

GENESEE COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

The semi-monthly meeting of the Genesee County Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, October 9, 2008, in the Harris Auditorium of the Genesee County Administration Building, 1101 Beach Street, Flint, Michigan.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Ranger, Ex-Officio
Joe Krapohl, President
Jim Pomeroy, Ex-Officio
James Washington, Vice President
Jeff Wright, Ex-Officio
Raynetta Speed, Commissioner
Ted Henry, Commissioner
Mike Keeler, Citizen Representative
Bill Lucas, Secretary
Rose Bogardus, Commissioner

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Amy M. McMillan, Director
Ron Walker, Deputy Director
Nancy Edwards, Recreation Program Specialist
Hilda McShane, Marketing Specialist
Leisa Gagne, Finance Officer
Deborah Wilkes, Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Brian Barkey, Legal Counsel
Jeff Rohrer

(1) CALL TO ORDER

President Krapohl called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

(2) OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

No one from the audience addressed the commission.

(3) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Discussion: There are no items to be removed for further discussion from the consent agenda.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Washington
Supported by Commissioner Ranger

Motion and support for approval of consent agenda items.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Bogardus, Keeler, Krapohl, Lucas, Pomeroy, Ranger, Washington, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Henry arrived at 10:05 and missed this vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9-0

(4) REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL

There is no legal counsel report. Mr. Barkey told the commission that he has photographic proof that our own Hilda McShane ran and finished the Brooksie Half-Marathon this past Sunday. President Krapohl congratulated Ms. McShane

(5) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. McMillan said that she was holding a full staff meeting this afternoon to discuss and remind the staff about the challenges of this new fiscal year. Staff is very focused about being successful in staying within the budget for this fiscal year.

Genesee Pride Sign Request:

Discussion: At the last meeting we received a request from Genesee Pride to place a sign on park property. The initial request included the names of businesses in downtown Genesee to be on the sign. Legal counsel has determined that by including business names the private interest would outweigh the public interest and the language would not be acceptable. Ms. McMillan spoke to the people who made the original request. Ms. McMillan is making a suggestion today for the commission approve the request, subject to final approval of the language by our attorney. The language would essentially say something to the effect of "Welcome to Genesee" "Home of the Wolves and possibly name some other non-profit agencies. Genesee Pride has committed to landscaping the area and will submit plans to us for approval of the landscaping at a later date.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Wright
Supported by Commissioner Ranger

Motion and support to accept the recommendation of staff for the placement of a sign on park property at the entrance to Genesee, subject to approval of legal counsel.

All Ayes
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 10-0

(6) OTHER BUSINESS

Halloween Ghosts and Goodies Program

We are now open for Crossroads Ghosts and Goodies. We are open weekends only until the last week in October. If you are looking for a pick of the weekends, this would be the one, the weather is supposed to be fantastic.

Commissioner Speed commented that the weather was good last Saturday and asked about attendance numbers. Ms. McMillan said there were a little under 1800 paid guests on Saturday and a little under 1000 on Sunday, which is pretty good for the opening weekend. Our survey comments from customers were outstanding. The Huckleberry Radio Hour went very well.

(7) OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSIONERS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Henry asked about the Disc Golf Tournament. Nancy Edwards told him there was a tournament put on by the Flint Town Flyers last Sunday; they expected 40 people and had 39 in attendance.

Ms. McMillan also mentioned that the For-Mar staff hosted approximately 500 people at their annual Fall Harvest Festival on Saturday. Many were reportedly starting their day at For-Mar and ending it at Crossroads Village.

Commissioner Speed said that she noticed we ran ads for volunteers prior to the Day Out With Thomas event and asked if we had any response. Ms. McMillan said we did great at DOWT with volunteers and despite the rise in gas prices our volunteers are sticking with us.

Commissioner Ranger commented on the photo of the pumpkin/gourd decoration that was sent to him and the rest of the commissioners. Ms. McMillan said that we got the idea from visiting another major event (in the attempt to look for opportunities to bring in new businesses and events to Crossroads and the County). Primarily Hilda McShane and Debbie Wilkes, with the assistance of Ron Walker and his maintenance crew, built that display. It has been a very popular photo opportunity. It is approximately 10 feet high.

Commissioner Bogardus asked about the Fishing Tournament from Hahn School. She asked if we charge boat launch fees. Ms. McMillan said that there are no launch fees this time of year. We are using our partnership policy to provide the opportunity for them to do this and they distribute our materials for us. They only have to provide insurance for their event. Commissioner Bogardus said this particular teacher does a ton of stuff with the kids outside, even taking the whole group on canoe trips.

(8) OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

Jeff Rohrer, 7190 Ridgeview Dr. Genesee, is the Superintendent of the Genesee School District and addressed the commission about the sign that Genesee Pride wishes to construct. One of the goals of Genesee Pride is to promote the community. The commission owns the gateway to the community of Genesee so the cooperation of the parks is appreciated. They were trying to list the businesses to help pay for a high quality sign, however, he understands there are laws that do not allow them to advertise business on the welcome sign but they are still happy to have a sign to promote the community and anything they can do to work together in the future to promote the parks as well as Genesee, their group will appreciate it.

Commissioner Henry corrected Mr. Rohrer...we *all* own the parks! Commissioner Krapohl thanked him for their groups' effort at cooperation.

(8) ADJOURNMENT

With no objections made, President Krapohl adjourned the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

Recorded and transcribed by: Deborah Wilkes, Secretary
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