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## GENESEE COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

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The semi-monthly meeting of the Genesee County Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, January 8, 2009 in the Harris Auditorium of the Genesee County Administration Building, 1101 Beach St., Flint, 48502

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Billy Bradshaw, Ted Henry, Joe Krapohl, Mike Keeler, Bill Lucas, Bob Ranger, Jim Washington

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jeff Wright

**STAFF PRESENT:** Amy McMillan, Director; Ron Walker, Deputy Director; Bob Davis, Park Planner; Hilda McShane, Marketing; Leisa Gagne, Finance Officer; Deborah Wilkes, Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Joe Madore, Richfield Twp. Supervisor; Rich Richardson, Safari Club International

**(1) CALL TO ORDER**

President Krapohl called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. President Krapohl requested that all members speak into their microphones so the meeting can be clearly recorded. President Krapohl acknowledged that Omar Sims, newly elected County Commissioner is attending the meeting today.

**(2) OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION**

President Krapohl asked if any members of the public wished to speak to the commission. Each person is allowed 3 minutes.

Rich Richardson of 2226 Ridgemoor Ct, Burton asked the commission about the progress of hunting in the parks. President Krapohl stated that the issue would be addressed during the director's report.

**(3) NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

President Krapohl asked for nominations for the office of President. Commissioner Jim Washington nominated Joe Krapohl for the office of President of the Parks Commission. Commissioner Bob Ranger supported that nomination.

President Krapohl called for any other nominations (3 times). With no other nominations, the nomination process was closed and a motion was made to close the nominations and elect the nominee by acclamation. With no further discussion the following action was taken:

Motion by Commissioner Lucas  
Supported by Commissioner Washington

**Motion and support to close the nomination, accept the nomination of Joe Krapohl for President of the Parks Commission, and elect the nominee by acclamation.**

**Ayes: All ayes**  
**Nays: None**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

President Krapohl asked for nominations for the office of Vice President. Commissioner Bill Lucas nominated Jim Washington for the office of Vice President of the Parks Commission. Commissioner Bob Ranger supported that nomination.

President Krapohl called for any other nominations (3 times). With no other nominations, the nomination process was closed and a motion was made to close the nominations and elect the nominee by acclamation. With no further discussion the following action was taken:

Motion by Commissioner Ranger  
Supported by Commissioner Henry

**Motion and support to close the nomination, accept the nomination of James Washington for Vice-President of the Parks Commission, and elect the nominee by acclamation.**

**Ayes: All ayes**  
**Nays: None**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

President Krapohl asked for nominations for the office of Secretary. Commissioner Billy Bradshaw nominated Bill Lucas for the office of Secretary of the Parks Commission. Commissioner Bob Ranger supported that nomination.

President Krapohl called for any other nominations (3 times). With no other nominations, the nomination process was closed and a motion was made to close the nominations and elect the nominee by acclamation. With no further discussion the following action was taken:

Motion by Commissioner Washington  
Supported by Commissioner Henry

**Motion and support to close the nomination, accept the nomination of Bill Lucas for Secretary of the Parks Commission, and elect the nominee by acclamation.**

Ayes: All ayes  
Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**(4) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

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

**Action Taken:**

Motion by Commissioner Lucas  
Supported by Commissioner Keeler

**Motion and support for approval of consent agenda items.**

**Roll Call:**

Yeas: Keeler, Krapohl, Lucas, Ranger, Washington, Bradshaw, Henry  
Nays: None  
Absent: Jeff Wright

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7-0**

**(5) REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL**

**BMX Parents Association**

**Discussion:** We have been licensing a portion of Richfield County Park to the BMX Parents Association since March of 2002. The agreement has expired and they have asked for a one year extension. Administrative staff has indicated that the agreement has worked out satisfactory and legal counsel has drafted a document that grants the extension for your approval.

**Motion of support to approve the extension of the agreement with Richfield BMX Parents Association for the use of the BMX track at Richfield County Park.**

**Action Taken:**

Motion by Commissioner Henry  
Supported by Commissioner Ranger

Ayes: All Ayes  
Nays: None  
Absent: Wright

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**(6) DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

A. Ms. McMillan announced that the Genesee County Parks was awarded a grant in the amount of \$100,000.00 from the Department of Natural Resources for the next phase of the rock crawl feature at the Mounds ORV Park. There are not matching funds required with this grant. Ron Walker will present the details.

Mr. Walker told the commission that the first phase was the stock circuit course. The rocks are about 12 inches in size. The next phase will be rocks about 30 inches and larger in size, a log course and a step course. This is a slow-moving course. The DNR has been developing a relationship with the parks over the last 25 years and we have worked very well with them. This course is something they have been interested in and it is a very popular feature. We had very good reports from an advisory committee working with the DNR about the progress of the rock crawl project. This will draw people from all over the state as well as the mid-west as this is the only feature like this around. Bids will go out for a contractor and hopefully construction will start in the spring. Weather is a factor because the rocks are large and heavy and the roads and ground have to support that weight so getting the materials to the site is dependent on the weather conditions.

