

Charlevoix County Parks & Recreation Committee Minutes
Whiting County Park, East Jordan, Michigan
September 21, 2015

Members Present: Fritz Healey, Sr., Caroline Kobylczak, Pete Gaskin, Dennis Jason,
Brian Williams and Susan Vrondran

Staff: Ross Maxwell, Josh Cline, and Kiersten Stark

County Commissioner Liaison: Shirley Roloff

Guest(s): Jeff Minkwic and Randall Sutton (Leadership Charlevoix)

CALL to ORDER: Healey called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

APPROVAL of MINUTES: Williams motioned to approve the August 17, 2015, Minutes as presented, supported by Gaskin. All in favor, motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

FINANCIAL REPORT: After much discussion and questions, motion made by Gaskin and seconded by Williams to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S and STATUS REPORT: (summary only)

- * Whiting Park- dump truck purchased; installed 2 new high efficient toilets for shower building; plan to paint interior of Green Building an antique white; Trail on upper property almost complete and partially marked; East Jordan High School students worked very diligently picking stones off the beautiful beach area for "Day of Caring".

- * Thumb Lake Park- porta-pottys removed; Trail planned for next year

- * Porter Creek Natural Area- Trail marking under construction; signs need to be replaced; # 2 bench moved to red pines

- * Little Traverse Wheelway- boardwalk has been inspected; plan to cutback and clean branches along trail one more time

- * Boyne City to Charlevoix Non-motorized Trail- Charlevoix County Parks Director and Charlevoix County Planning Director are working together on this endeavor:

PHASE 1- since the original bids, costs have increased so expenses must be adjusted. Staff will continue to work on these modifications and submit to MDOT by October 23, 2015, with clearing of trees in early spring 2016 and construction in late spring 2016.

PHASE 2- survey completed, except easement; Northwest Design Group working on easement documents; Right-of-Way Certification, Permits, Final Plans, Proposals & Estimates to MDOT by Nov. 15, 2015; construction bid letting date Feb. 12, 2016; clearing of trees early Spring 2016; construction 2016; committed funding \$1,156,000.

It was noted that the city of Charlevoix was not a contributor and requested that Staff check into this.

PHASE 3- Because of the delays of Phase 1 and 2 the Frey Foundation and North Country Bicycle Club will

not consider providing more grant funds until Phase 2 is built.

Construction is anticipated in 2017. Applying to more sources such as the Native Americans, St Marys Cement and the city of Charlevoix will be researched by Staff.

Charlevoix County Community Foundation grant of \$52,000 will be submitted Oct. 1, 2015. Estimated construction and engineering costs are estimated at \$850,000 for the 2.9 miles in length.

Gaskin made the motion, supported by Jason to approve the Reports. All in favor, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

* Thumb Lake

Eurasian Milfoil invasive plant species, especially in the area around the Thumb Lake County Park was discussed concerning the County Parks Funds used for the prevention of spreading. It was brought up that Hudson Township (since that is the township the Park is located within) could apply to the Parks Milage Granting Process. Kobylczak asked for support so she could explain this to the Hudson Township Board of Trustees. Stark offered to do this with Kobylczak.

* Little Traverse Wheelway Maintenance Resolution with MDOT-- Stark will continue researching for the Resolution, in the meantime, Charlevoix County Parks Staff will continue to care for the Trail that is used and appreciated by so many people.

NEW BUSINESS:

* Parks Mileage update: Stark informed us that the County Commissioners approved the 8 Proposed Projects recommended by the Work Group. The County Commissioners made no decision on our request to return the remaining funds to the Charlevoix County Parks Budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT: ---

Leadership Charlevoix representatives--Jeff Minkwic and Randall Sutton asked for suggestions for their learning experience Project from our Committee. We recommended constructing a new barrier-free Pavilion in the day-use area by the beach--south of existing vault toilets for multi-uses (weddings, picnics and Swim School). This is on the 2015 schedule of the approved "Charlevoix County Recreation Plan". Maxwell gave them the proposed plans and costs for this project. The Committee is grateful that this group will consider helping to enhance our County Parks again!

ADJOURNMENT and NEXT MEETING:

Motion made by Jason and supported by Kobylczak to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM.

All in favor, motion passed. Monday, October 19, 2015 at 5:30 at Whiting County Park in the Green Building is the next meeting.

Respectfully,

Susan Vron dran, Secretary