

**JACKSON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
1992 WARREN AVENUE  
JACKSON, MICHIGAN 49203**

September 16, 2015

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mike Way, Chairman at 8:02 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Cmr., **Beaman, Gaede, Price, Seitz, Snyder, Torres, and Way**  
Excused: Cmr., **Alexander and Dubois**  
Absent: Cmr. **Polaczyk**  
Ex-Officio: **Scott Robbins**, Parks Director  
Staff: **Becky Humphrey, Mike Hoskins**  
Visitors: **Adam Brown**, Deputy County Administrator, **Mark Ott**, Friends of the Falling Waters Trail,  
**Rick Zdanowitz**, PLP Ice Cream, Pleasant Lake Park

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by Torres, supported by Seitz** to approve the September 16, 2015 agenda as amended by adding Memorial Bench under New Business. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Moved by Price, supported by Seitz** to approve the August 2015 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

**AUGUST 2015 FINANCIALS**

**Moved by Torres, supported by Snyder** to receive the August 2015 Financial Reports. Motion carried.

**Moved by Seitz, supported by Torres** to approve the August 2015 Claims Report. Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Letter from Cascades Park Foundation  
Re: Firework Shows
2. Note from **Mary Orlos**
3. Note from Kelli Jo of Make A Wish
4. Note from Jackson District Library
5. Email from Lori Trout, Friend of the Court
6. Email from Chris and Sue, Horton residents
7. **Friends of the Falling Waters Trail** minutes of August 4, 2015
8. **Cascades Park Foundation** minutes of August 19, 2015

9. **The Champion Team** minutes of August 19, 2015
10. **Jackson County Parks Association** - no minutes for August
11. **Cascades Inc./Jackson Civil War Society** (No Minutes)

**Moved by Snyder, supported by Beaman** to receive the communications. Motion Carried.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **Cascades Champion Team and The Cascades Renovations-**

The Champion Team continues to be focusing on Phase 2 funding opportunities. Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday September 24 at 7:30 AM at the Tower Building in Room 501.

The Parks staff will be meeting with the Spicer Group to review **Phase 2** engineering plans the week of September 14<sup>th</sup>.

**The Cascades-** The final Labor Day Fireworks show was a success and ACT III provided the entertainment. Cmr. Mahoney put us in contact with a local artist who sang the National Anthem. Her name is Rayisha Dye. He has helped us in this effort for the past two Fireworks Shows (May and July). Kyle Jones sang the National Anthem for Memorial Day and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July events.

For the Labor Day Fireworks show we had 1055 attendees and our total sales were \$6,288.00.

**Swains Lake and Pleasant Lake Campgrounds-** Both camp grounds were nearly sold out this past Labor Day Weekend and the season end financials will be available next month. Currently Pleasant Lake is closed and Swain's Lake will be open until the 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Fair Master Plan-** The second stakeholders meeting will be held on September 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the Tower Building on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. Site plan renderings will be reviewed and master plan discussions will open to the public.

**Cascades Golf Course and Club House-** Parking lot was recently sealed and striped in an effort to extend the life of the parking lot and give the golfer a better experience when they arrive at the golf course. We hosted the Hanover Horton high school girl's invitational on August 22. They had 80 players. Lumen Christi won the invitational.

Polish Prince Outing on August 29. They had 94 players.

We also had a glow ball outing the night of August 29. It was a fundraiser for the Grass Lake golf teams. They had 64 players. The result was a \$7500 day, the highest revenue day Phil can ever remember, including \$1200 in alcohol sales. A lot of leagues are finishing this past week.

**Horton Pond** – The aquatic invasive plant control program has been a success and is finished for the year. One project we are currently working on is at the Memorial/Gazebo area at the north end of the lake. We removed two old spruce trees to open up sight lines to the pond and the American Flag. Sue and Chris James, who live on the lake and were the ones who started the discussions about the invasive plant control program, donated their time and equipment this past weekend to pressure wash the gazebo.

Our Parks staff completed repair work on the small bridge that crosses over the dam and the gazebo steps. We will return to grind the 2 stumps and remove some of the invasive trees that growing in the spruces trees.

Later this month the Park Association will paint it as a Work Bee project. We received a call and a visit from John Tallis, Hanover Township Supervisor who thanked everyone for their efforts.

**Kiwanis Flowering Tree Project** – Cmr. Way, Pat Doher and our parks staff met with Stan Mazur, his son Jeff and staff from the Hobbit Nursery to discuss future tree planting opportunities along with reviewing the Sparks Foundation County Parks Master Plan. We came to consensus that we are able to accommodate up to 30 new flowering and hard wood trees in and around the Urban Fishery. They will be planted on 40 foot centers to allow for proper mowing and maintenance. Currently, Mr. Mazur has 8 trees purchased and we look to work with him for the installation process later this fall.

**Parks-** Mike and his staff are working on an updated Parks Inventory and Conditions Report for 2015 -2016. We are working on a draft for our Special Events and Park Use Policy and Procedures for 2015-2016. These procedures will be implemented for the 2016 season.

### **Parks Board Meeting – Wednesday, September 16, 2015**

*In an effort to have the Parks Commissioners visit some of our wonderful parks, we will be hosting the next Parks Commission Board Meeting at **Pleasant Lake County Park and Campground**.*

*We will all meet there at **8:00 AM** on site and hold our board meeting at:*

***Hilltop Shelter (closest to the parking lot)  
Pleasant Lake County Park and Campground  
4401 Styles Road  
Pleasant Lake, Michigan 49272***

*After our board meeting we will tour the refurbished Concession stand that is home to  
PLP Ice Cream.*

**Moved by Price, supported by Beaman** to receive the Director's report. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS - None**

**NEW BUSINESS-**

#### **Memorial Bench**

The Women's Garden Club would like to put in a memorial bench and 3 trees.

**Moved by Price, supported by Snyder** to approve the memorial bench along with 3 trees with the parks staff advising with the selection of type of tree, size and location of bench and trees. Motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT –**

**Mark Ott**, President of the Friends of the Fallings Waters Trail informed the Parks Commission of the fund raiser run (formerly the Wildlife Marathon) on October 4<sup>th</sup> on the Fallings Waters Trail. He also commented that soon there might be a bathroom at the Teft Road Trailhead.

#### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS –**

**Cmr. Price** – Does any of the Commission know most/any of the Park Staff? Would like to recognize the Parks staff by having a lunch to get to know the staff better. Margaret Myers has agreed to donate pizza and then we could bring in potluck for the staff. All in or not? Include the Parks Association and when would it be a good time to do this? We need to figure out a date and time.

In 2016 can we do a Family Night to celebrate Veterans? First Responders? Or any other organizations or groups? Something to think about.

The fishing pond – we need to put fish in the pond and keep them in there.

**Cmr. Seitz** – We talked about the Townships to support the parks. Where are we at with this? What partnerships do have in place? Would really like to know where the Parks stand in this endeavor.

**Cmr. Snyder** – Understands why we are starting to hold the Park Commission meetings in remote parks; for the Park Commissioners to see the parks.

Cmr. Gaede – the correspondence about the tree limb hitting a camper's tent; could we have the gentleman from Clark Lake, Caycee take a look at the trees to see what limbs need to be taken down? Why don't we do this?

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to the call of the Chair at 9:03 a.m.

**Mike Way, Chairman**

Jackson County Parks & Recreation Commission