgeted for the parks, because the park didn't use it.
 - We are committed to use NWDG for trail through Phase II.

Directors Report

- **Whiting Park**
 - Cleaned the Whiting Monument
 - New credit card system at the park
 - Still working on a reservation calendar, but not online customer reservation yet.
 - Buildings are shut down and winterized.
- **Thumb Lake**
 - Snow fence up
- **Porter Creek**
 - Will open gate when we get snow
- **Wheel way**
 - Wrapped up and ready for winter
- **BC-CHX Trail**
 - PHASE I.* Cleaned pine needles in the Young State section. Supplied Stutzman's with trees
 - PHASE II*
 - PHASE III*
 - Motion made by Tim and supported by Brian to approve Directors report as read. Approved unanimously.

Old Business

- **Boyne to Chx non-motorized trail**
 - **Phase I**
 - Punch list complete except for the trail move at the Boyne City limits
 - Permanent fence at that site should be in this month
 - Grant reimbursement paperwork should be turned in before the end of the year.
 - **Phase II**
 - Pre construction meeting with all parties to review project schedule and plans.
 - Intergovernmental agreement between Charlevoix County and the CCRC was approved by CCRC board and is now awaiting approval by the full County Board.
 - Having trouble finding quotes for the appraisal of a section of property in phase II for their tax purposes.

- There will be an informational meeting for property owners along the trail, 12/10/2016 at the Hayes Township hall. Notice will be posted at the township hall.

-Phase III

-Park of the Pines has agreed with developing plans for a trailhead on the property for the non-motorized trail. The Park of the Pines wanted to have flush toilets in the facility. There was question as to who would really own it, who would maintain it, who pay for the difference in cost, etc. The trail progress won't be affected either way.

- Charlevoix County Community Foundation said they would not be willing to set up a fund on the County's behalf to accept donations for the trail. They suggested that we set up a fund with Top of Michigan Trails Council to accept donations for trails.

- A motion was made by Denny and seconded by Pete to request the County Board to establish a fundraising account with Top of Michigan Trail Council to receive funds for phases III-V of the Non-motorized trail. Motion carried.

- The North Country bike club raised, \$4,600 at the fundraiser at Bella Vita restaurant, part of which may be donated to B.C. - CHX Trail.

- **Whiting Park improvements**

- Ross updated the proposed improvement plans for Whiting Park. Even with the revised scope of the project it will still be around \$600,000 total cost. Denny wondered if we could split that into phases. In discussion it was suggested that a second toilet be put in the shower building instead of the 4-H swim school supplies. Brian offered to pay for any of the County board members to come and camp on any non-electric site.

- **Capital Improvement plan**

- New completion dates were assigned to some of the existing capital improvement plan items. Some of the items were pushed back to future pending financial availability. Ross begrudgingly said he would go before the building and grounds committee the first Wednesday in December to remind the board that Whiting Park is still a work in progress.

New Business

- Name tags for Parks Committee members. Need to decide on a background for the name tag. Kiersten said that she would get a few options out to use before the next meeting.

- The cutoff date for the township grants is February 1st, 2017. Try to get the townships to apply.

Public Comment – None

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:34 by Susan Vrondran, with a motion was made by Denny and seconded by Caroline. The next general meeting will be at 5:30 pm on December 19, 2016, at the Boyne City Library.

Minutes submitted by: Tim Wieland