

Mecosta County Park Commission Commission Meeting

The October 20, 2020 Commission Meeting of the Mecosta County Park Commission was called to order at the Mecosta County Services Building and via live video conference at 5:00 PM by the Commission Chairman, Mr. Stratton.

Roll Call

Members Present: Mrs. Bradstrom, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Miller, Mr. O'Neil, Mr. Perialas, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Stratton, Mr. Swier and Mr. Vogel. **Members Absent:** Mr. Roels. **Others Present:** Jeff Abel - Superintendent and Kathy Maclean - Administrative Clerk.

Approval of Agenda

Hearing no objections, the agenda stands approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel to approve the minutes of the September 15th Park Commission meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Reports and Updates

Superintendent's Updates

The Superintendent updated the Commission on 22 current and completed projects, including:

Ice Mountain Grant the Park Commission has been awarded a \$20,000 grant for the creation of a Davis Bridge erosion control plan. The project is anticipated to cost \$26,000-\$27,000. The 2021 budget has been amended to include the additional expense. Prein and Newhof are expected to start work on the project shortly.

Brower Hydro Boat Races was a successful event. Many guests and racers stayed in local hotels and visited local business; along with Brower Park being sold out for the weekend.

Merrill Main Bathhouse drain lines have been augured to resolve clogging issues.

Paris Well contractor has been working to resolve low water pressure issues.

Paris Tree Planting 16 new trees were planted in the camping area of Paris Park with the help of volunteers and a DTE/ReLeaf Michigan Grant.

Paris Ice-House Dam Removal A financial assessment of the possible dam removal is being completed by the Muskegon River Watershed.

Campground Inspection results have been received through-out the season on all campgrounds; the most recent inspection at the FGC lodge noted that the grey water seepage system needs to be replaced or modified prior to next season. No other action items are required throughout the park system.

Brower Park Paving of entrance road and deep water launch will be completed tomorrow.

WPVRA Signs a plan is being developed with the Road Commission for the installation of park signs at 3 intersections.

Dragon Trail Updates - The last 2 bridges of the construction season are being installed; once completed approximately 12 continuous miles of trail will be available from Big Bend to the Hardy Dam Marina. A contract agreement with Spicer is being finalized for their assistance with DNR Trust Fund grand requirements to be utilized during the 2021-22 build seasons. An additional \$50,000 was received as part of the Consumers Energy Foundation Grant toward a total donation of \$200,000 toward the project.

2021 Seasonal Camper Report - School Section and Brower Parks are at Seasonal Camper capacity with waiting lists of 10 and 48, respectively. Paris Park has 6 more seasonal campers scheduled for 2021 than at the end of 2020. Off-season camping unit and deck/shed storage totals were reviewed.

2020 Season Vehicle Report - to be resubmitted.

Incident /Accident Report - 1 incident was reviewed.

Correspondence

School Section Lake Veterans Memorial Project - The Commission has received a letter of the organization's dissolve effective October 6, 2020, now that the Memorial Project has been successfully completed.

Committee Actions

Masterplan

Phat Matt's Food Vendor Matt Lotarski, Phat Matt's Food Truck, requested consideration be given to a multi-year concession contract at Brower Park in exchange for an increase in lease payment. The Finance Committee to consider the request in addition to the possibility of putting a multi-year concession contract out to RFP.

Brower Park Seasonal Operations Commissioners support year-round day use operations within Brower Park while closed to camping. Fee-pipe, signage and campground barriers to be installed.

5 Year Parks Masterplan Survey Matt Levandoski, Prein and Newhof, reviewed and fielded questions regarding survey results. A follow-up Committee meeting has been scheduled for October 26th.

Dragon Trail Pass Program to start in April. The Convention and Visitors' Bureau to meet with hotels to work out program nuances and to follow-up with the Superintendent.

Rules and Regulations

Family Group Camp Commissioners established check-in time to be 3 PM on Monday and check-out at 5 PM on Sunday for weekly rentals.

Personnel

Staffing Update Seasonal park staff have completed their employment except for the leaf crew.

Finance

2021 Final Revised Budget Approval Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mrs. Bradstrom to accept the revised budget as presented. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Financial

Financial Report - Revenue & Expenses, Cash Spreadsheet, Year-to-Year, Concessions -

Financials were reviewed and discussed. Revenue continued upward trend through the end of season in comparison to last year; with the most recent year to date top line revenue comparison being over \$100,000 above last year.

Budget Adjustments - Review and Approval - Mr. O'Neil motioned, seconded by Mrs. Bradstrom to accept the 2020 budget adjustments as presented. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Approval of Bills - Mr. Stanek motioned, seconded by Mrs. Bradstrom to approve the bills in the amounts of \$21,516.22, \$12,446.69, \$25,039.16, \$3,070.79 and \$75,041.12. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Public Comment: None.

Other Business:

Next Scheduled Meetings Tuesday, November 17 at 5 PM at the County Services Building.

Masterplan Meeting Monday, October 26 at 3 PM at the Administration Parks Building.

Adjournment: 6:50 PM