

CASS COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Conference Room – County Services Building
Cassopolis, MI, MI 49031
March 11, 2021

9:00 p.m. – CALL MEETING TO ORDER –President Kucklick

INVOCATION – Director Wyman

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Commissioner Stafne

ROLL CALL – Recording Secretary Dohm

Director Wyman – P

Thomas Atkinson – p

Annie File - P

Hailey Harman - P

David Kring – P

Fritz Kucklick – P

Lyndon Parrish -A

Robert Parrish - P

Jamie Stafne -P

Jeff VanBelle - P

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Commissioner R. Parrish

Second: Commissioner Atkinson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

Motion: Commissioner R. Parrish

Second: Commissioner File

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Director Wyman

1. Director's report was presented.

BUDGET – Director Wyman

1. Was presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Dark Sky
 - a. Astronomical Society wants to have their Star Party over Labor Day Weekend (Friday, Saturday and Sunday).
 - i. Could we have our grand opening event for Dark Skies that weekend.
 - ii. Need to make sure to be able to keep the fees for their event separate from ours.
 - b. We will need to replace days lost to bad weather during the winter for our commitment to International Dark Skies.
 - c. Commissioner Stafne asked if we had been contacted by the Pure Michigan campaign regarding filming for their latest campaign. Since we have not been in contact with them, Commissioner Stafne volunteered to contact them regarding it.
 - d. We have an agreement with _____ who will be doing a yoga under the stars program during _____.
 - e. The musical group from Kalamazoo, "Connecting Chords Music Festival" will be performing during our dark sky event May 14th with a rain date of May 15.
2. Mike Lowe
 - a. The committee met again with Mike Lowe via Zoom to firm up the details of his visit.
 - i. Thursday, September 16 – Arrival
 - ii. Friday, September 17– Search & Rescue with professionals
 - iii. Saturday, September 18 – General Session 1 in the morning; lunch; General Session 2 afternoon; evening talk regarding reality tv show, night session – navigating with stars.

- b. Commissioner R. Parrish volunteered to supply small items for attendees.
- c. Commissioner Stafne will help Director Wyman prepare a swag bag for Mr. Lowe

NEW BUSINESS

1. Parks/Tourism/History/Development FUNDING. The Quality-of-Life Effort committee
 - a. Commissioner Kkucklick gave an overview of one of the committees set by County Administrator Carmen to work through several issues throughout the county.
 - i. This committee has met once and formed a sub-committee consisting of Commissioners Kucklick and Atkinson and also Ron McAdam. This sub-committee has met twice, working on the logistics of a possible tax levy.
2. Parks Properties
 - a. Another committee set by County Administrator Carmen is “County Surplus Properties” that is looking at possible vacant properties owned by the county and see what could/should be done with them.
 - i. Among those properties questioned are Point Park, Lake Park, E. Harmon Park and Diamond Isle Park.
 - ii. Committee is looking into who actually owns the properties.
3. Easter Event
 - a. Our annual Spring Egg-stravaganza will continue this year with a limited number of activities due to Covid restrictions.
 - b. March 27th from noon to 2:00 p.m.
4. Shelter Reservation and Cabin Fees
 - a. Discussion regarding changing the fee for the rental of the \$60 shelters to \$65 and the cabins at Dodd from \$50 to \$55

Motion: To change the rental fee of the \$60 shelters to \$65 and the cabin rentals from \$50 to \$55 – Commissioner Stafne

Second: Commissioner Atkinson

Motion passed

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Commissioner R. Parrish donated a 60” television for the conference room at Lawless Park.
- Steelhead are being caught at Dodd Park.
- Commissioner VanBell reported that the Pokagon Tribe has applied for a permit for the MEANDRs for the 2 miles above Dodd Park.

Adjournment

Motion: Commissioner File

Second: Commissioner Atkinson

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Dohm
Recording Secretary

Next regular meeting April 8, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Conference Room, 2nd Floor County Services Building