

ISABELLA COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 5, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Secretary McDonald at 7:00 p.m.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Craig Clingan, Cheryl Jindeel, Ron McDonald, Mike Ferber, Richard Gruss, Doug White, Richard Jakubiec, Roger Trudell

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

John Dinse, Randy Vasold

OTHERS PRESENT

Director Sue Ann Kopmeyer, Parks Supervisor Mike Marsh, CMU Intern Kenny Kott, Pat Trudell

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Agenda was accepted as amended (Trudell/Jakubiec).

INTRODUCTIONS

Secretary Mc Donald welcomed new Park Commissioners, Craig Clingan (at-large), Cheryl Jindeel (Planning Commission), Mike Ferber (Road Commission) and Doug White (at-large) who introduced themselves.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Board Secretary McDonald called for Chairperson nominations.

It was moved (Gruss/McDonald) to nominate Randy Vasold as Chairperson.

Moved (McDonald/Gruss) to close nominations and have a unanimous ballot cast for Randy Vasold as Chairperson. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary McDonald called for Vice-Chair nominations.

It was moved (Trudell/Gruss) to nominate Richard Jakubiec as Vice Chairperson.

Moved (Gruss/Jindeel) to close nominations and have a unanimous ballot cast for Richard Jakubiec as Vice Chairperson. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chairperson Jakubiec called for Secretary nominations.

It was moved (Trudell/Gruss) to nominate Ron McDonald as Secretary.

Moved (White/Trudell) to close nominations and have a unanimous ballot cast for Ron McDonald as Secretary. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

The December 4, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed. **It was moved (Jakubiec/McDonald) to approve the December 4, 2013 Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

CITIZENS= COMMENTS

None

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Director presented the bills for December 2013 – February 2014. It was **moved (Gruss/White) to approve the Financial Summary Report for December 2013, January 2014, and February 2014 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

CAMPGROUND SUMMARY REPORT

Director Kopmeyer gave a brief report on “Opening Day” and preseason campground reservation summary report.

DIRECTOR=S REPORT

Parks Update

Deerfield Nature Park: Disc Golfers have been enjoying both courses (Deerfield and Wildwood) throughout the Fall and Winter. Cross country skiers have had their best ski conditions at the park in years! General preventive maintenance on equipment is being done at the Shop, preparing for the upcoming season.

Coldwater Lake Family Park: Updates at the park include electrical improvement bid from Consumers for \$17,900 has been approved and once the scheduled this spring will install transformer and line to improve the electrical feed on the west side of the campground. The cabins were completed with new siding, interior upgrades and painted. There have been some ash trees removed at the park weakened by the emerald ash borer. Access at the boat launch gate is used for the access to ice fishing on the lake. Shanties are required (by the DNR) to be removed by March 15th.

Herrick Recreation Area & Gilmore Park: Ice fishing has been extremely popular this season. The DNR has set a date of March 15th for all shanties to be off the ice.

Employee/Volunteers

Miranda Walker is the Parks and Recreation Commission new Administrative Secretary. Her first day was Monday, December 2nd. We have two volunteers working with us at this time, one in the office and the other out at the shop. CMU Intern Kenny Kott, started the first of the year and will work in the office until the spring, then out at one of the parks as Park Manager. Interviews will soon start for seasonal staff.

Professional Development

Michigan Parks & Recreation Association Annual Conference: The conference was held in Traverse City on January 20th to the 24th. Three staff members attended (Katrina, Kenny and Sue Ann). Sessions attended include non-motorized trail development and maintenance, Leave no Trace, ADA Facilities (Universal Access), enhancing trail systems, programming, marketing and

DNR Grants Workshop.

Michigan Department of Natural Resources – Trust Fund Workshop: The application process is now on line. Acquisition and Development requests are due April 1 (Coldwater Improvements – look to apply next year).

Programs/Events

Opening Day: We opened for campground reservations for the 2014 season on Friday, January 5, 2014.

NatGeo Filming: NatGeo has been approved for filming in the parks during 2014.

Disc Golf: The Mount Pleasant Disc Golf Club put on the Frigid Doe Ice Bowl on Saturday, January 18th, 2014 beginning at 10 a.m. This even was a benefit for EightCap. The next tournament put on by the Club is the Birdie Bash Saturday, March 30, 2014 at Deerfield and Wildwood Disc Golf Courses. This event is for all skill levels.

Going the Distance for Today's Youth: Central Michigan University Physicians Assistants are putting on a 5k with an Obstacle Course at Deerfield Nature Park. This race is a benefit for Big Brothers/Big Sister and is set for Saturday, April 12, 2014.

Cross Country Skiing Workshop: A cross country ski workshop led by Pete Little was held at Deerfield Park February 8th.

Weddings: There have been 5 weddings scheduled to take place at the Covered Bridge in Deerfield Nature Park during 2014.

Other Programs: Some of the programs taking place in 2014 are; Paddlesports, Interpretive Programs, Bike Parade, Sand Castle, Connecting with the Wildlife, Art from our Park, and Civil War Reenactment.

Mushroom Programs: This spring/summer/fall with Sister Marie (will combine advertising efforts w/ COA, CWC and Mushroom Club).

CMU Film: NINER which was written and produced by CMU Students will premier at Celebration Cinema April 1st (6p.m. and 9p.m.) This PG-13 film has some scenes that were filmed at Deerfield Park last year.

Project

Director Kopmeyer updated the board on the electrical improvements at Coldwater Lake Family Park. Brown and white park signs are also in the works.

Outreach

Non-Motorized Community Pathway: Director Kopmeyer updated the Board of the plans for a non-motorized community pathway leading from the Village of Shepherd to the south end of Mt. Pleasant. Working with the Village, Gratiot County Parks, MDOT (local TSC) and Rowe

Engineering the Village of Shepherd will be turning in an application for the first part of this regional trail from Shepherd to Mt. Pleasant

Michigan Association of County Parks & Recreation Organizations: Isabella County Parks will be Hosting the winter MACPRO meeting at the COA this Friday, March 7th at 10 a.m. Deputy Director Steve Currie from MAC will talk about membership, services, and legislative matters related to County Parks.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dog Park Proposal: Director Kopmeyer provided an update that the \$5,000 from the County Parks Restricted Funds (donations received over the years) was approved by the Board of County Commissioners. Funds donated in the late 90's by Bud Fisher will be used, and a letter stating his support has also been received.

Board of County Commissioners Meeting: The Director stated that once we decide on a good Board of County Commissioners Meeting date she will contact County Administrator/Controller Margaret McAvoy to get on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

The Director briefly discussed the 2014 meeting schedule. Summer meeting held at the Parks will be confirmed at the April meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Drain Commission: Commissioner Jakubiec updated the Parks Board on working with Lake Isabella over their water system with part of the agreement being that Lake Isabella may want to acquire Gilmore Park for future development into a trail head for a walking trail around a portion of the lake.

The next Parks and Recreation Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 2, 2014 at the Isabella County Building Room 225 beginning at 7:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved to adjourn (Gruss/White) at 8:17 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary Ron McDonald