

Mecosta County Park Commission Commission Meeting

The October 16, 2018 Commission Meeting of the Mecosta County Park Commission was called to order at the Mecosta County Services Building in Big Rapids, MI at 5:00 PM by, Vice Chairman, Mr. Stratton.

Roll Call

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Vargo motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to approve the Minutes of the September 18th Park Commission Meeting. Motion carried.

Public Comment None.

Reports and Updates

Superintendent's Update

The Superintendent updated the Commission on 12 current and completed projects, including:

Septic at School Section Screens have been installed around the 2 lift pumps; Miss Digs has been marking lines in the park in preparation for the pipe replacement under the roadway.

Sturgeon Update The sturgeon has been released to the front rainbow trout pond at Paris.

Trout Release has been scheduled for November 10th, as part of the Smithsonian "WaterWays" Exhibit.

Directors' Meeting A brainstorming/walkabout with the Director of Newaygo County Parks and Managers from Big Prairie Township Parks was completed on October 10th and found to be beneficial and informative for all participants.

Brower Mooring Posts at the deep-water channel have been replaced and mooring post replacement at the shallow water channel has begun.

Incident/Accident Reports: None.

2019 Seasonal Camper Report: As of October 12th, Brower Park had sold out all 120 Seasonal Sites and a waiting list of 19 remained from the lottery; School Section had sold out all 97 Seasonal Sites and a waiting list will be developed as needed; Merrill-Gorrel had 60 Seasonal Sites reserved and Paris Park, 22. All parks are up from last year; Merrill-Gorrel and Paris are up from 53 and 13, respectively.

Correspondence – ArtWorks Donation

The after-school art program students created a mosaic fish that they would like to present to Paris Park/Fish Hatchery at the closing ceremony and fish release scheduled for November 10th at Paris Park.

Committee Actions

Masterplan

Ornamental Tree Grant - School Section & Paris The Muskegon River Watershed Assembly (MRWA) has reached out to the MCPC to request we join them in the pursuit of a MDEQ - Nonpoint Source Program grant. The Commissioners reviewed the Superintendent's recommendations and discussed the Parks' matching funds requirement being fulfilled thru labor dollars and tree maintenance. Mrs. Vargo motioned, seconded by Mr. Maxwell to collaborate with the MRWA in pursuit of a NSP grant. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Sign Creation Proposal A proposal for research and creation of educational signs for the parks from Manning Design was reviewed and discussed. Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mrs. Vargo to accept the Manning Design proposal for 4 interpretive signs at a cost of \$8620. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Staggered Reservations for Parks The Commission discussed options to assist in the prevention of a reservation system crash when reservations open for 2019. One option approved for implementation was to open reservations for Brower Park at 12:00 PM and School Section, Merrill-Gorrel, and Paris Parks at 4:00 PM on the same day to decrease the initial reservation surge at 12:00 PM.

Concessions

End of Season Report Mr. Stanek reviewed School Section's Concession end of season gross revenue, item quantities sold report and donated items list.

Financial

Financial Report - Revenue & Expenses, Cash Spreadsheet, Year-to-Year - Reports were reviewed and discussed.

Budget Adjustments - Review and Approvals - Mr. Vogel motioned, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the budget adjustments as presented. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Approval of Bills - Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Peralas to approve the bills in the amounts of \$12,847.92, \$33,768.79, \$1,659.09, \$9,165.33 and \$13,186.28. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Public Comment: None

Other Business:

Mr. Peralas requested that the minutes show MCPC's recognition and appreciation to the City of Big Rapids for the use of their wood chipper during the Paris Park storm damage clean-up.

Next Commission Meeting is Nov. 27th, 2018 at the Administration Building in Paris.

Masterplan Committee Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 29th at 10 AM at the Administration Building in Paris.

Adjournment: 5:50 PM.