

EATON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

September 4, 2019

The Eaton County Parks and Recreation Commission met in regular session at Lincoln Brick Park, 13991 Tallman Road, Grand Ledge.

PRESENT: Eric Deibel, Brian Droscha, Duane Eldred, Robert McConnell, Kevin Thom, Kathy Webber, Steven Weigel and Jane Whitacre

ABSENT: Michael Doty and Rob Piercefield

GUESTS: Riley Spade, Gerry Goffin, and Sarah Surna

STAFF: Troy Stowell-Director, Jackie Blanc-Operations Manager/Naturalist, Melody Smalley-Administrative Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman McConnell called the Parks Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call.

2. INTRODUCTIONS/CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman McConnell stated that this coming December will be 11 years he has served on the board and gave a recap of the board's accomplishments over his tenure. In addition, Chairman McConnell expressed his concerns for critical needs for park funding.

3. CONCENT AGENDA

Consent agenda includes current agenda and previous month's minutes. Motion made by Droscha second by Whitacre to approved the consent agenda. **Motion carried.**

4. STAFF REPORTS

Director Stowell gave brief overviews of their reports that were distributed by email. Jackie Blanc gave a verbal staff report that included her working with the past Event and Recreation Coordinator and her plans of implementing some fall walk programs. Blanc also gave a recap of her schedule to closing down parks for the winter season and repairs that had been done from the past storms that included the extensive repair of the bridge at Lincoln Brick Park.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

6. FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. Master Voucher

The April Master Voucher was distributed and reviewed. Motion made by Droscha, second by Whitacre to approve payment of the voucher. **Motion carried.**

B. Financial Report

Financial Report for April was reviewed. Motion made by Droscha, second by Eldred to receive the report. **Motion carried.**

7. PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

- A. **Friends of Eaton County Parks** –Friend of the Parks President Spade invited the Commission to the Friend’s upcoming Dinner Fundraiser to be held on September 15, 2019 at Sanctuary Sprits in Grand Ledge.
- B. **Barry Eaton District Health Department** – Sarah Surna spoke on mosquito and tick activity in the area. She addressed protection practices and referenced their website for additional information.

8. OLD BUSINESS

- A. **New Parks Department Logo and Style Guide** – Director Stowell gave an update on the new logo and style guide for the parks department.
- B. **Yes Committee Updates** – Director Stowell stated there was no meeting last month, but through emails the decision has been made for focus on expanding the group members and to focus on developing and education/advocacy component.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **2021-2026 Parks Master Plan Selection** – Director Stowell gave a brief overview of the process and scoring that he and Chairman McConnell developed for choosing what agency would be selected for developing the upcoming Master Plan. Following a discussion on top candidates motion was made by Droscha, second by Whitacre to award the bid to Beckett & Reader, Inc. **Motion carried.**

10. LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT

None

11. OTHER BUSINESS

None

12. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- Commissioner Droscha stated he would like to see no-ice fishing at Crandell Park.
- Commissioner Webber stated she would like to see electric car charging stations available at some of the park locations.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Lincoln Brick Park, 13991 Tallman Road, Grand Ledge. There being no further business, a motion for adjournment was made. The regular meeting was adjourned by Chairman McConnell at 7:27pm.

For the Commission,



Troy Stowell- Director of Eaton County Parks

MLS