



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: February 13, 2019

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Administration Building, 2230 Platt Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Members Present: Robert Marans, WCPARC President; Patricia Scribner, Vice President; Janis Bobrin, Daniel Ezekiel, Barbara Fuller, Ricky Jefferson, and Sue Shink

Members Absent: Janice Anschuetz, WCPARC Secretary-Treasurer, Brenda McKinney, and Evan Pratt

Staff Present: Coy Vaughn, Director; Meghan Bonfiglio, Deputy Director; Ginny Trocchio, Superintendent of Park Planning and Natural Areas; Jason Brooks, Manger of Finance and Administration; Diane Carr, MLM Recreation Center Superintendent; Brian Machermer, Independence Lake Superintendent; Katie King, MLM Rec Center Supervisor; Peter Sanderson, Park Planner; Rosie Pahl Donaldson, Park Planner

Others Present: None

1. Call To Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Marans called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Marans stated he would like to amend the agenda by moving item #6c, the Non-Motorized Road Millage Expenditures Presentation down to item #7f and the Director’s Evaluation down to item #7g.

It was moved by Ms. Bobrin and seconded by Mr. Ezekiel to amend the agenda of February 13, 2019 as proposed. Ayes all as amended; the motion was approved.

The Minutes of the January 8, 2019 meeting were included with the agenda material.

It was moved by Ms. Fuller and seconded by Ms. Bobrin to approve the Minutes of the January 8, 2019 meeting. Ayes all as amended; the motion was approved.

3. Public Comment

None

4. Communications, Projects & Activities

Mr. Vaughn introduced Katie King, MLM Supervisor, as a new employee and provided a summary of her educational and professional credentials. Ms. Shink introduced herself as the newest member on the Commission representing the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Vaughn provided an overview of communications for the month of January, which included a profile on MLM Superintendent Diane Carr; an article on the Ice Carving Festival which occurred on February 9, 2019; a thank you from St. Joseph Parish for passes and a 2018 Family Favorite award from Ann Arbor Family Press for Rolling Hills. Mr. Vaughn provided a written report and a PowerPoint presentation of the projects and activities update for the month of January, 2019.

It was moved by Ms. Fuller and seconded by Ms. Scribner to accept and file the Communications, Projects and Activities Update for the month of January 2019 as submitted. Ayes all, the motion was approved.

5. Reports – January, 2019

A. Financial Reports

Mr. Vaughn presented the claims report for January, 2019 which included expenditures for parking lot construction at Staebler Farm, the final installment payment for the Estleman conservation easement, and B2B expenses to the non-motorized transit fund.

Mr. Brooks presented the fund balance reports through January, highlighting modifications due to current encumbrances on the Parks fund balance and the budgeted property tax receipts in 2019.

It was moved by Ms. Bobrin and seconded by Ms. Fuller to accept and file the financial reports and to approve the recreation expenditures presented in the Claims Report for the month of January 2019, totaling \$324,684. Ayes all, the motion was approved.

B. Recreation Reports

Mr. Vaughn then summarized the statistics for the Mari Lou Murray Recreation Center for the month of January, 2019, noting that the presentation of Ms. Carr would be following shortly.

It was moved by Ms. Scribner and seconded by Mr. Ezekiel to receive and file the Recreation Reports for January 2019 as presented. Ayes all, the motion was approved.

6. Old Business

A. Folk School Presentation

The presentation was moved to a future meeting.

B. Gatehouse Replacement, Rolling Hills & Independence Lake

Mr. Dehring reported that this action is being brought forward to account for the construction on the gatehouses at Rolling Hills and Independence Lake. Mr. Ezekiel asked why the estimate was off by more than anticipated. Mr. Dehring reported that the volume of contracting work available and the cost of materials in the market is currently inflated. He added that the prices for the parking lot at Staebler were also higher than anticipated. Mr. Dehring stated that the bid for the irrigation system at Sharon Mills took three attempts and added that only one response was received. Mr. Marans asked if the same design will be used at Rolling Hills as at Independence Lake. Mr. Dehring stated that the same design would be used to tie the Parks agency together.

It was moved by Ms. Scribner, seconded by Ms. Shink to award the contract as amended for construction of Gatehouses at Rolling Hills & Independence Lake. Ayes all, motion was approved.

C. Election of New Officers

It was moved by Ms. Bobrin, seconded by Mr. Ezekiel to retain the current slate of offices. Ayes all, motion was approved.

D. Other Old Business

None

7. New Business

A. MLM Recreation Center Presentation & Equipment Purchases

Ms. Carr provided an update on the MLM Recreation Center (Power Point presentation on file).

Ms. Carr reported that she had been doing research on equipment desired by members of the community. She reported that adjustable height basketball goals, recumbent bikes, a stair climber, replacement of the old treadmills, and an adjustable seated row machine are priorities. Ms. Carr added that she had hoped to bring in equipment that would appeal to all ages. Ms. Bobrin asked about plans for replacing the weight machines. Ms. Carr responded that she would like to replace the entire circuit of strength equipment, and added that strength equipment once purchased can be placed on a longer replacement schedule. Ms. Fuller asked if implementation of eating disorder programs had been considered. Ms. Carr reported that it was under consideration. Ms. Fuller asked how the issue of gender being non-binary is being addressed with respect to locker rooms. Ms. Carr reported that there is a single universally-accessible restroom available, but it is on a separate level than the pool. This means anyone needing assistance has to travel through the facility to the pool and back, so added that there is a need in the pool area. Ms. Fuller stated that she would be interested in ideas for making the pool area more financially sustainable.

