



GENESEE COUNTY PARKS

Get away. Right away.

COMMISSION MINUTES: April 23, 2020

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Jeff Wright

STAFF PRESENT: Barry June, Director; Melissa Gagne, Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: None

1. CALL TO ORDER. President Krapohl presided and called the meeting to order at 10:00AM.
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.

Notice of Public Meeting with participation instructions posted in compliance with Michigan's Open Meetings Act. No public comment received. No requests for call in public comment received.

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 Nolden
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 ACCEPT GRANT - SYI

Request to accept grant from Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce to employ 31 SYI staff. Grant amount awarded: \$64,884.00. NO USE OF COUNTY GENERAL FUND. NO USE OF PARKS FUND.

ACTION TAKEN:

**Motion by Commissioner Henry
Supported by Commissioner Washington**

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO ACCEPT AWARD AND REFER TO BOC APPROVAL PROCESS.

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 GRANT – FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

Request to apply for the Outdoor Recreation and Legacy Partnership Program from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service. This is in support of the Flint Riverfront Restoration Project. Grant amount requested: \$1,000,000.00. NO USE OF COUNTY GENERAL FUND. NO USE OF PARKS FUND.

Martin: The in-channel improvements mentioned as part of funding, does that remove the fencing down by Kettering?

June: No. In-channel work would stop before it gets to Swartz Creek. We wouldn't do anything west of Swartz Creek.

Martin: I want to look for funding for that. That's going to be a big issue when it gets more use.

June: We will take that under advisement for future designs.

ACTION TAKEN:

**Motion by Commissioner Nolden
Supported by Commissioner Nealy**

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPLY FOR GRANT AND REFER TO BOC APPROVAL PROCESS.

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wright

MOTION CARRIED 9-0-1

C. CROSSROADS VILLAGE & HUCKLEBERRY RAILROAD OPERATIONS STATUS

Request to close for the 2020 Summer Season in consideration of the Governor's Executive Orders as well as the safety and viability of the department.

Keeler: Does this put us in jeopardy of losing stuff in the future, with the train being down so long? Any precautions we have to take with this?

June: No. All of the equipment was laid up last winter after the Christmas season, so it's all been put away for the season and we haven't gotten back out. There is no danger to any of the equipment or buildings.

Henry: In the event that things change positive, we could open with the same process as closing, correct?

June: Yes. We are planning an opening for Halloween. Opening this season would be difficult. Trying to start in the middle of the season would be tough.

Krapohl: This is due to the COVID-19 virus, a safety concern for not only staff but also for the public. With all of the uncertainty, this is not something we wanted to do but it's the safest course of action for the public and our employees.

Henry: Do we have anything booked that has to be cancelled?

June: There are few that will be cancelled – Sloan Auto Fair and Day Out With Thomas.

Henry: Do we have a number for revenue we anticipate to lose?

June: We typically make more in the fall and winter. We usually lose in the summer. We will essentially break even for the season by closing.

Henry: It's probably positive on the budget.

June: It will be, yes.

ACTION TAKEN:

**Motion by Commissioner Nolden
Supported by Commissioner Henry**

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE THE CLOSURE OF CROSSROADS VILLAGE & HUCKLEBERRY RAILROAD FOR THE 2020 SUMMER SEASON.

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Lynch, Wright

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

D. PARKS DEPARTMENT STATUS

Request to approve prepared staff recommendations regarding the status of parks departments in consideration of the Governor's Executive Orders as well as the safety and viability of the department.

ACTION TAKEN:

**Motion by Commissioner Nolden
Supported by Commissioner Dickerson**

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS OF PARKS DEPARTMENTS.

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 - NONE

6. OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSIONERS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION.

Dickerson: Stay safe.

Henry: Stay safe.

Keeler: Have we had any complaints about any of our parks where people haven't been observing the 6 foot rule?

June: We've had a few at Flushing, but I think we can count the number of complaints on one hand.

Keeler: A couple weeks ago, they were pretty close at the BMX. People were dealing with. Everybody stay safe.

Nealy: Be safe. Be careful.

Nolden: Stay safe.

Lynch: Good health for all.

Washington: Wife works in health care and was in quarantine for being in contact with a positive case. She is now out of quarantine. Hearing some people don't believe this is real.

Please stay safe and eventually this will pass, too.

Krapohl: These are definitely trying times. A lot of people have different stories. I know that it is serious. It is something that people need to take serious. Any of our parks visitors need to practice social distancing. We need to make sure we are safe and following CDC guidelines. It'll pass a lot faster if we are smart and cautious in what we do.

Keeler: Is this going to be the normal meeting status now?

Krapohl: The Director is going to assess the business needs and what we would need for meeting. If we meet, this will probably be the format we will use until at a time in the future it is deemed safe to meet in person. The Director will notify us if there is any pressing business we need to take care of in this format.

7. ADJOURNMENT. Hearing no objections to adjournment, the meeting adjourned at 10:20AM.

I, Melissa Gagne, secretary of Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission certify that the above is a true and correct transcript from the April 23, 2020 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
Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission
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