



# GENESEE COUNTY PARKS

Get away. Right away.

COMMISSION MINUTES: October 24, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT IN-PERSON:

President Joe Krapohl  
Vice President James Washington  
Secretary Anne Figueroa  
Commissioner James Avery  
Commissioner Domonique Clemons  
Commissioner Michelle Davis  
Commissioner Michael J. Keeler  
Commissioner Cathy Lane  
Commissioner Kevin Sylvester

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Gloria Nealy

STAFF PRESENT IN-PERSON:

Patrick Linihan, Parks Director; Melissa Gagne, Parks Operations Manager; Nancy Edwards, Recreation Programs and Grants Officer; Rick Witham, Chief Park Ranger; Allyson Voelker, Marketing Assistant; Jackie Domerese, Parks Communications, Event & Brand Manager; Emily Stetson, Park Program Manager; Anthony Walter, Parks Operations Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: Amy McMillan, Former Parks Director, Brighton, MI; Tom Kehoe, Genesee Twp, MI; Ben Schmidt, Flint, MI; David Lawson, Friends of For-Mar; Linda Johnson-Barnes, Friends of For-Mar; Debbie Wilkes, Clio, MI

1. CALL TO ORDER. President Joe Krapohl presided and called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.
2. PUBLIC COMMENT. Anyone wishing to address the commission must state their name and address and they have 3 minutes to speak.

Public comment received.

3. CONSENT AGENDA. President Joe Krapohl asked Commissioners if there were any items they wish to remove from the consent agenda for discussion. No items were removed.



GENESEE COUNTY  
PARKS AND RECREATION  
COMMISSION

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Washington  
Supported by Commissioner Keeler

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE ITEMS A-C AS LISTED IN PACKET.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Clemons, Davis, Figueroa, Keeler, Lane, Krapohl, Sylvester, Washington

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Nealy

MOTION CARRIED 9-0-1

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Welcome to For-Mar
- Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad had over 6000 patrons on Saturday, Oct. 19
- CRV attendance only down 200 from last year, expect to break last year's attendance records
- Opening Night tickets available for Christmas at Crossroads – Holiday Magic, trains sell out
- Rail Events visited CRV to assess the facility for future opportunities and events
- BioBlitz at For-Mar had over 600 attendees
- Richfield BMX track is growing and seeing success
- Wolverine Campground made it through an entire season without blowing a fuse
- Crim's Halloween Hustle at CRV will be held the 26<sup>th</sup>, currently 550 people registered

A. REQUEST TO ACCEPT GRANT – TF23-0012 – HISTORIC PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE RENOVATION

Genesee County Parks and Recreation staff requests the approval to accept a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) in the amount of \$300,000.00 for the renovation of the historic pedestrian bridge in Richfield County Park. Match: \$106,000.00. NO USE OF COUNTY GENERAL FUND.

Keeler: Will something displaying the bridge's history be included?

Linihan: We will look into SHPO certification after renovation of structures.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Keeler  
Supported by Commissioner Washington

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE ACCEPTANCE OF MNRTF GRANT AND REFER TO THE BOC APPROVAL PROCESS.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Clemons, Davis, Figueroa, Keeler, Lane, Krapohl, Sylvester, Washington

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Nealy

MOTION CARRIED 9-0-1

B. REQUEST TO ACCEPT GRANT – TF23-0013 – FLINT RIVER ACCESS

Genesee County Parks and Recreation staff requests the approval to accept a grant from the MNRTF in the amount of \$300,000.00 for the development of an accessible launch on the Flint River at the Flint River Watershed Coalition building. Match: \$150,000.00 supplied by FRWC. NO USE OF COUNTY GENERAL FUND. NO USE OF PARKS FUND.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Washington  
Supported by Commissioner Lane

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE ACCEPTANCE OF MNRTF GRANT AND REFER TO BOC APPROVAL PROCESS.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Clemons, Davis, Figueroa, Keeler, Lane, Krapohl, Sylvester, Washington

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Nealy

MOTION CARRIED 9-0-1

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

C. REQUEST TO APPROVE AGREEMENT – GISD – GSRP BENTLEY SITE (FOR-MAR)

Genesee County Parks and Recreation staff requests the approval of an agreement with Genesee Intermediate School District (GISD) for For-Mar staff to provide hands-on science and nature-based programs to the GSRP Bentley Site. Programs run through June 1, 2025. NO USE OF COUNTY GENERAL FUND. NO USE OF PARKS FUND.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Lane  
Supported by Commissioner Washington

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE AGREEMENT AND OBTAIN SIGNATURES FROM PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Clemons, Davis, Figueroa, Keeler, Lane, Krapohl, Sylvester, Washington

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Nealy

MOTION CARRIED 9-0-1

D. REQUEST TO AMEND EXPENSE – DURANGO & SILVERTON

Genesee County Parks and Recreation staff requests the approval to amend the expense to Durango & Silverton, approved by the Parks Commission on April 13, 2023, to allow the expense in FYE 2025.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Figueroa  
Supported by Commissioner Lane

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE AMENDMENT AND REFER TO BOC APPROVAL PROCESS.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Clemons, Davis, Figueroa, Keeler, Lane, Krapohl, Sylvester, Washington

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Nealy

MOTION CARRIED 9-0-1

E. OLD/NEW BUSINESS—

F. OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSIONERS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

Lane: Compliment to staff reports.

Keeler: "For-Mar looks fantastic."

Figueroa: Thank you to staff, spirits are up, looking forward to the holiday.

Avery: Concurs.

Sylvester: Water main break at Irish and Court, water is shut off, there is a boil alert. Jeff Wright congratulates and thanks former Parks Director, Amy McMillan.

G. ADJOURNMENT. Hearing no objections to adjournment, the meeting adjourned at 10:21 AM.

I, Melissa Gagne, Parks Operations Manager, certify that the above is a true and correct transcript from the October 24, 2024, Parks and Recreation Commission 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, Parks Operations Manager  
Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission  
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