



GENESEE COUNTY PARKS

Get away. Right away.

COMMISSION MINUTES: April 24, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT IN-PERSON:

President Joe Krapohl
Commissioner James Avery
Commissioner Domonique Clemons
Commissioner Gary Goetzinger
Commissioner Michael J. Keeler
Commissioner Cathy Lane

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vice President James Washington, Secretary Anne Figueroa,
Commissioners Gloria Nealy, Kevin Sylvester

STAFF PRESENT IN-PERSON:

Patrick Linihan, Parks Director; Jeff Johns, Deputy Director; Melissa Gagne, Parks Operations Manager; Rick Witham, Chief Park Ranger; Emily Stetson, Park Program Manager; Cassie Voelker, Director of Finance and Park Operations; Jackie Domerese, Communications, Event, and Brand Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: Ben Schmidt, 5296 N Center Rd; Mike Yanchos, Grand Blanc Township; Tom Kehoe, 4303 E Stanley

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.

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, Goetzinger, Keeler, Krapohl, Lane

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Figueroa, Nealy, Sylvester, Washington

MOTION CARRIED 6-0-4

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Successful prescribed burn at For-Mar, thank you to Genesee County Planning Commission
- Shout out to Ranger Andy Owens for how he handled an incident
- Completed ADA site at Wolverine Campground, first one
- Staff are wiring Wi-Fi for the Walker Way section of Wolverine Campground
- 70% of staff are now on duty
- The Genesee Belle was approved by the Genesee County Board of Commissioners to sell
- Staff training – trained 304 staff in the first two days
- Recognition of Project SEARCH
- Director Patrick Linihan is now a Certified Parks and Recreation Executive

A. PRESENTATION: RICHFIELD BMX UPDATES – AUSTIN KELLY

B. AUTHORIZATION TO WAIVE PARK RULE – BMX EVENTS

Genesee County Parks and Recreation staff requests to authorize the Parks Director to allow the BMX group to conduct races past dusk on select dates through December 2025.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Keeler

Supported by Commissioner Goetzinger

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE WAIVER OF PARK RULE TO ALLOW RACES TO BE HELD PAST DUSK ON SELECT DATES.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Clemons, Goetzinger, Keeler, Krapohl, Lane

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Figueroa, Nealy, Sylvester, Washington

MOTION CARRIED 6-0-4

C. REQUEST TO ACCEPT GRANT - SYI

Genesee County Parks and Recreation staff requests the approval to accept a grant from the Genesee Area Focus Fund and Genesee Chamber Foundation in the amount of \$28,739.00, for the annual Summer Youth Initiative (SYI) program.

Krapohl: Grateful for support from the Genesee County Board of Commissioners.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Lane

Supported by Commissioner Avery

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

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Clemons, Goetzinger, Keeler, Krapohl, Lane

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Figueroa, Nealy, Sylvester, Washington

MOTION CARRIED 6-0-4

D. REQUEST TO APPROVE AGREEMENT – REGENTS OF UM-FLINT (FOR-MAR)

Genesee County Parks and Recreation staff requests the approval of an agreement with the Regents of the University of Michigan to allow For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum to present live animal programs.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion by Commissioner Lane

Supported by Commissioner Keeler

MOTION AND SUPPORT TO APPROVE AGREEMENT AND OBTAIN SIGNATURE FROM PRESIDENT.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Avery, Clemons, Goetzinger, Keeler, Krapohl, Lane

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Figueroa, Nealy, Sylvester, Washington

MOTION CARRIED 6-0-4

5. OLD/NEW BUSINESS— Board of Commissioners designated a week in May – Law Enforcement Week – Park Rangers are a vital law enforcement.
6. OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSIONERS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

Lane: Son qualified for Boston Marathon and ran it in 5 hours and 25 minutes.

Avery: Congratulations to Director Linihan for CPRE.

Keeler: Prescribed burn at For-Mar – some flames couldn't reach?

Linihan: Some of the areas were still wet.

Keeler: Pierce Park – tree planning 300 spruce. Congratulations to Director Linihan for CPRE.

7. ADJOURNMENT. Hearing no objections to adjournment, the meeting adjourned at 10:26 AM.

I, Melissa Gagne, Parks Operations Manager, certify that the above is a true and correct transcript from the April 24, 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.

Melissa Gagne, Parks Operations Manager
Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission
810.736.7100
mgagne@gcparks.org