



GENESEE COUNTY PARKS

Get away. Right away.

COMMISSION MINUTES: January 24, 2019

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Secretary Mike Lynch, Commissioner Jeff Wright

STAFF PRESENT: Barry June, Director; Melissa Gagne, Secretary; Kevin Shanlian, Chief Park
Ranger; Leisa Gagne, Financial Affairs Officer; Janet Van De Winkle, Project
Manager; Nancy Edwards, Recreation Programs and Grants Officer, KGCB Director

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Kehoe, 4304 E Stanley, Genesee, MI; Jason Harrison, Lapeer County; Joel
Mutslow, 221 E Third St.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** President Krapohl presided and called the meeting to order at 10:04AM.
2. **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 comment pertaining to the Open Meetings Act, DEQ inspections and items presented to
Commission. Public comment pertaining to drone activity.

3. **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 Keeler
Supported by Commissioner Dickerson

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

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

4. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- A. **REQUEST TO INCREASE PROGRAMMING/ ADMISSION CHARGES**

Motion and support to increase Crossroads Village admission by \$1.00 and \$2.00 for train rides, and increase program admission at For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum by \$1.00. Increases cover costs of minimum wage increase and program supply cost.

Krapohl: So Crossroads increase has already been..?

June: It was included in the approved budget. We didn't do it in the Fall season because we had already printed the material.

Krapohl: So what you're asking for now is an increase to For-Mar?

June: Yes.

Martin: The increase and so forth and the minimum wage increase... I don't know how many more increases is going to cover us for...

June: This year.

Martin: At least this year?

June: For the programming section. Programs are going to go to increase by \$1.00.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Washington
Supported by Commissioner Dickerson

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO INCREASE PROGRAMMING/ADMISSION COSTS.

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Lynch, Wright

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

B. REQUEST TO UPDATE SEASONAL JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND RATES OF PAY

Motion and support to approve a .20 wage increase to all seasonal positions in accordance to the Michigan minimum wage increase and minor pay adjustments for three seasonal positions that reflect changes in job duties.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Henry
Supported by Commissioner Washington

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE UPDATES TO SEASONAL JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND RATES OF PAY.

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Lynch, Wright

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

C. REQUEST TO AMEND DNR TRUST FUND PROJECT AGREEMENT – CHEVY COMMONS

Motion and support to amend Project Agreement for the acquisition of Chevy Commons. The original agreement reflects ten parcels; however, General Motors still owns one parcel. The amendment reflects nine parcels for the acquisition.

Krapohl: Is that Racer Trust?

June: No.

Krapohl: No? GM still owns that? Okay.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Washington
Supported by Commissioner Nolden

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO AMEND DNR TRUST FUND PROJECT AGREEMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CHEVY COMMONS.

ROLL CALL

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

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

D. APPROVE EXPENSE OVER 10,000 – CASTLE ROCK , COAL FOR HUCKLEBERRY RAILROAD

Motion and support for approval of expense over 10,000 to purchase coal from Castle Rock for Huckleberry Railroad's summer season.

Keeler: Didn't we just do this in October or November?

June: We did.

Keeler: So, how many batches of \$14,000 worth of coal do we use to run that locomotive?

June: We use a lot of coal. We want to get a jump on it because it takes some time to get to the Board of Commissioners and we want to make sure we are in the queue to receive. It's a specific type of coal we need, and we want to make sure we aren't trying to get it at the last minute. We have some leftover to get started in the summer.

Keeler: So I want to put my little piece in and if we are burning coal, we should actually have some type of carbon offset for the coal we are burning. I think eventually we want to look at this seriously and see what we can do.

Martin: It says it's a sole source for the type of coal. It seems like we had another source before.

June: We've had difficulty maintaining the sources because the type of coal is metallurgical grade, anthracite coal. The primary users are metal treating companies and the coal is usually powdered. We need coal that is of size and to find a mine that will process it at that size and the type of coal we need has been pretty tough. We have a distributor to do that. We went through three or four different mines in the last two years.

Martin: So it's the actual mine. The vendor's the same. The mine is sole source.

