
GENESEE COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

The semi-monthly meeting of the Genesee County Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, April 9, 2009 in the Harris Auditorium of the Genesee County Administration Building, 1101 Beach St., Flint, 48502.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Lucas, Joe Krapohl, Patrick Gleason, Archie Bailey, Jeff Wright, Mike Keeler, Billy Bradshaw, Bob Ranger.

MEMBERS ABSENT: James Washington, Ted Henry

STAFF PRESENT: Amy McMillan, Director; Ron Walker, Deputy Director; Deborah Wilkes, Secretary; Tyler Barto, Intern; Nancy Edwards, Program Coordinator; Brian Barkey, Legal Counsel.

OTHERS PRESENT: Brad Graham, Historical Films.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

President Krapohl called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

(2) OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

No one from the public addressed the commission.

(3) CONSENT AGENDA

Discussion: Commissioner Wright asked that the bills be removed from the Consent Agenda. There was no further discussion about the items in the consent agenda.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Lucas
Supported by Commissioner Ranger

Motion and support for approval of consent agenda items with the exception of ratification of commission bills.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Gleason, Keeler, Krapohl, Bailey, Bradshaw, Ranger, Lucas, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Henry, Washington

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8-0

(4) REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL

There is no report from legal counsel this meeting.

(5) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Fisheries Report –A report was sent to you via email from the DNR regarding the lakes in Genesee County Parks. (Mott Lake and Holloway Reservoir) Buell Lake and Byram Lake reports have not yet been updated. This is a very large report so it was not printed, however, if you wish a printed copy; please contact our office and we will provide one for you. You may want to read how the catfish are affecting the waterways and channels since it may be something we need to watch and address in the future.

B. Volunteer Dinner: April 11 is the deadline for RSVPs.

C. Wildlife Management: The sub-committee would like to recommend that the commission schedule two meetings for public information and input. The sub-committee asks that meetings be scheduled for April 23, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. and May 14, 2009 at 7:00 pm. Both meetings will be held in the Harris Auditorium, here in the Genesee County Administration Building, 1101 Beach St., Flint.

(6) **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. Historical filming at Crossroads Village: Brad Graham of Historical Films in Maryland shared the history of the film he is working on for the National Parks Service. This film depicts activities in Mississippi in the 1860s. The city of Corinth was an area with a major railroad line and Crossroads Village is a site that suits the train and village needs of the film. The film company will be shooting around June 20th with the company coming into the Village around the 10th of June to set up for the production. Some post-productions changes will be made to adapt the train, tracks, depot, and store fronts to conform to the time period and Mississippi site, but Crossroads Village will still be recognizable to those who know where it was filmed. Mr. Graham used his computer to show the commissioners how the post production changes would look. Many of the present buildings at Crossroads are perfect for their interior filming needs. The film will be shown in the Visitor's Center in Corinth, Mississippi and the video will also be sold.

President Krapohl and Ms. McMillan both said that the staff is looking forward to the film crew coming to Crossroads. Ms. McMillan also said that Henry Ford/Greenfield Village also competed for the filming business. There will be information in our brochures regarding the battle scenes and there will be a docent on hand to explain about the film and the battle scenes during the filming. Perhaps we will have a screening of the film in the Opera House when it is completed.

Commissioner Wright asked if the film qualifies for the tax credit of making films in Michigan. Mr. Graham said he believes it does, but his company is simply a sub-contractor for the original production company that would be receiving the tax credit. Commissioner Wright asked where the post production work is done. Mr. Graham stated that wherever his computer is located is where he can work on it.

Commissioner Gleason asked about the hiring of construction workers and extras. Mr. Graham said that there will be opportunities for many local people to be working as extras and doing some construction work on the sets.

B. Farm Animals at Crossroads Village:

Discussion: A Request for Proposals (RFP) was posted through the Purchasing Department for farm animals at Crossroads Village. Sealed proposals were received by the Purchasing Department, opened and reviewed by staff of Genesee County Parks. Staff would like to recommend to the commission that Carousel Acres be awarded the contract and authorize the Director to sign a contract with Carousel Acres with the approval of legal counsel. We have worked with Carousel Acres for the last two years and they were the lowest cost of the two responsive proposals.

Commissioner Ranger asked what types, and how many animals will be provided. Ms. McMillan said that there will be miniature horses, goats, sheep, horses, cows, rabbits, chickens; usually at least two of each animal, with more of the chickens and bunnies. The animals will also be used as part of programming, like cow milking demonstrations and the miniature horses are used as a pony express to deliver mail from the schoolhouse children to various locations in the Village, which was very popular last year.

Commissioner Keeler asked where the animals are kept. Ms. McMillan explained the various locations in the Village that the animals are kept, such as next to the Salter House, in the pasture near the schoolhouse, which is where the chicken coop is also located.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Lucas

Supported by Commissioner Ranger

Motion and support to accept staff recommendations to award and enter into a contract with Carousel Acres to provide farm animals for Crossroads Village for the summer of 2009 and 2010.

Yeas: Bailey, Bradshaw, Keeler, Lucas, Krapohl, Wright, Ranger

Nays: None

Absent: Washington, Henry

MOTION CARRIED 8-0

C. Ratification of Commission Bills

Discussion: Mr. Wright asked about the Webster Garner pricing structure. Ms. McMillan stated that we used the bid procedure that was recommended by the Drain Commission. He also asked about the GE Capital Toro Lease. Ms. McMillan said the bill is a quarterly payment and GE Capital is the name of the finance company the lease is paid to.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Wright
Supported by Commissioner Ranger

Motion and support for ratification of Commission bills.

Yeas: Bailey, Lucas, Gleason, Wright, Keeler, Ranger, Bradshaw, Krapohl
Nays: None
Absent: Washington, Henry

MOTION CARRIED 8-0

(7) OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSIONERS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

No commissioners addressed the commission.

(9) OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

No one from the public addressed the commission.

(10) ADJOURNMENT

With no objections made, President Krapohl adjourned the meeting at 10:33 a.m.