

Mecosta County Park Commission Commission Meeting

The September 18, 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, Chairman, Mr. O'Neil.

Roll Call

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

Approval of Agenda

The Commission Chair, Mr. O'Neil recommended moving Correspondence to after Approval of Minutes. Mr. Stratton motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Maxwell to approve the Minutes of the August 21st Park Commission Meeting, September 11th Personnel, September 13th Masterplan and September 17th Finance Committee Meetings. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Vicki Sawicki, from North Country Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (NCCISMA), presented an invasive species management plan for Paris Park. The plan includes the removal of invasive and non-native plants, restoration plantings, staff training and educational signage through a multi-year partnership. The Commissioners discussed plan focus and funding. Mrs. Fitzgerald motioned, seconded by Mrs. Vargo to accept the proposal and move forward. Motion carried.

Public Comment None.

Reports and Updates

Superintendent's Update

The Superintendent updated the Commission on 19 current and completed projects, including:

Radio Updates Our FCC license has arrived and dictates specific radio frequencies. The radios are scheduled to be re-programmed to the new frequencies along with the last 2 truck radio installations on the 25th.

2019 Seasonal Reservations 2019 Seasonal Camper deposits are due by September 23rd. School Section, Merrill-Gorrel and Paris Parks are trending ahead of last year. School Section has 51, Merrill-Gorrel 27, and Paris 10; last year, at this time, we were at 36, 12 and 5, respectively.

Paris Storm Damage It has been estimated that Paris Park suffered \$25,000-\$30,000 in damages from the August 28th storm.

Sturgeon Update The lake sturgeon is scheduled to arrive in Paris on October 5th.

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

Tree Evaluation Meeting A meeting has been scheduled with a forester to review the health and viability of the remaining trees in Paris Park.

Incident/Accident Reports: Three reviewed.

Labor Day Occupancy Report: Report was reviewed. Brower was 100% occupied, School Section 98%, Paris Park 86% and Merrill-Gorrel was 83% occupied with the inclusion of the 24 rustic camp sites. Tubbs Lake/Island had 64% occupancy and Haymarsh 32%. Damp, cool weather and Paris Park storm damage played a part in lower than normal occupancy at Merrill-Gorrel, Paris, Tubbs and Haymarsh.

Committee Actions

Masterplan

2019 Capital Projects Budget - The Committee's recommendations were reviewed.

Personnel

2019 Staffing Budget - The Committee's wage and salary recommendations for Full-Time Staff, Seasonal Co-Managers and Seasonal Hourly Staff were reviewed and discussed.

Finance

Budget Review - Projected 2018 and 2019 fund balance was reviewed and discussed.

2019 Budget Approval - Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the 2019 budget as presented and recommended by the Finance Committee. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Paris Tree Contractors - The Superintendent reviewed 2 proposals for the remaining storm damage cleanup. The Committee supports the decision to move forward with American Classic. Whereas, we will receive 360 bundles of wood in the spring in exchange for them removing already downed trees, downing and removing forester recommended trees and the standing dead, in and around the park grounds, trails and bluff. Also included is general clean-up of tree tops and assistance in the replacement of up-rooted stumps. American Classic to keep and haul off-site all logs to be used for lumber/forestry products as they see fit.

Dump Station Fees - Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Stratton to approve a dump station usage fee of \$20. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Financial

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

Approval of Bills - Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the bills in the amounts of \$11,853.19, \$35,602.50, \$2,253.44, and \$8,851.96. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Public Comment: None.

Other Business:

Year End Dinner - October 16th, 6 PM Social Hour, 7 PM Dinner, Mecosta County Services Building.

Next Board Meeting - October 16th, 5 PM, Mecosta County Services Building.

Adjournment: 7:30 PM.