



# GENESEE COUNTY PARKS

## Get away. Right away.

COMMISSION MINUTES: September 27, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT: President Joe Krapohl, Vice President James Washington  
Commissioners: Bryant Nolden, Ted Henry, David Martin, Cloyce Dickerson,  
Mike Keeler, Gloria Nealy

MEMBERS ABSENT: Secretary Mike Lynch, Commissioner Jeff Wright

STAFF PRESENT: Barry June, Director; Ron Walker, Deputy Director; Melissa Gagne, Secretary;  
Leisa Gagne, Financial Affairs Officer; Janet Van De Winkle, Project Manager;  
Danielle Fulcher, Communications, Event and Brand Manager; Nancy Edwards,  
Recreation Programs and Grants Officer, KGCB Director; Mark Young, Chairman  
Board of Commissioners; Josh Freeman, Board Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Kehoe 4304 Stanley Road, Genesee

1. CALL TO ORDER. President Krapohl presided and called the meeting to order at 10:01AM.
2. WELCOME COMMISSIONER YOUNG – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
**Young:** Excited about the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Iron Belle Trail section – Genesee to Vassar
3. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION. Anyone wishing to address the commission must state their name and address and they have 3 minutes to speak.

Public presented pictures to the Commission with questions as to trespassing on Park property and limitations; well at Lion's Club area is damaged and would like to know who is responsible; select cutting of trees on park property; public health and safety issues – new invasive species needing attention, wild parsnip, spotted on park property; concern for condition of railroad control box in Genesee; question of certified and licensed electrician on staff; Elba area horse enthusiasts – trails not marked and question if area overlaps with dog training area

4. CONSENT AGENDA. President Krapohl asked Commissioners if there are any items they wish to remove from the consent agenda for discussion. No items were removed.  
Motion and support to approve items A through C as listed.

ACTION TAKEN:

**Motion by Commissioner Nolden  
Supported by Commissioner Washington**

MOTION AND SUPPORT FOR APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A THROUGH C AS LISTED.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Dickerson, Henry, Keeler, Krapohl, Martin, Nealy, Nolden, Washington  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Lynch, Wright

5. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- A. REQUEST FOR FOR-MAR TO APPLY FOR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER FLINT GRANT IN SUPPORT OF FOR-MAR ADAPTIVE RECREATION PROGRAMMING

**Motion and support to approve request to apply for Community Foundation of Greater Flint grant.**

**Nolden: How much is this grant we are applying for?**

**June: \$10,000**

ACTION TAKEN:

**Motion by Commissioner Henry**

**Supported by Commissioner Washington**

MOTION AND SUPPORT FOR APPROVAL TO APPLY FOR GRANT FOR FOR-MAR.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: **Dickerson, Henry, Keeler, Krapohl, Martin, Nealy, Nolden, Washington**

NAYS: **None**

ABSENT: **Lynch, Wright**

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

- B. REQUEST TO APPLY FOR RUTH MOTT FOUNDATION GRANT FOR RENEWAL OF GCPRC NORTH FLINT SAFETY AND NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE WITH KEEP GENESEE COUNTY BEAUTIFUL

**Motion and support to approve to apply for Ruth Mott Foundation grant.**

**Nolden: To Edwards – How was your first season as Director of Keep Genesee County Beautiful?**

**Edwards: A lot to learn and have accomplished a lot of projects – six playgrounds, two basketball court resurfacing, a new pavilion, all of the cleanups, plus more. Will have numbers to present in future.**

**Krapohl: Amazed to hear how many partners with KGCB**

**Edwards: City of Flint has seventy public spaces with sixty-two of those spaces adopted by groups of volunteers. Adopt-A-Park began in 2014.**

**Keeler: How many years has KGCB been in existence?**

**Edwards: Program began in 2004, but as it evolved over the years different pieces were added. Adopt-A-Park program has only been in existence for four years.**

**Keeler: So the Ruth Mott Foundation still likes what you are doing to keep these grants?**

**Edwards: Karen West did a phenomenal job with the program and hope for continued confidence in the work we are doing and will hope they will continue funding.**

**Krapohl: Spoke highly about the number about the number of partners because that is key to helping revitalize some of the neighborhoods and communities is getting people involved in their own area. That was very impressive to hear at the Volunteer Dinner.**

**Henry: How much authority does GCPRC have over these parks?**

**June: No authority – this is with the City of Flint.**

**Henry: For physical repairs and changes have to go back to the municipality for approval prior to?**

**June: Correct.**

**Edwards: We have a very good working relationship with the Planning department at the City which oversees the parks. Any projects funded through the grant are approved.**

Henry: Are there any senior activities available in these parks? Tennis courts?

Edwards: There are tennis courts. In fact, the Bruno Mars Foundation gave additional funds to City of Flint and the courts at Judy Park were just resurfaced. No programming, more physical improvements.

Henry: Next season, it would be nice to have the tennis courts set up to handle Pickle Ball.

Edwards: Will talk to the City. They are painting tennis courts for hop scotch and four-square.