B. We are still accumulating and reviewing attendance, revenue and expenses for the Christmas program at Crossroads. It does take some time for all the expenditures to hit the books so we will have an update soon. We did have a very challenging end to the season. We had a 60 degree rainy day as well as a snow day and a windy day that destroyed our large 68-foot panel tree. The insurance adjuster has been out to see the damages at the Village and the Cummings Center buildings.

C. On Wednesday there was a mandatory pre-bid meeting for the food service RFP. We had a full house and we were delighted by the turn out. We had some local caterers and restaurant owners show up. Cindy Carnes from the Purchasing Department did a masterful job leading the group through the details of the RFP since it is a very convoluted RFP. The catering/food service is a big job. Mr. Pringle did an outstanding job leading them on a tour of the Village food service sites so the potential vendors have a good understanding of the job and the conditions of the equipment and facilities. The vendors took photos, asked a lot of questions, and were very thorough in their attention. Hopefully we will get good cross-section of proposals. One of the things we want to let everybody know is that as part of this proposal we reminded the potential contractors that we have reserved the right of best and final offer. That means we will not have a public opening of the proposals and we will have the opportunity to negotiate with whatever vendors we have short-listed for the best and final offer. All proposals are due by January 22, 2009 and it will take a couple weeks to review them, short list the companies that qualify for further consideration, and then we will move on with our selection process. All the questions asked, and answers provided, during the meeting and walk through will be posted on line for all the bidders to see and any additional questions that come in should be directed to Cindy Carnes in Purchasing.

D. There have not been as many managed hunts in the State as in the past. Our chief park ranger is still in the process of reviewing and coordinating the process with the DNR and local officials. There is another aerial count of deer scheduled for sometime in the next 6 weeks. It is our intention, once all the members of the parks commission are seated, to schedule the public meetings that we discussed last year to inform and educate the public about the current issues associated with the impact of deer on the environment. We will also have to take all that information and mix it in with the budgetary challenges we will be facing during the next fiscal year. We do expect to make recommendations by early spring as we had previously planned.

E. Nancy Edwards is not present today because she had some surgery on her achilles tendon. She is recovering well and has access to her email at home in case you would like to wish her a speedy recovery.

**(7) OTHER BUSINESS**

President Krapohl clarified that the Board of Commissioners has not appointed two replacement members to our board yet (replacing Raynetta Speed and Rose Bogardus). Those appointments should be made by January 20. We had planned to have a retreat at the end of January but with those appointments being made so late it may push the retreat back to February by the time we check with everybody's schedule.

**(8) OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSIONERS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION**

President Krapohl welcomed back Billy Bradshaw to the parks commission. "It's nice to have him back along with his wealth of knowledge". President Krapohl congratulated Commissioner Henry on his election as Chair to the County Board of Commissioners; "hopefully they will prosper under his leadership". He also thanked the commission for their support by re-electing him president of the parks commission. He stated that regardless of who sits in the chair, we are a team and we've worked and communicated well as a team and together we can face the challenges of this year with patience and deliberation.

Commissioner Bradshaw said he was pleased to be back on our commission.

Vice-President Jim Washington thanked the commission for their support by his re-election as well. In his 34 years in corporate experience this has been one of the best teams he has worked with. He will continue to give 110 percent. He welcomed Commissioner Bradshaw and congratulated Commissioner Henry.

Secretary Bill Lucas also thanked the board for re-electing him Secretary and congratulated Commissioner Henry.

Commissioner Henry thanked the group, along with the organizations they may also belong to, for their support over the last two years.

**(9) OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION**

Rich Richardson stated that it has been two years since he has asked the commission to do something about the deer in the parks. The last meeting he attended there was some discussion about youth participating in the hunt. He is working to develop a program to promote youth hunting. Unfortunately no youth brought a buck to the buck pole this year in Davison. It is a challenge to get youth to participate. He doesn't think the deer herd in the parks will be affected by youth hunting. The handicapped hunters are not going to be effective either. He expects that something should be done this fall. He'd like a timeline of the meeting schedule and when there will be a resolution because he doesn't plan on letting this go on for another year. He said it has gone on too long already. As an organization, the Safari Club will "do what we gotta do to get it going". "If it becomes a ballot issue, I guess it becomes a ballot issue". "One thing that you guys have done by dragging your feet on this" is the Safari club generates a lot of money and there is enough money to do what needs to be done. He's not threatening that if it becomes a ballot issue that it is fought that way. "We can help you guys with your budget items... and the administrative part of it." There is money to spend. He personally needs to know what the time line is and what is going to happen.

**(10) ADJOURNMENT**

Prior to adjournment President Krapohl mentioned that Genesee County lost one of its judges this morning. Judge Robert Weiss passed away due to a heart attack. President Krapohl asked that we observe a moment of silence in memory of his service to the County and remember his family members.

With no objections made, President Krapohl adjourned the meeting at 10:26 a.m.