

Mecosta County Park Commission Commission Meeting

The July 16, 2024, Commission Meeting of the Mecosta County Park Commission was called to order at Mecosta County Services Building at 5:00 PM by the Commission Chairman, Mr. Stanek.

Roll Call

Members Present: Mrs. Bradstrom, Mr. Farrow, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Hatkowski, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Lambrix, Mr. Stanek, Mrs. Strong and Mr. Vogel. **Member Absent:** Ms. Miller. **Others Present:** Jeff Abel - Superintendent, Taylor Jutila - Operations Director, Jose Santiago - Operation Manager and Kathy Maclean - Administrative Clerk.

Approval of Agenda

Hearing no objections the agenda stands approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Vogel motioned, seconded by Mr. Lambrix, to approve the minutes of the June 18th Park Commission meeting. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Mr. Griffith recognized Taylor Jutila for the distinguished honor of being nominated for the 2024 Michigan Works! West Central Top 20 under 30 professionals and being voted the number 1 winner.

Reports and Updates

Superintendent's Updates

The Superintendent updated the Commission on 23 current and completed projects, including:

School Section New Sites with the exception of 4 sites, all of the new sites were available for reservations prior to the 4th of July weekend.

School Section Work Campers with dogs have been hired and reside in the staff sites.

School Section Mooring Area administration continues to be a significant challenge. The Rules and Regulation Committee is to evaluate the situation.

School Section/Merrill-Gorrel Cabins are having roofs repaired. 2 of the cabins at School Section are being re-roofed this week and 2 cabin roofs at Merrill-Gorrel will be scheduled for repair, shortly.

Streetlights (predominantly at Brower) are being turned off by campers. A meeting has been scheduled with an electrician to evaluate re-wiring to prevent guest access.

Park Reconciliation for the end of June had been delayed due to credit card processing errors. The discrepancies have been corrected and June revenue reported.

Pasquantonio's Bench has been presented and placed at the WPVRA.

Year to Date Park Report was reviewed, noting revenue is still lagging behind last year, but has improved in recent weeks.

Dragon Trail The 7 Mile Ravine has been completed and the builder is moving into Jim's Ravine.

Save the Ponds Group meeting notes were reviewed.

School Section Lake Expansion Update The trees around the staff sites have been planted, a few punch lists items remain, and the final walk through has been scheduled for July 24th.

Incident/Accident Reports 3 incidents reviewed.

Committee Actions

Masterplan

Brower Shallow Launch Parking Area discussed. It appears the parking area is being used by seasonal campers and their guests as overflow parking. As the area's use is being evaluated, no signage has been posted to designated specific use. The intention is to ensure parking availability to day users. Discussions to be had during the upcoming Meet & Greet event.

Finance

School Section Lake Fish Stocking/Lake Evaluation a review of our financial support for weed remediation services and walleye stocking was provided. Concerns have arisen regarding the fish population variety of the lake and the benefit of a fish survey, it has been 40 years since one has been completed. Time frame for the study would be spring 2025. Mr. Johnson motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel, to partner with the SSLPOA and share the cost of a Streamside Eco Survey, pending the approval of the Property Owners to cover the other 50% of the study's cost. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote. Mr. Griffith motioned, seconded by Mrs. Bradstrom, that we continue our \$750 financial support for walleye stocking this year. Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Recycle Evaluation- Brower Park recycle proposal from Republic Services reviewed and discussed. No action taken.

Personnel

2024 Seasonal Staff Update we currently have 3 positions open with interviews pending.

Financial

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

Approval of Bills - Mrs. Bradstrom motioned, seconded by Mr. Vogel, to approve the bills in the amounts of \$117,144.27, \$69,351.55 and \$30,775.40 Motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

Public Comment: None.

Other Business: Next Monthly Commission Meeting is scheduled for 5 PM, Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at the Mecosta County Services Building.

Meet & Greets and Brower Lottery Scheduling - events to occur within the next month.

Adjourned: 5:55 PM