

Parks Committee Minutes on June 15, 2015, 5:30 PM  
Thumb Lake County Park

CALL to ORDER: The Monthly Meeting was called to order by Chairperson at 5:33 PM with the attendees reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. All Parks Members present with Guests: Leslie Helwig (LLCC), John Marshall, Doug Waldo, Frank Wasylewski, John & Meridith Herrington and Bob & Sue Cody (who hosted the members on a boat ride to observe the Eurasian Milfoil).

APPROVAL of MINUTES: D Jason made the motion to approve the minutes from May 18, 2015, supported by B Williams. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at this time.

FINANCIAL REPORT: The new format is now being used with the County Parks & Recreation Millage plus other Revenues. Buoys and the Sears stove in the Green Building at Whiting Park were noted on the Expenditures. P Gaskin made the motion to approve the Financial Report, seconded by C Kobylczak. Motion carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Whiting Park--\* Mobi-mats out (only partially due to high water).

- \* DEQ permit for Beach Enhancements is a 5 year permit, considered a major which requires to be advertised by the Lansing Office and takes more time..
- \* new flag pole by entrance in front of log cabin--checking on solar lighting
- \* installed new double oven range in kitchen of Green Building
- \* ordered new black 18 cu ft refrigerator for log cabin (\$460 Sears)
- \* purchased leaf vacuum for \$700 (from Mark Lansing, Landscaper)
- \* looking into a 1 ton truck to use for leaf pickup for \$2500
- \* going to put Porta-potty in campground for convenience and perhaps one by pavilions (One accessible unit from At Your Service from East Jordan is \$135/mo)
- \* ordering 5 yards or more of Afton Stone for parking lot and near handicap launch
- \* Tobacco Free signs are put up on the beach area
- \* tractor/front end loader is in for repair at Ginop in Alanson (1988 model); the Parks Service needs a bigger and new one!
- \* Waterways Grant was not granted this year for the Boat Launch Addition 72.4 acres (purchased from F Butler):
- \* asked for input from Committee about Trailheads, parking and looped trails
- \* K Fleming from LTC will work with the Staff on the above projects
- \* should have trails marked and view opened up this summer with ribbon cutting in late Summer

Thumb Lake/Lake Louise Park--

- \* working with new Porta-potty Company--Spartan Sewer & Septic Tank from Gaylord, equipped to do a better service (\$340/ month for 3 units, 1 accessible)
- \* put up Tobacco Free signs

Porter Creek Natural Area (Park)--

- \* trail is going to be marked 'Under Construction'
- \* detour made away from wet area and installing detour sign as well as moving # 2 bench
- \* Phase 2 is ready--just needs to be marked
- \* working with LTC with 'boardwalks'

Little Traverse Wheelway--

- \* Josh sprayed for poppers on the trail
- \* Boardwalk has been inspected

Phase 3 BC/Charlevoix Non-Motorized Trail--

- \* Frey Foundation Granted submitted (\$27,000)
- \* Public Hearing was held on June 10, 2015 in Charlevoix for grant

P Gaskin made the motion to approve the Director's Report, supported by S Vrondran.  
Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: Thumb Lake/Lake Louise Eurasian Milfoil update:

- \* Invasive Eurasian Milfoil plant is spreading from the boat launch in narrows it is thick
- \* 160 matts have helped where the matts are located, but around-abundant
- \* spread of the plant is moving toward the County Park area
- \* the Lake Louise Christian Community obtained the joint permit for applying Herbicides. These chemical materials will cost \$15,000 which will be 'spotafied' over the plant only. There are 136 cottagers on Lake Louise and 13 residents/cottages on the island. These concerned citizens are appealing for any assistance we can do in this endeavor.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Pavilion at the County Park on Thumb Lake/Lake Louise--much discussion on the purpose, use, need, view of lake and best location for those factors. F Wasylewski pointed out that this Park was very important as well as other Parks. It was suggested that this Park be visited on the week-end to see the usage so we have more insight for this decision. R Maxwell will research handicap accessibility, water, drain-field costs and locations related to the Pavilion as well as Otsego County's input on funding since many of their residents use this facility (collaboration...!). A vandalism incident was brought up--it was decided to report any vandalism so it can be documented and possibly prevent future cases.

Wireless Internet--K Stark, Planning Coordinator---researched and compared costs and what other camp grounds offer for their Campers.

PUBLIC COMMENT-- D Waldo agreed that the county did need to continue to be updating our facilities since most people who use the Parks have cell phones and other devices that they use for work and pleasure.

ADJOURNMENT: S Vrondran made the motion, supported by D Jason to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Next meeting at Whiting Park then new addition and Porter Creek--July 20, 2015 at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Vrondran