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EATON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

February 5, 2020

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

PRESENT: Jack Duffy, Eric Deibel, Brian Droscha, Duane Eldred, Sarah Ferguson, Robert McConnell, Rob Piercefield, Kathy Webber, Jane Whitacre, and Steven Weigel

ABSENT:

GUESTS: Riley Spade and Gerry Goffin

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

None

3. CONCENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Agenda for February 5, 2020 Meeting

Motion made by Droscha, second by Whitacre to approve the agenda. **Motion Carried.**

B. Approval of January 2020 Minutes

January minutes were reviewed. It was recommended the minutes be 3A be amended. Motion made by Whitacre, second by Piercefield to approve the minutes with the amendment. **Motion Carried.**

4. STAFF REPORTS

Director Stowell gave a brief overview of his report that was distributed by email.

Jackie Blanc gave a brief overview of her report that was distributed by email.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

6. FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. Master Voucher

January Master Voucher was reviewed. Motion made by Droscha, second by Piercefield to approve the voucher. **Motion carried.**

B. Financial Report

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

7. PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

A. Friends of Eaton County Parks –Friend of the Parks President Spade stated they are still looking for members to join the organization. In addition, he shared an overview of the benefits of parks that included health, community, and economic benefits.

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. “Restore Our Parks” Updates – Commissioner McConnell shared informational updates and concerns relayed to him and Director Stowell regarding the prospect of a millage. Discussion followed with the information shared.

1. Motion was made by Weigel, second by Droscha *“To reaffirm moving forward on a millage proposal concept that is being developed by the Restore Our Parks Committee that was presented at the January meeting.”* Commissioner McConnell called for showing of hands vote. The results were 9 to 1 in favor of support. **Motion Carried.**

B. 2021-2026 Master Plan Update – Director Stowell stated the first survey for the 2021-2026 Master Plan has been posted on social media and postcards are being printed for mailing distribution.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. ProtectMI Campaign – Director Stowell showed a video that has been released to increase the awareness of protecting Michigan’s natural resources.

10. LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT

Riley Spayde stated his support for a proposal of a millage.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

None

12. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Droscha gave out business cards for a contact for development of future trail systems.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2020 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 8:27 p.m.

For the Commission,



Troy Stowell- Director of Eaton County Parks