

Mecosta County Park Commission Board Meeting

The March 21, 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 Chairman O'Neil.

Roll Call

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

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Vargo motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mrs. Vargo to approve the Minutes of the February 21st Park Board Meeting, March 1st Master Plan Committee Meeting, March 8th Rules and Regulations Committee Meeting and the March 20th Master Plan Committee Meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Reports and Updates

Superintendent's Update

The Superintendent updated the Commissioners on the progress of 12 current projects including:
Brower Boat Launch Modifications - Both DEQ and Soil Erosion permits have been received. Work will commence shortly with an anticipated completion of one week.

Website Revisions - A website training session has been completed related to the Park Commission new website. The new site will be going live soon with staff now able to complete any updates necessary.

Wi-Fi Update for Brower - Skyweb expects to start tower construction the week of March 27th.

Cabin Electric for Brower - Mecosta Township has passed the ordinance that allows electricity to be installed in the existing cabins. Remus Electric has been contacted to schedule the work ASAP.

Fines & Penalties in the Parks - A meeting will be scheduled with the Sherriff and Prosecuting Attorney to discuss possible changes to the parks rules and regulations ordinance, which would permit an employee or employees the ability to issue monetary civil infractions.

School Section Internet - Quotes to add an internet hot spot to School Section Lake Park have been received from Casair and Charter Communications. A third vendor was contacted, but a response has not yet been received.

Incident/ Accident Reports: None

Correspondence

A letter of appreciation and a reimbursement check has been received from Shirley Proctor, representing the Merrill-Gorrel Seasonal Campers. Funds received cover MCPC purchased building materials for an update to the parks fishing dock. The camper fund was also utilized to purchase the floats for the platform.

Committee Actions

Finance

Toilet Paper Quotes – Quotes were reviewed and discussed. Mrs. Fitzgerald motioned, seconded by Mr. Wheeler to award the toilet paper purchase to Follex Distributing for \$3,870. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Tree Service Quotes - Quote was reviewed and discussed. Mr. Johnson motioned, seconded by Mrs. Vargo to award the Tree Service Project to Cook's Tree Service for \$10,800. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Masterplan

DNR Fisheries Agreement -The DNR Fisheries Division would like to conduct a trial fish hatchery operation at the Paris Fish Hatchery in 2017. This one year trial would include raising fingerling walleye and feeder minnows, pond modifications, monitoring and harvesting. With successful results, the DNR would like to continue the rearing operation in 2018 and beyond. Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Stratton to support the Master Plan Committee's recommendation and agree to the MDNR fish rearing trial. Motion carried.

Parks Survey - The Commissioners reviewed and discussed a draft survey format. Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mrs. Vargo to accept the Master Plan Committee's recommendation and move forward with survey creation and dissemination. Motion carried.

Paris Park Lease - The Superintendent reviewed the recent changes with the Commissioners. Mrs. Vargo motioned, seconded by Mr. Johnson to forward the current draft to the County Board of Commissioners for review and approval of the final copy. Motion carried.

Rules & Regulations

Seasonal Campsite Process Change - Proposed changes will include a two-lottery process that provides preference to returning Seasonal Campers that are changing sites, over new Seasonal Campers. In addition, form and procedural changes will expedite the process for all. Mr. Wheeler motioned, seconded by Mr. Johnson to support the Rules & Regulation Committees recommendation to change the Seasonal Campsite process. Motion carried.

Winter Camper Storage - A revised policy draft was reviewed and discussed. Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Wheeler to allow Seasonal Campers to winter store their campers on their sites at Paris and Merrill-Gorrel. Motion carried.

Wood Vendor Process – The Superintendent reviewed proposed changes to the wood vendor process. Mrs. Vargo motioned, seconded by Mr. Johnson to adopt the recommended changes to the wood vendor process. Motion carried.

Financial

Financial Report - Revenue & Expenses & Cash Spreadsheet - Were reviewed and discussed.

Approval of Bills - Mr. Stratton motioned, seconded by Mr. Stanek to pay the bills in the amounts of: \$8,179.86, \$1,217.34, \$7,577.84 and \$20,880.68. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Public Comment: None

Other Business: Next Board Meeting is April 18th at 6 PM.

Adjournment: 6:55 PM