June: Yes, the sole source is the mine.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Henry
Supported by Commissioner Dickerson

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE EXPENSE TO PURCHASE COAL FROM CASTLE ROCK.

ROLL CALL

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

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

E. REQUEST TO APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT – DOUG SCHEER

Motion and support to pursue a Professional Services Contract with Doug Scheer to provide entertainment in the Colwell Opera House for the Crossroads Village Summer season 2019.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Washington
Supported by Commissioner Dickerson

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO PURSUE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH DOUG SCHEER FOR ENTERTAINMENT AT CROSSROADS VILLAGE.

ROLL CALL

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

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

F. REQUEST TO APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT – BAFFLING BILL

Motion and support to pursue a Professional Services Contract with Baffling Bill to provide entertainment in the Colwell Opera House for the Crossroads Village Summer season 2019.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Washington
Supported by Commissioner Henry

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO PURSUE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BAFFLING BILL FOR ENTERTAINMENT AT CROSSROADS VILLAGE.

ROLL CALL

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

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

G. REQUEST TO APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT – BANDS GALORE ENTERPRISES

Motion and support to pursue a Professional Services Contract with Bands Galore Enterprises to provide entertainment in the Colwell Opera House for the Crossroads Village Summer season 2019.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Washington
Supported by Commissioner Dickerson

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO PURSUE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BANDS GALORE ENTERPRISES FOR ENTERTAINMENT AT CROSSROADS VILLAGE.

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: None
ABSENT: Lynch, Wright

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

H. REQUEST TO APPLY FOR FOUR MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND (MNRTF) GRANTS

Motion and support to apply for four grants from Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. The proposed grants include Iron Belle Trail Section from Grand Blanc Twp to Atlas Twp, Linden County Park Improvements, Accessibility Improvements for Genesee Recreation Area, and a future Iron Belle Trail section.

Henry: Who writes all of our grants, Barry?

June: We do.

Henry: Is there a specific person?

June: Janet and Melissa both work on them. We do have to get a professional service, an engineering firm to be our engineer for the grant.

Henry: So you get the necessary information and give it to the professional services?

June: Yes, you have to have a professional engineer to sign off.

Keeler: This last section, it says the Iron Belle Trolley Line North Connection at Bluebell Beach. It's \$300,000.00. Is that from Bluebell Beach just to the end of our property?

June: That's primarily internal. We're going to hook to the trail and replace the internal trail inside Bluebell Beach.

Keeler: So do we know where the trail's coming in at?

June: It comes in to Bluebell Beach. There's internal trails at Bluebell Beach that are old and they need to be replaced. We're going to use what little maintenance money we have to use for the grant to make a lot nicer loop inside of Bluebell Beach.

Keeler: So do we know about the actual trail itself? How long are they and do they have funding?

June: As far as that section of the trail, I'm not sure of.

Keeler: I think this has been under planning now for quite a few years.

June: It's on the list for priority one trails for the County, but most of our money has been concentrated on the Iron Belle Trail. Between us and the Planning Commission.

Keeler: Alright, thank you.

Henry: I'm glad to see the pickleball courts.

Krapohl: I have to go out and see what it is.

Henry: Didn't Vienna Township Senior Center just build a new pickleball court last summer? If you need any information about that, it's possible they have it.

June: Yeah, we'll be researching that a little further.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Henry
Supported by Commissioner Washington

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPLY FOR FOUR GRANTS FROM MNRTF.

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Lynch, Wright

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

I. REQUEST TO APPROVE GCP/GISD AGREEMENT FOR GREAT START READINESS PROGRAM – FOR-MAR

Motion and support to approve agreement with GISD for For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum to provide nature-based educational support in Bentley Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) and at For-Mar until June 30, 2019.

Krapohl: I think we've done this in the past, haven't we? Yes. We took For-Mar on the Road to how many different schools, or did they come to For-Mar? We went to the schools, okay. June: Then they pay us for our expense.

Henry: Federal shutdown have any influence on this?

June: It shouldn't.

Henry: Head Start's all federal money, isn't it?