It was moved by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Ms. Scribner to authorize proposed replacement of select exercise equipment at the Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center in the amount of \$47,613.60. Ayes all, motion was approved.

B. Lazy River RFP Responses and Award

Mr. Machemer reported that the lazy river is in need of some upgrades. He added that it is difficult to resurface only portion of the lazy river at a time, and should be looked at as a whole rather than in sections. Mr. Machemer stated that the work would be completed in two phases and provided pictures of the current site. Replacing the pump motors and valves would be phase one (spring), and phase two will be the re-surfacing of the lazy river, which includes three six inches of tile at the top of the lazy river surface (after Labor Day).

It was moved by Ms. Scribner, seconded by Ms. Fuller to award a service contract in the amount of \$925,087.00 to Baruzzini Construction Company for the lazy river project outlined in RFP #7666 and to include an additional 10% (\$92,508) contingency for potential change orders. Ayes all, motion was approved.

C. Set Working Session Meeting – NAPP

Ms. Trocchio reported that discussion about setting up a NAPP Working Session has been in the works for a while and proposed March 14th from 2-5 p.m. WCPARC staff will provide notice of the meeting in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

D. NAPP – Base Lake, Webster Township, 30.5 acres

Ms. Pahl-Donaldson stated that this is a continuation of the Base Lake project. She reported that this easement is made up of 30.5 acres and has a total cost of \$270,000 and added that it is a prioritized bio reserve. Webster Township is requesting \$202,000 from WCPARC in the form of a contribution and will hold the easement. Ms. Pahl-Donaldson reported that this is a very high priority easement for ALPAC. Mr. Ezekiel stated that he doesn't like contributing to these projects if the townships are the only ones holding the easement. Ms. Trocchio reported that language is in place allowing the County to step in if the township cannot manage the easement.

It was moved by Mr. Ezekiel and seconded Ms. Bobrin to partner with Webster Township on the purchase of a conservation easement on the Base Lake Farm in Webster Township, and to contribute \$202,000 toward the purchase, contingent upon attorney review of documents and execution of the participation agreement. Roll Call Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 absent (Anschuetz, McKinney, and Pratt), motion carried.

E. NAPP – Lepkowski, Northfield Township, 75 acres

Ms. Trocchio provided an overview of the property and proposed acquisition. This property came to us through the City of Ann Arbor's Greenbelt Program. She added that this property has been in farming for some time. Ms. Trocchio stated that this property scored midway down ALPAC's priority list and they declined to participate. She reported that the Greenbelt asked if NATAAC would be a partner and that there are some wetlands of medium quality, grassland nesting birds in the hayfields, and stated that NATAAC recommended contributing \$10,000. Mr. Ezekiel asked how the number was determined. Ms. Trocchio responded that it's approximately 2% of fair market value. Ms. Shink stated that due to transition on the City Council they initially voted no on the property, but one council member voted to bring the resolution back to Council in mid-February. She added that she heard that this \$10k contribution would get the people that had protested to be supportive. The City has a federal grant to cover 50% of the purchase price.

It was moved by Ms. Fuller and seconded Ms. Scribner to partner with the City of Ann Arbor's Greenbelt Program on the purchase of a conservation easement on the Lepkowski Farm in Northfield Township, and to contribution \$10,000 toward the purchase, contingent upon attorney review of documents and execution of the participation agreement. Roll Call Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 absent (Anschuetz, McKinney, and Pratt), motion carried.

F. Non-Motorized Road Millage Expenditures Presentation

Mr. Vaughn and Mr. Sanderson provided an update on Non-Motorized Road Millage Expenditures (Power Point Presentation on file).

Mr. Marans requested that a copy of the presentation be given to the Commission. Mr. Ezekiel asked for a copy of the response to a landowner with concerns near M 52. Ms. Shink stated that she is hearing concern that the trail may be consuming trees. Mr. Sanderson reported that they are doing what they can to save trees, like routing the trail through previously farmed areas near M 52. Mr. Vaughn stated that it would be beneficial for staff to send Ms. Shink a history summary on the Connecting Communities program.

G. 2018 Performance Evaluation – WCPARC Director

It was moved by Ms. Scribner and seconded Mr. Fuller to enter closed session for the purpose of discussing the WCPARC Director's 2018 performance evaluation. Roll Call Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 absent (Anschuetz, McKinney, and Pratt), motion carried.

The meeting adjourned to closed session at 4:10 p.m.

The meeting was called back to order at 4:40 p.m.

H. Other New Business

None

8. Commissioners / Directors Comments

None

9. Adjournment

It was moved by Ms. Fuller with support from Ms. Bobrin to adjourn the meeting at 4:52 p.m. Ayes all, meeting was adjourned.