
GENESEE COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

The semi-monthly meeting of the Genesee County Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, December 10, 2009 in the Mill Street Dining Room at Crossroads Village, 6140 Bray Road., Flint, 48505.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joe Krapohl, Patrick Gleason, Mike Keeler, Billy Bradshaw, Bob Ranger, Archie Bailey, Bill Lucas, Ted Henry, Jeff Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim Washington

STAFF PRESENT: Amy McMillan, Director; Ron Walker, Deputy Director; Deborah Wilkes, Secretary; Nancy Edwards, Program Coordinator; Leisa Gagne, Finance Officer, Brian Barkey, Legal Counsel

OTHERS PRESENT: Joe Madore, Cliff & Sharon Black, Teri Webber

(1) **Call To Order**

President Krapohl called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

(2) **Opportunity for the Public to Address the Commission**

Sharon Black addressed the commission to congratulate the Parks for receiving a national historical preservation award for the Crossroads Carousel. There is criteria that must be met in order to receive this award and the organization is realizing more and more carousels are being put in storage, sold off to antique dealers and the number of carousels in active use is going down. Ms. Black said that we, here at Crossroads, have a real jewel in the carousel. The award states that it is for Preserving the Past, Maintaining the Present and Insuring the Future. This award was presented at the national conference in September. Speaking on behalf of the Friends of the Carousel, Ms. Black said this award is not their award alone. If it were not for the people responsible for finding the carousel, the commission who had the foresight to pursue the purchase, the people who adopted horses in the beginning, and all the directors and commissioners who support the group's endeavors to fundraise, the carousel would not exist, and for that, the group thanks the commission. The award will be placed in the showcase inside the carousel building. "Hopefully we can maintain and preserve this carousel for many years to come." The Friends will continue to do their best to keep the community and commissions support to preserve this treasure that is becoming very limited in number.

Cliff Black showed the commission "Christi", the most recently restored horse. (Horses were named by various benefactors who adopted the carousel horses) The FOC goal is to have all the horses and carriages fully restored in 2012 when the carousel celebrates its 100th birthday. It has been prior to Dan Gosnell's death that any of the horses have been touched up. The group was lucky enough to find a local person to restore the horses. The restorer is using a little harder finish that should stand up to use better. Mr. Black also passed out a report showing the funds the Friends of the Carousel have contributed to maintain the carousel and other rides. The group hopes to have some younger people come forward to help with the group's efforts to continue the work of the Friends.

(3) **CONSENT AGENDA**

Discussion: There were no items removed from the consent agenda.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Lucas
Supported by Commissioner Wright

Motion and support for approval of the consent agenda items.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Bailey, Bradshaw, Gleason, Henry, Keeler, Krapohl, Lucas, Ranger, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Washington.

MOTION CARRIED 9-0

(4) REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL

Legal Counsel has nothing to report this meeting.

(5) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Special Events – Our attendance trends are showing increases. Ladies Night Out showed an increase in attendance. Opening night was spectacular and the numbers were up from last year. It is largely due to the staff, volunteers, maintenance people who start decorating in all kinds of weather beginning in September and October, and of course our Deputy Director Ron Walker who does a spectacular job with the fireworks. The reason we can do such a spectacular fireworks show is because of Ron's involvement. The weather has been generous so far for the Christmas program. We are getting good comments from customers. We have been concerned about the economy, but we are seeing and hearing from our customers that they are spending money on family traditions and activities that create memories even if it means one less present under the tree.

(6) OTHER BUSINESS

Bray Road Dump Resolution 012-09 – Staff is asking that the commission review and approve the resolution. There is a piece of property that is owned by the County that is between Bluebell Beach and the Carpenter Road fishing site. It was formerly an industrial property. The County needs to do testing to make sure there is no impact on Mott Lake. There is considerable room for discussion about the ownership of this property, but both sides agree that whatever happens to the property could have an impact on Mott Lake, which is of interest to the Parks Commission. The total cost is \$25,165 and we are suggesting the parks commission partner with the Board of Commissioners to move forward on this next phase of monitoring the site. We are asking the parks commission to authorize an expenditure of \$5,000 toward the cost of the monitoring.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Wright

Supported by Commissioner Ranger

Motion and support for the adoption of Resolution 012-09.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Wright, Ranger, Henry, Krapohl, Bailey, Bradshaw, Keeler, Lucas, Gleason

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Washington.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Wright

Supported by Commissioner Ranger

MOTION CARRIED 9-0

7) OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSIONERS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

President Krapohl took the opportunity to thank one of our commissioners for his years of dedication to our commission and our community. Mr. Billy Bradshaw is retiring and moving out of state. We classify him as a friend and he has been a quiet and influential member on our board and we wish him well in his retirement. We hate to lose him on our board and we have some gifts for him from the parks commission to remind him of us here. We thank him for his

service and friendship and hope that he tells others in his new community about our community and the wonderful opportunities he has had here.

Mr. Bradshaw thanked the commission. He has been doing community service since 1960 and he has had the honor of being appointed to several boards, but this has been one of the best boards he has had the privilege of serving on. There is peace and harmony and everybody can disagree without being disagreeable and he will take that with him. Tyler Perry, a producer, will be a neighbor in the area he is moving to and he hopes to have the opportunity to suggest Crossroads Village for filming. He will miss this board and all of the things that Ms. McMillan and her staff is doing. He saw Ms. Edwards on television with the people who go to the Mounds and there are so many things that people don't talk about in the community that the parks bring to community members for their enjoyment. He'd like to thank Commissioners Bailey and Henry and any other commissioners who have appointed him and put their trust in him to do the best job he could. When you head to Georgia, look him up in the phonebook!

The Commissioners all wished him well. Ms. McMillan asked Mr. Bradshaw to be a walking advertisement for the parks as the Commission presented him with a golf shirt, with the parks logo on it, a photo book of the parks, and some other items from Crossroads Village.

Commissioner Bailey asked if all the ladies came to Ladies Night Out to catch a glimpse of Ron Walker!

Commissioner Henry said he was here at Crossroads on opening night and he said he was flabbergasted at how hard it was to even get into the doors of the carousel building. Excellent job! He also heard comments from other county employees that they had never seen better fireworks.

(8) OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

No one from the public addressed the commission at this time.

(9) ADJOURNMENT

With no objections made, President Krapohl adjourned the meeting at 10:32 a.m. Lunch will be served in a few minutes.