



GENESEE COUNTY PARKS

Get away. Right away.

COMMISSION MINUTES: March 13, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT IN-PERSON:

President Joe Krapohl
Secretary Anne Figueroa
Commissioner James Avery
Commissioner Michael J. Keeler
Commissioner Cathy Lane
Commissioner Gloria Nealy
Commissioner Kevin Sylvester

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vice President James Washington
Commissioners Domonique Clemons, Gary Goetzinger

STAFF PRESENT IN-PERSON:

Melissa Gagne, Parks Operations Manager; Nancy Edwards, Recreation Programs and Grants Officer; Rick Witham, Chief Park Ranger; Kassie Hyde, Marketing Assistant; Beth Schrader, CRV Event Coordinator; Allyson Voelker, Marketing Assistant; Emily Stetson, Park Program Manager; Cassie Voelker, Director of Finance and Park Operations; Jackie Domerese, Communications, Event, and Brand Manager; Kari Koske, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Kehoe, 4304 E Stanley, Genesee Twp, MI
Ben Schmidt
David Lawson & Jennifer Farrington – Friends of For-Mar

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 Keeler
Supported by Commissioner Figueroa

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

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Figueroa, Keeler, Krapohl, Lane, Nealy, Sylvester

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Clemons, Goetzinger, Washington

MOTION CARRIED 7-0-3

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Held a Public Information Meeting at For-Mar on Friday, March 7 regarding a prescribed burn
- For-Mar Nature Day Camp scholarship applications are being accepted; registration for day camp opens April 1
- 4 staff attended the annual mParks Conference
- Offered the position of Deputy Director – official announcement will be made
- Mud Girl added another day to their event

A. PRESENTATION: FRIENDS OF FOR-MAR

B. REQUEST TO WAIVE PARK RULES FOR SPECIAL EVENT – FOF AFTER DARK EVENT

Genesee County Parks and Recreation staff requests the approval to waive Park Rules to allow special use of For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum and to submit a special event liquor license application to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC). Friends of For-Mar will hold a For-Mar After Dark event. Event is tentatively scheduled for Friday, August 15, 2025.

Krapohl: We appreciate all you do for us and the work you do.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Lane
Supported by Commissioner Nealy

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE WAIVER OF PARK RULES FOR SPECIAL EVENT.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Figueroa, Keeler, Krapohl, Lane, Nealy, Sylvester

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Clemons, Goetzinger, Washington

MOTION CARRIED 7-0-3

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

Genesee County Parks and Recreation staff requests the approval of an agreement with GISD to host and lead a professional development for teachers at For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum. MiSTEM through GISD will pay for the Chief Park Naturalist's time to lead the Professional Development. NO USE OF COUNTY GENERAL FUND.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Avery
Supported by Commissioner Lane

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

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Figueroa, Keeler, Krapohl, Lane, Nealy, Sylvester

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Clemons, Goetzinger, Washington

MOTION CARRIED 7-0-3

D. REQUEST TO APPROVE AGREEMENT – WILDERNESS INQUIRY (FOR-MAR)

Genesee County Parks and Recreation staff requests the approval of an agreement with Wilderness Inquiry for five (5) scheduled Canoe Experience events on Mott Lake between May 27, 2025, through May 31, 2025. All funding provided by Wilderness Inquiry through the CS Mott Foundation. NO USE OF COUNTY GENERAL FUND.

Krapohl: Last year sold out very fast.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Lane
Supported by Commissioner Nealy

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

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Figueroa, Keeler, Krapohl, Lane, Nealy, Sylvester

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Clemons, Goetzinger, Washington

MOTION CARRIED 7-0-3

E. REQUEST TO AWARD ITB #24-417 – FLINT RIVER RESTORATION – PHASE 2

Genesee County Parks and Recreation staff requests the approval to award ITB #24-417 for Phase 2 of the Flint River Restoration to Granger Construction Company, for an initial contract amount not to exceed \$10,525,000.00 for the Base Scope of Work. NO USE OF COUNTY GENERAL FUND.

Krapohl: They have been doing work currently.

Gagne: Yes.

Lane: Wonderful that you've gotten grants to do this.

Keeler: This will become part of the state park.

Krapohl: Yes.

Keeler: Items 2-10, we have to find extra funding for those?

Gagne: Yes, continuous fund sourcing.

Lane: Compliments to staff and leadership. State chose our organization to oversee this, so that says you are doing great.

Keeler: First county system to be running a state park. That's a good thing.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Lane
Supported by Commissioner Figueroa

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE AWARDING BID TO GRANGER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY AND REFER TO BOC APPROVAL PROCESS.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Figueroa, Keeler, Krapohl, Lane, Nealy, Sylvester

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Clemons, Goetzinger, Washington

MOTION CARRIED 7-0-3

F. REQUEST TO APPROVE AGREEMENT – MUNDY TOWNSHIP (HUD)

Genesee County Parks and Recreation staff requests the approval of a subrecipient agreement with Mundy Township for use of passthrough grant funds, in the amount of \$283,333.333, from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. No match. NO USE OF COUNTY GENERAL FUND.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Lane
Supported by Commissioner Figueroa

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

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Figueroa, Keeler, Krapohl, Lane, Nealy, Sylvester

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Clemons, Goetzinger, Washington

MOTION CARRIED 7-0-3

5. OLD/NEW BUSINESS—

Krapohl: Concern brought up about the Genesee Belle at our last meeting. Assured there is no problem with the Belle. There are no leaks. It had to do with the ice conditions on the lake. Genesee Belle is still in good shape. Concerns of the dam will be passed on to the Director. We do not respond to rumors. If EGLE or DNR contacts us on any issues, we have staff that will respond to issues.

6. OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSIONERS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

Figueroa: Burn presentation was excellent. It's an exciting first step for this whole county. I have total confidence in what they are doing and it's good for the environment.

Nealy: Great idea for the night event at For-Mar.

Lane: The burn – it was good for the public to hear. Encourage to say why we are doing it.

Sylvester: Regarding the burn – Jeff Wright, Drain Commissioner, impressed by efforts to notify residents. To staff, great job.

Avery: Wish For-Mar the best with their event.

Keeler: Presentation for the burn was fantastic, and I'm really excited about it. It's the way to address problems like invasives without using poisons.

7. ADJOURNMENT. Hearing no objections to adjournment, the meeting adjourned at 11:47 AM.

I, Kari Koske, Administrative Assistant, certify that the above is a true and correct transcript from the March 13, 2025, 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.

Kari Koske, Administrative Assistant
Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission
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