

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AND PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The Health & Human Services and Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting was called to order in the Class Room at the Oceana County Services Building by Chairperson Erickson on Thursday, May 13, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Ms. Meyette, Mr. Walker, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Beggs, Mr. Morse, Mr. Christians, and Mr. Erickson.

Also present were: Dr. Sobie, Oceana County Administrator; Ms. Anderson, Oceana County Clerk; and Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission.

Moved by Mr. Walker and seconded by Mr. Morse to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2021 meeting as presented.

Roll call vote: Mr. Walker – yes; Mr. Morse – yes; Mr. Hardy – yes; Mr. Beggs – yes; Ms. Meyette – yes; Mr. Christians – yes; and Mr. Erickson – yes.

Motion carried.

Dr. Sobie explained that a procedural change to formally adopt the agenda and is being implemented going forward. This change will be to formally adopt the agenda as presented with a motion and second. If there are any changes/additions to the agenda, this would be the time to make changes/additions. The change is intended to keep the meeting on track focusing on items to be discussed.

Moved by Mr. Beggs and seconded by Mr. Walker to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

No public comment on the agenda items at this time.

Mr. Garry McKeen, Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission, provided an update from the Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission. Mr. McKeen stated that the Parks & Recreation Commission would like to expand the board by adding two new associate members. The additional members would be non-voting, unpaid volunteers from the community. Mr. McKeen provided a proposed brochure of the eight County Parks that will be printed soon. He also has been visiting various organizations in the county in an attempt to spark interest with the Parks & Recreation Commission. He indicated that the response has been very good. Mr. McKeen also shared the Oceana County Parks Survey card.

Mr. McKeen also noted that a \$10,000 gift was received from the William R. Lathers Foundation and will be applied to the completion of the stairs at Cedar Point Park. Also, a grant was awarded in the amount of \$2,450 from the Great Lakes Energy People Fund for ADA picnic tables. Today, the Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission will be speaking with the Oceana County Community Foundation regarding a \$3,000 grant for additional picnic tables at various parks.

Mr. McKeen shared that Mr. David Dister, a botanist from the Ludington area, is interested in performing a plant study of Gales Pond. He delivered an update on the Marshville Dam project and the Doolittle Park picnic shelter. Mr. McKeen also noted that the Parks & Recreation Commission's 5-year plan is expiring and they are exploring the idea of combining with the County's 5-year plan. He will also be asking other entities in the county if they would like to join; if combined, the cost would be minimized.

Mr. Walker asked if formal action was needed for the expansion of the Parks & Recreation membership. Dr. Sobie indicated that no formal action was necessary by this Board. Mr. Walker indicated that the need for the additional members is understood and supported by the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Erickson expressed his gratitude to Mr. McKeen for his efforts on the Oceana County Parks and Recreation Commission. He also informed Mr. McKeen of an individual that has shown interest in meeting with him to discuss the signage at the county parks.

There were no public comments at this time.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Erickson adjourned the Health and Human Services and Parks and Recreation Committee meeting at 9:16 a.m.

Respectfully,

Amy L. Anderson
Oceana County Clerk