ACTION TAKEN:

**Motion by Commissioner Nolden**

**Supported by Commissioner Washington**

MOTION AND SUPPORT FOR APPROVAL TO APPLY FOR KGCB GRANT.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: **Dickerson, Henry, Keeler, Krapohl, Martin, Nealy, Nolden, Washington**

NAYS: **None**

ABSENT: **Lynch, Wright**

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

- C. REQUEST TO PURSUE AGREEMENT WITH ATLAS TOWNSHIP AND GRAND BLANC TOWNSHIP FOR IRON BELLE TRAIL SECTION – GALE ROAD TO WHITE TAIL ROAD

**Motion and support to pursue an agreement with the townships for support of the next Iron Belle Trail section.**

June: Genesee County is a leader in the Iron Belle Trail as far as working proactively amongst other Departments, being the Planning Commission, Road Commission and the Parks in furthering the Iron Belle Trail.

Nolden: Already had conversations with Atlas Township and they are good?

June: Before going further, we wanted permission from the Commission.

Martin: Have you had any issues with Grand Blanc having Township property inside?

June: The section we are discussing is just in Grand Blanc Township.

Henry: Critical to always have a maintenance program.

Nolden: With the Iron Belle Trail, does it go through Bicentennial Park?

June: No. Not at this point.

ACTION TAKEN:

**Motion by Commissioner Henry**

**Supported by Commissioner Nolden**

MOTION AND SUPPORT FOR APPROVAL PURSUE AGREEMENT.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: **Dickerson, Henry, Keeler, Krapohl, Martin, Nealy, Nolden, Washington**

NAYS: **None**

ABSENT: **Lynch, Wright**

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

6. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Krapohl: The only old business is that we discussed at previous meetings making the Acting Director the Director. Wanted to thank the Board of Commissioners for their unanimous support in what we proposed. It is greatly appreciated. The transition was seamless. With Barry, we are comfortable with the direction we are heading. Thank you to the Board of Commissioners for their support.

7. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION. Anyone wishing to address the commission must state their name and address and they have 3 minutes to speak.

Congratulations to new Director; Hope to see a lot of new changes; Answers to issues brought about requested; Concern for Fish Consumption signage; recycling in the parks; no representation to Lapeer residents; status of wetlands; waterwheel at CRV should turn and get pumps repaired; safety equipment suggested at Genesee Belle; look forward to answers; looking forward to riding the new trail today

8. OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSIONERS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION.

Krapohl: Welcome and introduction to Josh Freeman, Board Coordinator for the Board of Commissioners. Invitation to speak was extended.

Freeman: Just here to see good government at work.

Washington: Enjoyed the Volunteer Dinner, food was superb. Thank you.

Keeler: Took a ride on the trail to see the new bridges over the Flint River. The view is great and it is going to be a nice piece on the bike paths. Read on Chevy Commons, phase IV looks good. City of Flint wants ownership again?

June: City of Flint owns it now. We are working on an agreement to purchase it from them and use Trust Fund dollars to develop the rest of the riverfront.

Keeler: What was the original agreement between the City and Parks?

June: There was intent to purchase.

Washington: There was intent.

Keeler: Any idea of why the City would want this back?

June: They own it. We are entering an agreement to purchase it using money from the Trust Fund and a match from the CS Mott Foundation.

Keeler: PFAS – originally only two spots in Genesee County and now there are five and counting. Have they done any testing around the old Delphi site?

June: State is working on that. We are not involved.

Martin: Enjoyed the company and presentations of the Volunteer Dinner. To add to Commissioner Keeler's comments regarding PFAS – the Senate is listening to experts from Michigan in Washington DC. It's good we have specific Michigan attention. It has been around for a long time and never developed anything for it. Thank you to the Parks – nice job to the Parks in allowing Vietnam Veterans to work memorial. They used to do a midnight vigilance candlelight for POW MIA Members Day and they moved it to 10PM.

Krapohl: While working on the master plan for Bluebell Beach, there were talks about putting active things on that side of the park. It was decided to keep that a quiet area because of the memorial for people to reflect and the active area more to the North.

Martin: Backdrop of Mott Lake is nice. It is nice on that particular day for them to have their event. Appreciate it.

Nolden: PFAS – finding it around the state. Interested in finding out what’s going on moving forward. Thank you for the Parks sweatshirt. Also, every year we seek candy donations and I came in to find three big bags plus another one here. Donations welcome and thank you to the Parks for always having a Ranger available for the event. It was wonderful to have a Ranger in the area. Congratulations to Director.

Krapohl: How many children did you service with candy last year?

Nolden: One thousand plus

Dickerson: First time in eight years missed the Volunteer Dinner, but it is always a pleasure to see everyone involved.

Nealy: Congratulations to Director June and Genesee County Parks will continue doing the great work that they do.

Krapohl: This is a policy making board. We are not administrative, so a lot of the questions that come up during the public comment can be easily answered by a phone call during business hours. If we get to a point where we are trying to answer hypotheticals or repeat questions, we will be here a longer extended time. We encourage the public to call the office. It is the best way to get an answer.

Iron Belle Trail Grand Opening – Genesee to Vassar Road will be at 11:00AM.

9. ADJOURNMENT. Hearing no objections to adjournment, the meeting was adjourned at 10:31AM.

I, Melissa Gagne, secretary of Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission certify that the above is a true and correct transcript from the September 27 Parks and Recreation Commission regular meeting that was duly called and held in all respects in accordance with the laws of the State of MI and the by-laws of the company and that a quorum was present.

I further certify that the votes and resolutions of the commissioners of Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission at the meeting are operative and in full force and effect and have not been annulled or modified by any vote or resolution passed or adopted by the board since that meeting.

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Melissa Gagne, Secretary  
Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission  
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