

Parks Committee Minutes, August 17, 2015 @ 5:30 PM  
Whiting County Park

CALL to ORDER: The monthly meeting was called to order by the Vice-Chairperson at 5:30 PM with the reciting of The Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: Caroline Kobylczak, Dennis Jason, Brian Williams, Pete Gaskin, and Susan Vrondran. Member absent: F Healey. Ross Maxwell --Parks Director, Kiersten Stark--Planning Coordinator and Shirley Roloff--Liaison County Commissioner were also present. Guests included: Betsy & Tom Gschwind, County Commissioner George Lasater, Meryn Vrondran, Leslie Helwig and County Clerk Cheryl Potter Browe.

APPROVAL of July 20, 2015 MINUTES: C Kobylczak asked if the members had read the minutes. P Gaskin made the motion to approve the July 20, 2015 minutes, supported by B Williams. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Betsy, Tom and Leslie informed us of the work and expenditures of the Lake Louise Christian Community in treating the invasive aquatic plant species Eurasian Milfoil in Thumb Lake (over \$9,000 this year on the permits and approved pellets with a professional doing the work in this delicate body of water using a GPS device and Broadcast Spreader at a cost of \$4 per pound and getting a major discount by being resourceful). The chemical applications were site specific so those areas are eliminating the invasive plants, but patches are growing continuously in other areas. They also stated that the Eurasian Milfoil is invading the lake closer to the Thumb Lake County Park area so they will be asking the County for donations thus **we need to be proactive in the cause**

Commissioner George Lasater explained that one of his constituents questioned him on the amount of time and expenses of the Boyne City/Charlevoix Non-motorized Trail so far. Director R Maxwell was asked prior to this meeting, his research was: 9 years of working (meetings, hearings and grant seeking) and \$176,610.68 for engineering expenses (-all reimbursable from grants monies and from the Townships and Cities who have already allocated to this endeavor).

FINANCIAL REPORT: After the discussion of the monthly report and asking County Clerk C Browe questions, D Jason moved supported by P Gaskin to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried unanimously.

DIRECTORS REPORT: The Director's Report included a Status Report with more details of the Non-motorized Trail Phases 1--3. C Browe and K Stark will both be researching the "Agreement" with MDOT on the specifics of Charlevoix County's responsibilities of maintenance of The Little Traverse Wheelway. D Jason made the motion to approve the Director's Report, seconded by P Gaskin. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

\* DEQ Beach permit & enhancements to the beautiful beach- the work is done and wants the Members to view this work. After this meeting the members will view this accomplishment!!

NEW BUSINESS:

\* Parks Millage update-- Kiersten Stark Planning Coordinator  
K Stark gave the Membership the handout, "Overview of Requests for Appropriation of Parks Millage Funds 2015" \$68,000 of the 1/3 of Parks & Recreation Millage have been recommended by the Work Group to go to eight applicants. The city of Charlevoix applied for 2 (two), however the Work Group recommended denial of one (1) due to an incomplete application. K Stark stated our comments were welcome and will be considered by the Charlevoix County Board of Commissioners when they approve the applications at their next meeting. D Jason made the motion to request that the remaining funds be put into the County Parks Department Budget to use as local match for the County Parks and Recreation Projects in the Charlevoix County Recreation Plan 2015--2019, supported by P Gaskin. Motion approved unanimously.

\* Parks Budget for 2015-2016  
After much discussion of the needs and requests for enhancements as well as referring to the Charlevoix County Recreation Plan, S Vrondran moved to approved the 'Budget Report', 'Capital Outlay for 2016' and 'Salary Request 2016' as written by Director R Maxwell, supported by D Jason. Motion approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT- none

ADJOURNMENT: AT 7:43 p m C Kobylczak adjourned the monthly meeting. the Membership then viewed the beach work. The next meeting is at 5:30 pm at Whiting County Park on September 21, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Vrondran