Edwards: It's not federal. It's not Head Start.

Krapohl: So it would be a State grant or they have separate funding.

Henry: I was just looking at terms of payment. That's why I ask the question.

Krapohl: We've run it in the past. I assume it's been successful, otherwise they wouldn't want to come back.

June: It says here that it started in September, but they had a hard time getting the language legalese with our Risk Manager, and they finally got to where we can sign it, so they've been coming to For-Mar to get the programs. Now they want us to go to their venue. There we have to charge them.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Washington
Supported by Commissioner Dickerson

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH GISD FOR GSRP.

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Lynch, Wright

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

5. **OLD/NEW BUSINESS – NEXT MEETING WILL BE THE PARKS COMMISSION RETREAT AT THE PARKS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE WITH LUNCH – 2/14/19. NO PARKS COMMISSION ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN OR DISCUSSED. INFORMATIONAL ONLY.**
6. **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 comment pertaining to debris in parks, the 5-Year Plan, Open Meetings Act, DEQ inspections. Public comment pertaining to drone activity.

7. **OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSIONERS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION.**

Washington: Thank you to Melissa for getting our notes and minutes out in a timely fashion. I serve as secretary for a couple of boards that I am a part of, so I know how the meeting minutes are supposed to go. The meeting minutes are supposed to reflect any action that has been taken, not a person's individual comments. This is not a TV show. So I thank you and like everybody else, as long as I have been a part of this board and any other board of directors that I am a part of, when you need information, that information should be reduced to writing. It should come in the form of a request in an email, not through a verbal request. Individuals that refuse to reduce it to writing, to me, do not want a paper trail. A paper trail, just like if you request a FOIA, Freedom of Information Act, there is a process to go through. Again, thank you

and of course as part of the 5-Year Plan, that was an Open Forum, people had an opportunity to submit their questions, people had an opportunity to participate in the process, so for all those in the room that can hear the sound of my voice, I'd also like to say thank you for that process and for voicing your opinion and giving us the necessary input. Overall, I'd like to say thank you to all of my colleagues. This is an exceptional commission, we run it very well and again I compare this commission with the other boards I sit on and they're all on par, equal. Thank you, Mr. President.

Dickerson: Thank you, Mr. Washington.

Nolden: Very well state, Mr. Washington.

Keeler: Everybody knows I like to get out and enjoy some winter activities. We need a little bit more snow. Keep your fingers crossed, stay positive, look at the calendar. It is January. Let's root for some snow.

Henry: Yes, thank you, Mr. Washington. Flushing Park, the back loop, I see the schedule when it's open, when it's closed. Can we still plow it, because a lot of people walk that loop.

June: We do make one plow around there for the walkers.

Henry: I didn't see it plowed when I was out there.

June: What day?

Krapohl: Had to be yesterday. It was the only day we had snow issues.

June: The day we had snow, we didn't get out there until afternoon.

Henry: Remember, the County is thirty-six miles across. I just had a request from one of the people walking and that was my question. My second question, Barry, do we have a tree clean-up program? There's a lot of laying, dead ash trees. I'm kind of concerned. I know they're a problem.

June: We are constantly doing that. If there is a particular tree, you know of or someone tells you about, we will move that up on the list or we may not know about it.

Henry: When you drive through the park, you can see them. They're not right up next to the road.

June: Those are the ones we concentrate on, the ones close to the road. If there out in the woods, we don't really...

Henry: Yes, I understand that.

Krapohl: Are you talking about Flushing specifically?

Henry: Yes, Flushing specifically. And are we still contracting with Mr. Barkey or does the Parks have a separate attorney?

Krapohl: Brian Barkey is still with us as an on-call, as needed basis.

Henry: So still the same way.

June: Primarily though, because of the changes in the processes at the County level, Brian MacMillian reviews everything now.

Henry: Excellent. Have you concurred with him at all about this drone situation? I think he could send them a copy to FOIA.

June: We did talk to Brian about our new Park Rules and ran it through the Prosecutor's office, as well. They were reviewed and they were approved by the County Board yesterday, and they were approved by Corporate Counsel.

