



need to reconsider how we collect money at Littlejohn Park because last year we did not make enough money to cover the salary for the park attendant and we are heading in the same direction right now. Kevin said we will have three full seasons of data after this year to present. Boat launching fees are down due to the weather and gas prices.

Motion by Chuck Pullen, seconded by Larry Rasmussen, to place the July 2008 Parks budget on record. Motion carried by everyone present.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **NEW RICHMOND BRIDGE PARK UPDATE- CSX, FISH REARING FACILITY**

Kevin spoke with Dan Murphy last week and he said he is working on the easement agreement and has received all the consents he needs. The next step when we get the agreement is to have our lawyers read and okay it then take it in front of the Board of Commissioners and then back to CSX for signatures. The agreement will then need to go to Lansing before we can start this project. The DNR Trust Fund Grant end date is July 31, 2008. Kevin has talked to the DNR and they told him that if the date is close then no big deal but Kevin is concerned that it will take longer and we will lose the Trust Fund Grant.

Kevin has nothing new to report on the Fish Rearing Facility at New Richmond.

##### **LITTLEJOHN LAKE AND SILVER CREEK MASTER PLAN BIDS-PUBLIC MEETING DATES/TIMES**

A copy of the meeting notes from M.C. Smith was passed out. Kevin thanked the Parks Commissioners that showed up to the Littlejohn Park master plan meeting. There were approximately 25 members of the public present at the meeting, most of them being park neighbors. Kevin does not want to eliminate the idea of overnight camping and equestrian use at this park like the neighbors suggested. Kevin stated that we need some kind of revenue generating activity at this park, all the suggestions were great but none of them would increase the revenue. The Parks Commission members agreed that overnight camping at Littlejohn still needs to be part of the long term plan. There were some good suggestions from meeting attendants, such as more nature trails, more interpretive information, shore fishing access, restroom improvements, and playground equipment near the beach area. Many of these will be incorporated into the final master plan.

Kevin reminded the Commission that the Silver Creek public workshop is set for 1pm to 3pm on July 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **LEADERS MARINE PROPERTY**

Leaders Marine that is right next to the Gun Lake County Park is for sale and is listed for \$575,000. The property is about 4.39 acres in size and contains 50' of lake frontage. Kevin thinks they are not including all the land, but this does include the two buildings on the west side of Patterson Road and the buildings on the east side. This was brought up because the Parks Commission has always discussed making Gun Lake Park bigger. The property is zoned commercial. Bruce Culver wanted to know if this is worth pursuing; Kevin said yes he would contact their listing agent and explain where the Parks Commission stands and report back to the Parks Commission.

##### **STORM DAMAGE- DUMONT, NEW RICHMOND, BYSTERVELD, SILVER CREEK**

The total amount will be around \$3,500 just on materials to repair the storm damage. The New Richmond boat launch was completely under water all the way over Old Allegan Road. Dumont Lake Boat Launch was completely under water, the picnic area was under water and the creek was over flowing. At Bystervveld the

trails and parking lots had wash outs and had to be fixed. Silver Creek Park had trails and roads that were washed out and had to be repaired.

#### ADS ON MYHORSE.COM

Kevin received an e-mail from MyHorse.com for advertising. It is a bit pricy- the cheapest category was \$200.00 per month. Kevin thinks that promoting the equestrian trails when they are completed would be a great idea. The general idea of the Parks Commissioners was that there was not enough money for this right now.

#### NEXT MEETING

**The next meeting of the Allegan County Parks Commission will be on Tuesday, August 5, 2008 at 8:30am in the Spartan Conference Room. Meeting next Wednesday for the Silver Creek Master Plan at 1 p.m.**

#### ROUND TABLE

##### **Bruce Culver**

Wanted to know how the equestrian trail system lease process was going now. Kevin said that the DNR reduced the amount of trail in area 4 so that they did not go on the Pittman-Robertson land. The trails are on their way to the DNR Chief's desk and Kevin thinks he will have the trail land lease within a few weeks. Later the DNR would like to reevaluate the trail system to add the miles that were lost in area 4.

##### **Mark DeYoung**

Don't forget about the Dorr 4<sup>th</sup> of July event this week.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Angel Schneider, Clerk