

## **Mecosta County Park Commission Commission Meeting**

The November 27, 2018 Commission Meeting of the Mecosta County Park Commission was called to order at the Administration Office in Paris, MI at 6:00 PM by the Chairman, Mr. O'Neil.

### **Roll Call**

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

### **Approval of Agenda**

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

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Vogel motioned, seconded by Mr. Stanek to approve the Minutes of the October 16<sup>th</sup> Park Commission Meeting and the October 29<sup>th</sup> Masterplan Committee Meeting. Motion carried.

### **Correspondence**

**Circle K Club/Haunted Hatchery** Alec Shackelford, President, Circle K Club and Ron Kanitz, Kiwanis Club Adviser, presented the Park Commission with a donation check for \$750 from a portion of the Haunted Hatchery door proceeds. The donation is to benefit youth programming in the parks.

**Workers Comp Refund** A letter from Mr. Paul Bullock, Mecosta County Administrator, was reviewed which outlined a Workers Comp refund provided to the parks.

**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** The pipe replacement under the roadway has not been completed. A balance of \$6000 is being retained from the contractor pending completion as well as final payment to Lapham Associates in excess of \$5,000. A reimbursement payment from Lapham Associates to MCPC for \$12,000 is also outstanding.

**Trout Release** The DNR Fisheries Division completed an inspection of the ponds prior to the release; the findings were very positive. The release was successful with an estimated 100+ people in attendance.

**Paris Tree Clean Up** The contractor is onsite and has been removing log debris quickly. Their agreement has been extended to include the removal of underbrush from the mature tree canopy on the riverbank at a cost of \$1500-\$2000.

**A Paris Volunteer** has been working to upgrade the historical displays for the hatchery building. The cost is anticipated to be minimal. Locking display cases may be purchased and permanently installed at a later date.

**A Bucket Truck** has been purchased for \$6000 and has a bucket height of around 25 feet.

**Incident/Accident Reports:** None.

## Committee Actions

### Masterplan

**Dragon Trail - Bridge Development Proposal** The Commission reviewed and discussed the Preine & Newhof proposal to provide engineering, surveying and design services for three wooden suspension bridges (estimated lengths of 64, 100 and 70 feet). Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mrs. Vargo to approve the proposal and expense of \$90,100 from the Dragon Trail funding account, once FERC approval is obtained, and adequate funding levels have been secured as deemed appropriate by the Dragon Trail Executive Committee. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**Parks Millage 2020** The Commission reviewed and discussed a millage recommendation from the Committee. Mr. Vogel motioned, seconded by Mr. Maxwell to request from the County Board of Commissioners that a parks day use improvement millage of .3 mil for a term of 5 years be placed on the August 2020 primary ballot. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**White Pine Valley Recreation Area** The Commission discussed the Committee's recommendation to request that the County Board of Commissioners evaluate the property for possible withdrawal from inventory, as the property is not being considered for development through the parks Masterplan process. Mr. Vogel motioned, seconded by Mr. Peralas to request that the County Board of Commissioners evaluate this location as surplus property and consider options for removal of the property from inventory. Motion carried unanimously.

**Memorial Bench Program** was reviewed. The Commissioners support the Superintendent's recommendation to provide the community with a memorial donation opportunity. Donation levels and installation locations to be determined by the Superintendent.

**2019 - Annual Vehicle Permit Design** two designs were reviewed. Mrs. Vargo motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to approve an orange square design for 2019 and the green design for 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

### Finance

**2019 MParks Conference** Cost and benefits of attendance were reviewed. Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to have the Superintendent attend the conference. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**2019 Grand Rapids RV Show** Cost and benefits of attendance were reviewed. Mr. Maxwell motioned, seconded by Mr. Peralas to have MCPC participate in the show. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

### Concessions

**Fire Starter Sales – MOISD** The Commissioners recommend supporting this program and purchasing a supply of fire starters to offer for sale in School Section's Concessions building.

### Financial

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

**Approval of Bills** - Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Peralas to approve the bills in the amounts of \$6,607.65, \$14,272.96, \$6,000.00, \$4,618.98 and \$5,630.47. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

**Public Comment:** None

### Other Business:

**Next Commission Meeting** is December 18, 2018 at the Administration Building in Paris.

**Adjournment:** 7:05 PM.