

The Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission meeting was called to order by Chairperson McKeen on Thursday, August 4, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairperson McKeen, Mr. LundBorg, Mr. Hiddema, Mr. Myers, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Bowling.

Absent: Mr. Wilson (late arrival), Mr. Wyns, Mr. Erickson, and Mr. Mikkelsen.

Also present: Ms. Tracy Byard, Oceana County Administrator, Ms. Jessica Long, Accounts Payable Clerk, and Ms. Stacey Becker, Financial/HR Coordinator.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Approval of the August 4, 2022 Agenda

Moved by Mr. Meyers and seconded by Mr. Warner to approve the August 4, 2022 agenda, as presented. Voice Vote. All ayes. Motion Carried.

Approval of the June 2, 2022 Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Moved by Mr. Warner and supported by Mr. Hiddema to approve the June 2, 2022 meeting minutes, as presented. Voice Vote. All ayes. Motion Carried.

Financial Report

- **Fund 208 Revenues & Expenditures** – as of June 30, 2022, has a Year to Date Fund Balance of \$38,411.63.
- **Fund 408 Revenues & Expenditures** – as of June 30, 2022, has a Year to Date Balance of \$24,633.82.
- **Fund 288 Revenues & Expenditures** – as of June 30, 2022, has a Year to Date Fund Balance of \$25,258.46.

Claims for Payment

Fund 208 – Parks and Recreation Commission for July 2022

Prepaid Claims - \$3,897.27

To Be Paid Claims - \$831.67

Motion made by Mr. Connelly to approve the Fund 208 claims for payment amounting to \$4,728.94, supported by Mr. Hiddema.

Roll call vote: Mr. Myers, Yes; Mr. Hiddema, Yes; Mr. Warner, Yes; Mr. Bowling, Yes; Mr. LundBorg, yes, and Mr. McKeen, Yes. Motion carried.

Fund 408 – Parks and Recreation Capital Projects Fund for July 2022

Prepaid Claims - \$1,190.56

To Be Paid Claims - \$164.44

Motion made by Mr. Myers to approve the Fund 408 claims for payment amounting to \$1,355.00, supported by Mr. Warner.

Roll call vote: Mr. Hiddema, Yes; Mr. Warner, Yes; Mr. Bowling, Yes; Mr. LundBorg, Yes; Mr. Myers, Yes; and Mr. McKeen, Yes. Motion carried.

Introductions

Mr. Garry McKeen introduced the new Oceana County Administrator, Ms. Tracy Byard and Ms. Jessica Long, Accounts Payable – Administrative Assistant. Ms. Long will be assisting with Parks and Recreation once her orientation is complete in the Administrator’s Office.

Correspondence

- Chairman McKeen discussed the recent letter received by the Poole Property Trust regarding the complaint of trespassers on private property at Cedar Point Park. The new boardwalk and stairs to the beach are open. The old stairs are now closed off and the portion that was one the Poole property have been removed.
- A phone call was received reporting vandalism at the Mill Pond pavilion. The graffiti has been removed from the concrete and picnic tables. Mr. Bowling added that the same graffiti has presented itself at Crystal Valley Park on the concrete floors and tables. The tables at Crystal Valley Park have been repainted.
- A complaint from a citizen regarding the degree of angle of the boat ramp at Stony Lake was received. Chairman McKeen is not sure how long the grade of the ramp has been in place. To correct any issue with the slope of the ramp would be a massive undertaking and would require EGLE and other agencies approval.
- Chairman McKeen read a letter from Mr. Mikkelsen regarding the safety issues of Marshville Dam road.

Chairperson’s Report

- County Road Commission has been mowing county parks. Mr. Andrew Carter has been doing an excellent job.
- The three ARPA request grants from Parks and Recreation were approved by the ARPA Committee. On August 11th the County Commissioners will vote on the final approval. The possibility for additional funding through ARPA may be considered for ADA upgrades.
- Chairman McKeen attended a number of public meetings for both Stony Creek and Crystal Creek. A suggestion was given to attend the August 11, 2022 County Board meeting where there will be a full review of the Crystal Valley Dam situation.
- Chairman McKeen attended the following meetings:
 - 3 Oceana County Road Commission meetings
 - 3 County Board meetings
 - 3 township meetings to bring attention to various park projects
 - Attended the 5-year planning workshop and Economic Development meeting.

Parks Reports

- Black Lake – Mr. Myers shared revenue is over \$10,200. Coordination with Blackmer for the start of the electrical project is pending final approval of the ARPA funds. Camping is going well out there.
- Cedar Point Park – Mr. LundBorg reported the stairway has been opened. Currently working on stairway pipe rail right now. A memorial bench will be put in place in the lookout section.

John Wilson arrived at 3:35 p.m.

- Crystal Valley Park – Discussion regarding the garbage around the dam outlet. A neighboring property owner cut trees down and let them fall into the pond. Mr. Warner expressed concern to the Township Supervisor.
- Doolittle Park – New ADA grills have arrived and newly poured concrete pads to support them is complete. Conservation District just finished their forest camp. It went well as they had 35 kids attend. The pond camp that was prior to that had 35 attendees as well.
- Gales Pond – Getting used heavily. New walkway will hopefully go in this fall with the pending approval of the ARPA funds.
- Mill Pond – Mr. Hiddema thanked Mr. McKeen for painting the tables.
- Marshville –
- Stony Lake –

Old Business

- By-laws were updated and electronically distributed. There is no need to approve them again as the changes were approved in previous meetings.
- An email was distributed regarding the 5-year plan questionnaire. The questionnaire will be available to guests at the county fair. Mr. Warner suggested rearranging question 16, which asks for name and email, to the end of the questionnaire.
- Crystal Creek Dam report was published on June 30, 2022. There will be a presentation at the County Board meeting on August 11, 2022.

New Business

- 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission Budget was discussed. Chairperson McKeen led the discussion regarding the needs of the Parks for 2023 and planning for the future. Topics of discussion included: Parks Manager position, ADA compliance, working with recreation clubs, Gales Pond boardwalk, signage, and overall park maintenance. Chairperson McKeen read a proposal written by Dr. Sobie in regards to the funding of an employee for the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Bowling expressed his concerns about hiring a parks employee. Chairperson McKeen stated he would put together a budget proposal to turn in by the August 15, 2022 deadline.
- Stony Creek fishing platform discussion. CRA will apply for a grant from Great Lakes Fishery Trust (GLFT) access fund for \$125,000. A potential match may be required, which would be paid for from the 288 fund for Parks and Recreation Matching Grants.

Motion was presented by Mr. Myers and supported by Mr. LundBorg to move forward with the grant application with Great Lakes Fishery Trust for the building of the 110-foot boardwalk, with fishing platform, for Stony Creek.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Warner, Yes; Mr. Bowling, Yes; Mr. LundBorg, Yes; Mr. Hiddema, Yes; Mr. Wilson, Yes; Mr. Myers, Yes; and Mr. McKeen, Yes. Motion Carried.

Public Comment

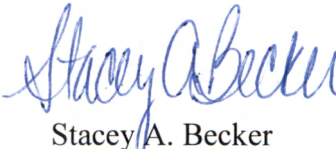
There was no public comment.

There being no further business, Chairperson McKeen requested a motion to adjourn.

Moved by Mr. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Warner to adjourn the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission at 4:12 p.m. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be September 1, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



Stacey A. Becker
On behalf of Pete LundBorg, Secretary
Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission