



# GENESEE COUNTY PARKS

Get away. Right away.

COMMISSION MINUTES: March 27, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT IN-PERSON:

Secretary Anne Figueroa  
Commissioner James Avery  
Commissioner Domonique Clemons  
Commissioner Gary Goetzinger  
Commissioner Michael J. Keeler  
Commissioner Cathy Lane  
Commissioner Gloria Nealy  
Commissioner Kevin Sylvester

MEMBERS ABSENT: President Joe Krapohl, Vice President James Washington

STAFF PRESENT IN-PERSON:

Patrick Linihan, Parks Director; Melissa Gagne, Parks Operations Manager; Rick Witham, Chief Park Ranger; Beth Schrader, CRV Event Coordinator; Emily Stetson, Park Program Manager; Cassie Voelker, Director of Finance and Park Operations; Jackie Domerese, Communications, Event, and Brand Manager; Nicole Ferguson, Chief Park Naturalist

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Kehoe, 4304 E Stanley, Genesee Twp, MI

1. CALL TO ORDER. Secretary Anne Figueroa 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. Secretary Anne Figueroa asked Commissioners if there were any items they wish to remove from the consent agenda for discussion. No items were removed.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Keeler  
Supported by Commissioner Avery



GENESEE COUNTY  
PARKS AND RECREATION  
COMMISSION

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

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Clemons, Figueroa, Goetzinger, Keeler, Lane, Nealy, Sylvester

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Krapohl, Washington

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Friends Symposium – Commissioners Figueroa, Nealy and Clemons attended.
    - Will be held biannually (spring/fall)
    - Positive feedback
  - Including a sensory zone at Crossroads
  - Easter Egg Hunt
  - Paint & Pour event
  - 2 staff attended NRPA Revenue Development School
    - Writing business plans for revenue generating facilities
  - Maintenance replacing the fence on Branch Road at Stepping Stone Falls
  - Contractor will be completing a facility assessment of Crossroads Village
  - Close to finishing grant project at Branch Road, there will be a ribbon cutting in the spring
  - Adding concrete pads at Wolverine and prepping for an ADA site
  - Wifi at Wolverine's 50 new sites
  - April 7 – Deputy Director, Jeff Johns starting
  - April 11 – First staff training
  - For-Mar Re-Org
  - Crossroads Village Assistant Manager position posted
- A. REQUEST TO APPROVE ADOPT-A-PARK AGREEMENT – ELBA EQUESTRIAN COMPLEX  
Genesee County Parks and Recreation staff requests the approval of an Adopt-a-Park agreement with the Michigan Horse Trails Association for Elba Equestrian Complex. Agreement valid through March 27, 2026.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Lane

Supported by Commissioner Keeler

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE ADOPT A PARK AGREEMENT AND OBTAIN SIGNATURE.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Clemons, Figueroa, Goetzinger, Keeler, Lane, Nealy, Sylvester

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Krapohl, Washington

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

B. APPROVE TO ACCEPT GRANT – RUTH MOTT FOUNDATION (KGCB)

Genesee County Parks and Recreation staff requests the approval to accept a grant from the Ruth Mott Foundation for the North Flint Public Safety Strategy 2025, with Keep Genesee County Beautiful. Grant Amount Awarded: \$390,000.00. No match. NO USE OF COUNTY GENERAL FUND.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Keeler  
Supported by Commissioner Sylvester

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

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Clemons, Figueroa, Goetzinger, Keeler, Lane, Nealy, Sylvester

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Krapohl, Washington

MOTION CARRIED 8-0-2

5. OLD/NEW BUSINESS— NONE.
6. OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSIONERS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

Keeler: At the river where the dam was looks fantastic.

Goetzinger: Thank you and excited to get involved.

Clemons: Marquee on new county building. Two to three months away from moving. Ballots being mailed today.

Avery: Congratulations to Commissioner Figueroa for appointment to the Genesee District Library.

Sylvester: Controlled burn update?

Linihan: It is up in the air.

Lane: Thank you to staff for their work and reports. Compliments to the staff.

Nealy: The Friends Symposium was interesting. Carmen Ainsworth elementary schools attended For-Mar last week.

Figueroa: Outreach to schools is important. Some kids don't get out of their neighborhood. The Friends Symposium will develop relationships and was informative. Proud of staff.

7. ADJOURNMENT. Hearing no objections to adjournment, the meeting adjourned at 10:28 AM.

I, Melissa Gagne, Parks Operations Manager, certify that the above is a true and correct transcript from the March 27, 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.