Henry: Excellent.

Martin: Thank you, Mr. June, for that last statement clarifying that it was Corporation Counsel that it ran through. I was at the I-69 Thumb Region, part of Michigan's economic plan, and they had an interesting thing that the upnorthtrails.org basically trails Cadillac and North, and they're expanding it to be above the bridge next. But I understand that something either going to be mirrored to that or added to I-69 North, because our trails are supposed to be all through the thumb. All the water trails are supposed to become designated like that. I don't know if it's going to be an expansion of the conglomeration that does the upnorthtrails.org group or if it's just going to be mirrored after that so it expands. But it is a very interactive program if you

want hiking or biking, snowmobile trails, and it pops up like you're looking for them. If it cover our region, we could get a lot of visibility for our water trails, the new bike trails, the Iron Belle Trail sections, so I think that's pretty good for us.

Henry: Mr. Chair, I do have one question through the Chair to Barry. Have you heard anything on the ORV change of law in Michigan, effective in March?

June: No, what law would that be?

Keeler: They passed a bill in Lansing that says ORV usage can be on State land below the Mackinaw bridge. I think the state land has to be approved.

Henry: This was actually pertaining to roadside.

Krapohl: I think it's up to each County to decide which roads.

Martin: The way it stands right now is a County can decide whether to allow a local municipality to approve ordinances. Road Commission's involved with it to see that speed and crossings are considered. It'll be a rural area of a County it'll apply to. There will be parameters.

Krapohl: Commissioner Washington, you stole the two things I was going to talk about. Our 5-Year Master Plan went through the proper notifications to the public, the proper notices were place out there, proper time and places to comment were out there. The comments that were made at our December meeting was not a designated time to collect comments on the 5-Year Master Plan. That was just a review by OHM, Vanessa Warren. Also, when we're talking about what's in the minutes, Parliamentary authorities, which we run under Robert's Rules of Order and State laws both support limiting the amount of debate that gets worded in minutes. According to Robert's Rules of Order, the minutes should contain mainly a record of what was done at the meeting, not what was said by the members or public. That's not required to be in the minutes. Just for clarification of the Commission. As far as the drones go, we are still looking to gather the data. If anybody has any questions or comments, suggestions, I know that we have two members of the public that have some information they may share, that we will take into consideration. Again, it is this body that decides where we go with that. We are not dictated by members of the public on what they want or what their wishes are. We look at all eleven thousand acres and we look at what's best for all of our users of the parks system. We say "yes" in certain activities and sometimes we restrict it in certain areas just because of different reasons. It will still be the final decision of the Commission's.

Henry: On the minutes, I think it's very helpful if there is a small synopsis of why something was passed. That information, especially in zoning, the next group on the Planning Commission may view this totally different than intended. A little synopsis is always helpful.

Keeler: I used to be a recording secretary for ten years and basically according to Robert's Rules, actions have to be recorded. In the long run, discussion up to those actions comes in handy.

Krapohl: We have a transcript. We can get Commissioner's comments about the motions we pass, the logic or reasons behind why we act a certain way on a particular item.

Henry: Are those transcripts scanned into the computer?

- Yes.

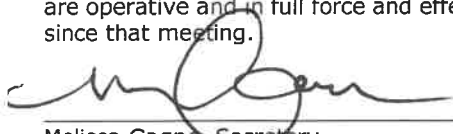
Washington: For any of the boards I am on, I also record and transcribe through an application so for a historical setting, I have them. Transcription is super. It is great.

Krapohl: We follow all requirements of the Open Meetings Act, allowing public comment. I have spoken with Brian Barkey. He says what we are doing is very consistent and fully complies with the intent of the Open Meetings Act. He did not have any problems in any of our past meetings. We really haven't changed anything.

8. ADJOURNMENT. Hearing no objections to adjournment, the meeting was adjourned at 10:48AM.

I, Melissa Gagne, secretary of Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission certify that the above is a true and correct transcript from the January 24, 2019 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.



Melissa Gagne, Secretary
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