

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

November 18, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: Mike Way, Chairman at 7:59 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Cmr. **Alexander, Beaman, DuBois, Gaede, Polaczyk, Price, Seitz, Snyder, and Way**
Excused: Cmr. **Torres**
Ex-Officio: **Adam Brown**, Interim Parks Director
Staff: **Becky Humphrey, Mike Hoskins, Dan Lusty**
Visitors: **Grant Bauman**, Region 2 Planning Commission, **Denise and Dean Weber**, Center Stage Jackson; **Sarah Slamer and Stacy Harrison**, Jackson Friendly Home, **Mark Ott**, Friends of the Falling Waters Trail

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Seitz, supported by DuBois to approve the November 18, 2015. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Price, supported by Polaczyk to approve the October 2015 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

SPECIAL ORDER – Center Stage Jackson – 1776 Musical

Moved by DuBois, supported by Price to authorize the Interim Parks Director to negotiate a no-loss agreement with Center Stage Jackson and to come back to the Parks Board with a recommendation for the 1776 Musical. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

OCTOBER 2015 FINANCIALS

Moved by Polaczyk, supported by Snyder to receive the October 2015 Financial Reports. Motion carried.

Moved by Seitz, supported by DuBois to approve the October 2015 Claims Report. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. E-mail from Grant Bauman
Re: Renaming of the Inter-City Trail
2. Letter from Denise Owens, Fairgrounds Manager
Re: Thank you
3. E-mail from Denise Geisman, Lomar Mfg. with attached Minutes and Notes
Re: Horton Park

4. E-mail from Pure Michigan
Re: Click-throughs from Pure Michigan
5. E-mail from Grant Bauman, Region 2 Planning Commission
Re: MNRTF Scores for Trail Development for Sparks Park Inter-City Trail
6. E-mail from Sarah Slamer, Administrator Jackson Friendly Home
Re: Rubber Duck Regatta
7. **Cascades Park Foundation** minutes of October 21, 2015
8. **Friends of the Falling Waters Trail** minutes of September 1, 2015
9. **Jackson County Parks Association** minutes of September 2015 (at meeting)
10. **The Champion Team** minutes of November 5, 2015 (No Minutes at this time)
11. **Cascades Inc./Jackson Civil War Society** (No Minutes)

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

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Intercity Trail Connector – In your packet under Communications you received a copy of an email from Grant Bauman regarding the State Development Grant for the Inter-City Trail and the MNRTF Rankings for the grant requests. Grant Bauman will also be giving a presentation at the meeting.

We had previously reported to you about the grant and then supplemental grant for a total of \$34,001.75 received from the community foundation for the trail connector to the Martin Luther King Jr. City Trail. We had requested \$40,000. An additional donor stepped forward to fund the final \$6,000 of the grant.

Golf – We have been very fortunate to have some great golf weather into November. We have had members and nonmembers on the course. Our members are paying the \$5 cart fee after October 31st, so we are getting some revenue even when it's just members playing. Phil Fischmeister is closing out the merchandise and financial books for the year. He is already scheduling outings for next year. Superintendent Dan Lusty has been busy with adding the sand containment bunker, which will be used to replace bunkers over the summer and the concrete pad for the cart wash.

Our irrigation system pump has not been functioning correctly. Brown Drilling, who fixed the casing this year, pulled it out to see if the casing was the problem. They determined it is the pump itself. We incurred additional expense for a temporary pump from Brown Drilling. The pump will need to be repaired. The temporary pump is no longer needed.

Cascades Champion Committee – An equipment list was completed for the Cascades Phase II project. That list can be used for asset donation and to generate sponsorship opportunities. We are working with the Champion Committee to approach funders for Phase II.

Out County Parks – There is a lot of tree and leaf work going on throughout the county park system.

Pleasant Lake Park – The Parks Association has committed to providing another cabin at Pleasant Lake. The intent of this cabin is to replace the office. The mobile home will not be moved until next year.

Deer Cull – Aaron’s Nuisance requested to use the newly purchased property, formerly owned by Flannery and Jackson Public Schools for the deer cull. Superintendent Mike Hoskins was going to walk the property with Aaron’s Nuisance to determine if it was safe to conduct operations.

Lime Lake Restoration – Mike Hoskins and I met with Paul Rentschler to finalize the grant submission for the Lime Lake Restoration Project to the Aquatic Habitat Grant Program. The grant was submitted on November 13, 2015. A final decision will not likely be known until April of 2016.

Horton Mill Pond/Snyder Park – Mike Hoskins and I attended the Horton Township Meeting on Monday night. The owners of Lomar Machinery are willing to invest personal funds into the park. They have already committed to paying for an additional treatment to suppress Milfoil.

Residents from around the park showed up at the Township meeting to express frustration with the safety of the park. They told of extreme difficulties with drugs, loitering, and other activities, and that the park was not currently safe to warrant additional investment.

The Township anticipates appointing a committee to pull together a plan for the park improvements. The Township, in the meanwhile will work with law enforcement to address the safety concerns.

Equipment – We are moving forward with the purchase of a truck and power washer, both of which were budgeted in the Capital Improvement Program.

Upper Grand River Watershed Blue Trail Planning Sub-Committee – I was invited to participate in the blue trail planning sub-committee for the Grand River Watershed Alliance. This group is interested in making a blue (water) trail along the Grand River in Jackson County as part of a larger state initiative. This was the first meeting, so there is a lot more to come on this opportunity. A consultation service proposal has been received by GREAT to develop a firm plan for a comprehensive water trail system.

Mechanic - We have authority to hire a temporary full-time mechanic. We will advertise and recruit. The recruitment may be difficult because we cannot guarantee a permanent position at this time, because the incumbent may be able to come back if his health improves.

Director Recruitment - The Parks Director Position has been advertised to be filled with all of the major professional associations and on the County website.

Moved by Polaczyk, supported by Beaman to receive the Director’s report. Motion carried.

Moved by Snyder, supported by Alexander to waive the Jackson County Parks Firearms policy to allow the deer cull to take place on county property. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS-

Purchase 2016 Truck

Moved by Polaczyk, supported by Seitz to purchase the 2016 GMC 3500HD 4x4 Parks work truck from Red Holman GMC for the MiDeal price of \$33,330.55 and to be paid for from the Capital Improvement Program, Line item no. 402-902-979-208 Automobiles/Vehicles Fund for 2016. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS –

Cmr. Seitz – Was wondering if you could still make donations to the Jackson Community Foundation to be earmarked for The Cascades Project. Yes.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to the call of the Chair at 9:41 a.m.

Mike Way, Chairman

Jackson County Parks & Recreation Commission