

Mecosta County Park Commission Board Meeting

The January 26th, 2017 Board Meeting of the Mecosta County Park Commission was called to order at the Administration Office in Paris, MI at 6:00 PM by Superintendent Jeff Abel.

Roll Call

Members Present: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mr. Johnson, Mr. O'Neil, Mr. Perialas, Mr. Stratton and Mr. Vogel.
Members Absent: Mr. Stanek, Mr. Maxwell, Mrs. Vargo and Mr. Wheeler. Others Present: Jeff Abel - Superintendent and Kathy Maclean - Administrative Clerk.

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Fitzgerald motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Stratton motioned, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the minutes of the December 20th Park Commission Meeting, January 17th Personnel Committee Meeting and January 20th Finance Committee Meeting. Motion carried.

Election of Officers: The Parks' Superintendent opened the floor for nominations of the Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Stratton nominated Mr. O'Neil, Mr. Perialas supported and moved to close nominations for the Chairman and cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. O'Neil for Chairman. Motion carried.
Mr. O'Neil to serve as Chairman for 2017.

The Superintendent turned over the meeting to the Chairman.

Vice Chairman: Mr. Perialas nominated Mr. Stratton, Mr. Johnson supported. Mr. Vogel moved to close nominations for Vice Chairman and cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Stratton. Motion carried.
Mr. Stratton to serve as Vice Chairman for 2017.

Secretary: Mr. Perialas nominated Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mr. Vogel supported and moved to close nominations for Secretary and cast a unanimous ballot for Mrs. Fitzgerald. Motion carried.
Mrs. Fitzgerald to serve as Secretary for 2017.

Rules of Order: Mr. Stratton moved, seconded by Mr. Vogel to follow Roberts Rules of Order with the amendment of allowing the Chairman to act as a voting member of the Commission. Motion carried.

2017 Committee's

The Chairman has requested that Board Members submit their Committee appointment preferences. Committee appointments will be announced before the next board meeting.

Public Comment: Mr. Maples congratulated Mrs. Bean on her appointment to Park Operations Manager.

Reports and Updates

Superintendent's Updates

The Superintendent updated the Commission on the progress of 20 current projects including the following:

Brower Boat Launch Modification – Engineered drawings and a letter of support from Consumers Energy has been received and application for DEQ permit submitted.

School Section Lake Veterans Park – The campground has been voted Mecosta County's 2016 People's Choice. An ad has been created to run in the paper's announcement section.

Merrill-Gorrel Fishing Pier – The DEQ permit has been approved and received. The work has tentatively been scheduled for the spring cleaning weekend just before the park opens.

Rental Cabin Electric – Mecosta Township's February meeting will include discussion regarding the cabin electric ordinance with a tentative public hearing date scheduled for March 7th.

Incident/Accident Reports: None.

Correspondence

Thank You from Helen Burden was shared with the Commission regarding the receipt of her Lifetime Access Pass commemorating her 15+ years of service on the Parks Board.

Research Study Request – A request to complete a follow-up research project at Tubbs Campground and Merrill-Gorrel Park has been received. Mr. Vogel motioned, seconded by Mr. Perialas to permit the study at Merrill-Gorrel and provided the DNR approves, also, at Tubbs. Motion carried.

Committee Actions

Finance

Merchant Services Fees – Summary Report – 2015 VS 2016 was reviewed.

MERS allocation for 2017 – Mr. Stratton motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to make payments in the amount of \$2500 monthly. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Buyout of Tubb's Island Campground – A request has been received to exclusively rent the Tubbs' Island Campground for 3 nights at a premium rate of \$250/night. Mr. Perialas motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to accept the request for the Tubb's Island Campground buy-out at the offered price. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote. Commission discussed allowing other groups to utilize the same agreement terms in the future if requested.

Trash Contract – A draft bid sheet was reviewed and approved to be sent to vendors. Sealed bids will be accepted until February 20th, 2017 at Noon for trash collection services.

Tree Service – Limb Evaluations – The Superintendent has recommended a review and trimming of all potentially hazardous limbs in the parks. Commission members agreed to have this service scheduled.

Firewood Process – An offer to purchase firewood for resale in bulk packages and bundles, as an exclusive vendor, was reviewed and discussed. Additional vendors will be contacted to provide a pricing comparison for this type of service.

Masterplan

Goose Nesting and Round-up Permit 2017 - Mr. Vogel motioned, seconded by Mr. Johnson to move forward with the Brower Park application for Goose Nest and Egg Destruction and Goose Round-Up. Motion carried.

Personnel

Operations Manager Position Update – Erin Bean was introduced to the Commission as the new Operations Manager with a February 7th start date.

Financial

Financial Report – Revenue, Expenses & Cash Spreadsheet were reviewed.

Approval of Bills

Mr. Vogel motioned, seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald to pay the bills in the amounts of \$14,837.11, \$9,954.52, \$28,049.73 and \$1,672.30. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Public Comment: None.

Other Business: Next Meeting is February 21st at 6:00 PM.

Adjournment 7:00 PM