**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AND PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

The Health & Human Services and Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting was called to order in the Board Conference Room at the Oceana County Courthouse by Chairperson Sebolt on Thursday, November 12, 2020, at 9:06 a.m.

Present: Ms. Meyette, Mr. Walker, Mr. Gustafson, Mr. Byl, Mr. Powers, Mr. Brown, Mr. Walker, and Mr. Sebolt.

Also present were: Mr. Sobie, Oceana County Administrator, Ms. Amy L. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk; Mr. Gary McKeen, Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission; Mr. Richard Raffaelli, CEO of Peterson Farms; and Ms. Jodi Nichols, Oceana Economic Alliance.

Moved by Mr. Byl and seconded by Mr. Walker to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2020 meeting as prepared.

Voice Vote. Motion carried.

Public participation was provided via teleconference using Zoom. The online meeting ID was 814 4979 5100.

No public comment on agenda items at this time.

Mr. Gary McKeen, Oceana County Parks & Recreation, started a discussion regarding the Marshville Dam. Some engineering studies have been done over the years on how to repair and preserve the dam. A member of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) brought in the Conservation Resource Alliance (CRA), a non-profit organization based out of Traverse City, and they would like to take this project on. However, they rely upon donated funds to do restoration and preservation work. Mr. McKeen mentioned that Cathy Evans, environmentalist from West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC), has been working towards obtaining grant funds for this project. Mr. McKeen is asking to be allowed to spend $5,000 to enter into a contract to start working on the project.

The consensus of the board was in agreement that the Parks & Recreation Commission move forward with this project.

Mr. McKeen disclosed that the Road Commission has agreed to place signs near all of the County Parks to indicate what activities are available.

Mr. Raffaelli and Mr. Sobie began discussion pertaining to a resolution of support for a proposed Shelby Township Recreational Park. A private group has been working on this project for approximately 1.5 years to develop a park. Shelby Township will be closing on the land in 10 days. There will be no tax to the residents. Shelby School will manage the scheduling and maintenance for the park. The project is projected to cost $3.3 million and the group will be applying for several grants. Mr. Raffaelli is asking the County to set up an agreement between the County and the Community Foundation just like they did with the Hart-Montague Rail Trail. He also would like the inspection fee waived by the County.

Mr. Powers remarked that parks in the Northern Michigan areas are incorporating equipment for senior citizens. He inquired if the proposed Shelby Township park was going to implement any type of equipment for senior citizens to utilize. Mr. Raffaelli assured him that there would be something for everyone.

Mr. Walker mentioned that this would be very similar to a park located in Montague Township. He also thanked Mr. Raffaelli for his leadership in this project.

Mr. Sobie informed the commissioners that there were two versions of the resolution available. Resolution Version 1 has simple wording in support of projects like this. Resolution Version 2 would be in support of a project like this, but would also allow the Administration Office apply for various grant funding and work with the Community Foundation for this project.

Mr. McKeen stated that he has recommended that Shelby Township apply with the DNR for a 5-year plan to obtain a trust fund grant. Mr. Raffaelli mentioned that the group is working on many different grants and has started working on their 5-year plan.

Mr. Walker is in favor of Resolution Version 2 and would like to move forward with this plan.

Ms. Jodi Nichols, Oceana Economic Alliance, stated there are grants that the school is not eligible to apply for, but the county would be eligible to apply for.

Mr. Sobie started discussion in regards to a resolution to appoint members to the Veteran’s Affairs Committee. There would be two reappointments: Mr. Dees and Mr. Dykema. Ms. Blamer, who would be filling the vacated position for Mr. Mannor, would be a new appointment.

Mr. Sobie and Mr. Sebolt requested consideration of a resolution to enter into a three-year interlocal agreement with Lakeshore Regional Entity. Lakeshore Regional Entity is part of the Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP). Our local Community Mental Health (CMH), which includes Oceana, Mason, and Lake Counties, would be part of the PIHP and join Muskegon, Allegan, Kent, and Ottawa Counties. This entity would provide advisory for clinics who are applying for a new license or a renewal thru LARA. Mr. Sebolt is recommending to approve the contract.

There were no public comments at this time.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Sebolt adjourned the Health and Human Services and Parks and Recreation Committee meeting at 9:53 a.m.

Respectfully,

Amy L. Anderson

Oceana County Clerk