



Allegan County Parks, Recreation, & Tourism

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December 11, 2007

Human Services Building

Spartan Conference Room

8:30am

Minutes of a Scheduled meeting of the Allegan County Parks and Recreation Commission

A scheduled meeting of the Allegan County Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chair Bruce Culver on Tuesday, December 11, 2007 at 8:30am in the Spartan Conference Room in the lower level of the Human Services Building, 3255 122nd Ave, Suite 102, Allegan, Michigan.

Roll Call showed the following members:

PRESENT: Don Black Maryln Langeance
Mark DeYoung Bruce Culver
Chuck Pullen Georgina Rozeboom-Doster
Fritz Spreitzer

ABSENT: Brenda Leep Becky Rininger
Bob Kaarlie

Also Present: Kevin Ricco, Parks and Tourism Director
Angel Schneider, Parks and Tourism Clerk

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

One addition to the agenda under New Business 11a. Reappointment.

Motion by Mark DeYoung, seconded by Don Black, to accept the addition 11a. to the agenda. Motion carried by all present.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTES

Motion by Don Black, seconded by Mark DeYoung, to approve the November 6, 2007 meeting minutes as printed. Motion carried by everyone present.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the most part expenditures have not changed since the last meeting. Revenues are pretty much set for the year Kevin stated, if we add any more revenue it will not be much. Pine Point and Ely Campgrounds are open all year long so there could be some camping revenue. Most parks are within a good range of the projected amount- except Littlejohn, Ely and Pine Point. Look at the total balance number for each park and you will see that for the most part they are in good shape.

Motion by Don Black, seconded by Maryln Langeance, to accept the financial statements into the record. Motion carried by all present.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW RICHMOND BRIDGE PARK UPDATE – RAILROAD, ELLENS PROPERTY

Kevin received the CSXT construction agreement for the New Richmond Park development project a few months back. This is going in front of the Board of Commissioners on December 13, 2007 for action. Kevin hopes to have this project out to bid in February 2008, after talking to the engineers. Kevin has heard that it is a good time of year to put bids out and he hopes to have this project finished by end of 2008. Our \$100,000 Great Lake Fishery Trust grant expires December 2007 so Kevin had to ask for a no-cost extension of the grant to December 2008. The boat launch will have to be closed to be repaired for about a two week period.

Kevin wanted to know everyone thoughts on adding a lake sturgeon fish rearing facility at New Richmond. This project is moving forward. RJ Peterson is responsible for the funding of this project so Parks will not have to pay for it. The project will require a small building on site. This project is something that DNR Fisheries is interested in doing on the Kalamazoo River, but it will take private funding to make it happen. RJ suggested the New Richmond Bridge Park site because he thought it would create additional public interest for the park. Discussions will be ongoing and Kevin will keep the Commission updated. The Parks Commission all appeared to be for the project, no one disapproved.

Ellens Property Discussion:

Motion by Chuck Pullen, seconded by Fritz Spreitzer to move to a closed session for this discussion. Motion carried by everyone present.

Motion by Fritz Spreitzer, seconded by Georgina Rozeboom-Doster, to return to an open session. Motion carried by everyone present.

Motion by Don Black, seconded by Maryln Langeance, to offer 25% over the Fair Market Appraised Value to Dr. Harold Ellens for his property. Motion carried by everyone present.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF 2008 MEETING SCHEDULE

Kevin passed around the 2008 meeting schedule. Except for Jan, 8th, everything else is the first Tuesday of the month like usual.

Motion by Fritz Spreitzer, seconded by Georgina Rozeboom-Doster to approve the 2008 Parks Commission meeting schedule as printed. Motion carried by everyone present.

SILVER CREEK BREAK – IN

Over the Thanksgiving holiday the new locks on the maintenance building at Silver Creek were destroyed. Everything, but the new tractor was stolen. For now the new tractor is being stored off site. The police officers did a police report and are baffled about how the thieves were able to get the lock off the door because the steel bars, are now attached to the new doors. That is another \$1,000 for our insurance deductible that will come out next year. Kevin said an option to install video cameras on site is being explored.

2008 CAPITAL PROJECTS

In the budget process Kevin requested a few Capital Projects, which were all approved. His requests were: a used truck for Pine Point and Ely Lake to replace the retired police car, a new tractor to replace the one at Gun Lake that is 12 years old, and master plans for both Silver Creek Park and Littlejohn Park.

2008 GUN LAKE WINTERFEST

Received a letter from the Barry County Chamber Of Commerce to use the Gun Lake Park for the annual Winterfest. The date would be Saturday February 9th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. They will pay to have the parking plowed, the \$25.00 permit fee and they will have to provide there own place for the heaters for after the polar bear dip. Last year Kevin let them use the already winterize bathroom building with the understanding that no one was to use the toilet and people did so he is not allowing that this year.

Motioned by Don Black, seconded by Georgina Rozeboom-Doster, to approve the use the Gun Lake Park by the Barry County Chamber for the annual Winterfest event. Motion carried by all present.

REAPPOINTMENT

All Parks Commissioners whose terms were to expire in December 2007 were contacted to see if they were interested in another term. The only person who was not interested in another term was Brenda Leep due to her college schedule. The Parks Commission will now have one opening, so Kevin requests that you keep your ears open for a new member. If you find a candidate ask them to put an application into Administration and then attend one of our meetings and see if they are interested. Kevin will send a letter to Brenda Leep letting her know that the Parks Commission really appreciates the work she has done with them.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Allegan County Parks Commission will be on Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 8:30am in the Spartan Conference Room.

ROUND TABLE

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND NEW YEAR EVERYONE!

Kevin Ricco

Kevin did submit our lagoon closure plan for West Side Park to the DEQ and it was approved, so we will not have to pay the groundwater discharge fee this year. We are able to just leave the pond as is. This is an asset for the park, especially in the future.

The campground leases for Pine Point and Ely Lake go in front of the Board Of Commissioners this Thursday for discussion.

Some kids broke into Dumont Lake Park. They cut a small hole in the steel and then through the plywood and crawled in and stole a leaf blower and exited through the main door. The building has been repaired and Kevin is also looking at placing cameras on site at this park due to the secluded location of the park.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

By: _____
Angel Schneider, Parks and Tourism Clerk