

# Mecosta County Park Commission

## March 11, 2010

The March 11, 2010 meeting was called to order by the Vice Chairman at the Administrative Office in Paris, MI at 7:00 pm. MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Cookingham, Mrs. Howard (arrived late), Mr. Nichols, Mr. Stout, Mrs. Strong, Mr. Todd and Mr. Wayer. MEMBERS ABSENT: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mr. Jefts, and Mr. Peek. Also present: Gary Brown, Erin Bean, Karen Morningstar and various members of the public.

**Minutes:** February 11, 2010 Board Meeting: Mr. Cookingham moved, seconded by Mr. Nichols to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2010 Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried.

March 8, 2010 BBQ Stand Committee Meeting: Mr. Cookingham briefed and reviewed the minutes with the Board. Mr. Cookingham moved, seconded by Mr. Nichols to approve the minutes of the March 8<sup>th</sup> BBQ Stand Committee Meeting. Motion carried

Mr. Cookingham moved, seconded by Mr. Nichols to enter into a contract with Big Dog BBQ. Mr. Nichols asked if the contract was going to be reviewed. Superintendent stated he has minor details to work out with Mr. Thompkins. Board approval for the contract is needed. Superintendent will draft the contract and have prepared for Consumers to review also. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Mr. Thompkins thanked the Board for the opportunity and partnership.

Ray Pointer of the Mecosta Morton Area Historical Society was present to remind the Board of his presence 1 year ago regarding the School House work. Last year the school house was open by appointments. Mr. Pointer requested a date to have the school house open to allow contractors inspection of the building before the bids are due and Mr. Pointer requested a park attendant present and to have the building open for 6-8 hours. Signatures have been obtained from the County. Superintendent stated the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April would probably be the best date.

### Reports & Updates:

*Rules & Regulations:* Superintendent explained, a couple of new rule changes need to be discussed before going to the county for approval. Mr. Wayer stated the changes should have been brought to the Rules and Regulations Committee. The other addition is Mooring posts. Superintendent explained the residents from School Section Lake come to the park by boat and take the spots from our paying customers. We own to the waters edge. Otto Kamptner has informed the Superintendent we can do anything to control beaching watercraft, however, we have no control over boats that anchor outside of the waters edge. Superintendent proposed to post signage that states mooring between these signs are for registered guests only. Discussion followed regarding if we own to the waters edge or to the center of the lake. Mr. Nichols will research this issue and inform the Superintendent of his findings on Monday. Mr. Cookingham recommended to put this issue before the Rules and Regulations Committee. A meeting was scheduled for Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup> @ 3:00 p.m. Mrs. Howard is to be notified.

*Bike Rentals:* Superintendent stated 21 helmets were not needed. 10 one size fits all are needed at a cost of approximately \$200, which brings our grand total to \$940 with a total budget of \$1000. Superintendent checked with MMRMA regarding the bike rentals who stated helmets are mandatory and offered other advice. Mr. Todd moved, seconded by Mrs. Strong to purchase the bikes and helmets for rental at Paris Park. Motion carried.

*Lifting Requirements.* Superintendent recommended changing the lifting requirements to 50 pounds across the board.

7:40 pm. – Mrs. Howard arrived.

Mr. Nichols felt 50 pounds is too much and suggested 35 pounds. Mr. Cookingham suggested adding this item to the Rules and Regulations Committee agenda. Mr. Wayer would look at the distinction between a requirement and restriction

*Extended Season:* 2010 fall season – Superintendent stated the Paris Park Seasonal campers filed a petition requesting to extend the season. Superintendent also stated this was discussed in every park except Brower last year. Superintendent suggested to have a Committee review this. Mr. Cookingham suggested having the Finance Committee review and reporting back to the Board

*SSLVP Boat Ramp:* Superintendent has been in contact with the DNRE and has plans to meet them after ice out to discuss options.

*Brower, Tubbs and Haymarsh Open:* April 2<sup>nd</sup> – weather permitting.

*Incident/Accident Report:* One Incident Accident report was reviewed.

**Correspondence:** none

**Financial:**

*Revenue vs. Expenses:* were reviewed

*Adjustments:* none

*Approval of Bills:* Mr. Cookingham moved, seconded by Mr. Todd to approve the bills as presented including the customary and ordinary bills. Motion carried by roll call vote.

*Financial Report* was given

*Set Asides* were reviewed.

*2010, 2011, 2012 Audit Bids:* were opened and reviewed. Mr. Todd moved, seconded by Mrs. Howard to contract with Baird, Cotter and Bishop for \$15,480 for the three years. Motion carried

*Toilet Paper Bids:* were opened and reviewed. Mr. Cookingham moved, seconded by Mrs. Strong to accept the bid from Mills Janitorial for the Prime Source toilet paper measuring 4.5 X 3.75 in the amount of \$34.75 per case for a total of \$2258.75 for 65 cases. Motion carried.

*Ice Bids:* were opened and reviewed. St. Bernard's and Arctic Glacier submitted bids. Mrs. Strong moved, seconded by Mr. Cookingham to accept the bid from Arctic Glacier of \$0.80 per bag for the 2010 season. Motion carried.

*Stump Grinder:* Superintendent is seeking direction from the Board on whether to purchase a stump grinder or hire the project for completion. Mr. Cookingham suggested going out for bids to hire a stump grinder. Mrs. Howard moved, seconded by Mr. Todd to authorize staff to prep bid documents to remove the stumps as soon as possible. Motion carried. Staff was directed to do a call around with the results.

*Gator*: Superintendent requested to purchase a Gator this year. After discussion the Superintendent was directed to acquire bids and present them at the April meeting.

**Public comment:** None.

**Other Business:**

*Front Pond Project*: The project is to build and install a guard rail around the front pond. The Ferris State University has agreed to donate the labor and engineering for the project. The cost of the materials will approximately \$3,250. MMRMA has approved a grant for up to \$1625 (50% of the cost). Mrs. Strong moved, seconded by Mr. Cookingham to move forward with the project. Motion carried.

At this time, Mr. Raymond Pointer greeted the Board. Mr. Pointer stated he would like to find information regarding three buildings that used to be on the South side of the park. Mr. Pointer added this is a landmark and wanted to know if the Park Commission was going to be with them. Mr. Wayer stated the Park Commission has put money into the repairs of the building and asked where their projected funds are coming from. Mr. Pointer stated a small grant is coming from the Mecosta County Community Foundation and Annette Kirk has written another grant to the DOW Foundation. Mr. Pointer stated fixing and repairing is not enough. Mrs. Howard was also invited to attend the Mecosta Morton Area Historical Society meetings, which take place on the first Monday of every month 10:00 at the township hall. Mrs. Strong asked how many visitors they had last year. Mr. Pointer replied 300-400. Mrs. Strong asked if the surrounding schools are utilizing this building for educational purposes. Mr. Pointer stated not so much.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Cookingham moved, seconded by Mrs. Strong to adjourn @ 9:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Fitzgerald  
Secretary