

- Stony Creek Restoration – a member meeting was held of 15 place holders for the stony creek project. The funding people, contractors, engineers, and road commission. Mr. Wyns reported that the meeting was a good interaction with all entities that were involved.
- Crystal Creek Dam – Mr. Hyslop updated the Parks and Rec commission regarding the progress at crystal valley dam and the compression testing that was done.

New Business

- Park Commission Elections.
 - Chairman McKeen handed the election of Chairman over to Secretary Pete LundBorg in the absence of Vice Chairman Jeff Hiddema. Mr. LundBorg opened the floor for nominations. Mr. Mikkelsen, supported by Mr. Wilson, nominated Mr. McKeen to remain as chairman. Hearing no other nominations, Mr. LundBorg closed the floor. Voice Vote. All ayes. Nomination carries.
 - Chairman McKeen opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Mr. Wyns, supported by Mr. Wilson, nominated Mr. Hiddema to Vice-Chairman. Hearing no other nominations, Mr. McKeen closed the floor. Voice Vote. All ayes. Nomination carries.
 - Chairman McKeen opened the floor for nominations for Secretary. Mr. Warner supported by Mr. Mikkelsen, nominated Mr. LundBorg to remain Secretary. Hearing no other nominations, Mr. McKeen closed the floor. Voice vote. All ayes. Nomination carries.
 - Chairman McKeen opened the floor for nominations for Treasurer. Mr. Mikkelsen supported by Mr. Wilson, nominated Mr. Wyns to remain Treasurer. Hearing no other nominations, Mr. McKeen closed the floor. Voice vote. All ayes. Nomination carries.
- Custom Tree Service estimates 16-20 more hours of addition work to completely clean up the Cedar Point Park drive area. Another 8 hours would make a big dent in the project.

Motion made by Mr. LundBorg to authorize up to 8 hours of work and not to exceed \$2,000.00 dollars to Custom Tree Service for additional clean up at Cedar Point Park, seconded by Mr. Wyns.

Roll call vote: Mr. Bengston – yes; Mr. Mikkelsen – yes; Mr. LundBorg – yes; Mr. Wyns – yes; Mr. Wilson – yes; Mr. Warner – yes; and Chairman McKeen – yes. Absent: Mr. Hiddema. Motion carried.

- Mr. McKeen presented an annual report via power point presentation highlighting the improvements to the County Parks over the 2023 year.
- Mr. McKeen had a discussion with Jenny Hosko regarding the seasonal rates for the 2024 year. A few of the campers voiced concerned on the rate increase for the 2024 year and stated they would not be returning. The Parks and Recreation Commission have decided to leave the seasonal rates at \$1500.00 for the year 2024 season. Discussion ensued.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

There being no further business, Chairperson McKeen adjourned the meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission at 5:02 pm.

The next meeting will be held on April 4, 2024, at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Brittany Bostrom

On behalf of Pete LundBorg, Secretary
Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission

Chairperson's Report

- Attended two County Commissioner's meetings. Two ORC meetings, Grant Township meeting. Oceana Community Foundation grant meeting.
- Stony Creek/Marshville Dam restoration in person meeting with all 15 partners.
- Attended the 911 Board meeting discussion ensued on options for alternate funding for 911.

Parks Reports

- Black Lake – Mr. Bengston reported that he spent the day there last Sunday and some of the leaves have been cleaned up. Mr. Bengston stated his only concern was that the pier on the lake was kind of wobbly once you get out past the pivot point. Mr. McKeen reported that Mr. Warner talked with our DNR representative about putting sand on the beach. As long as the beach is 10 x 20 sand is allowed to be put down. Frank Phaff can deliver 10 yards of beach sand for \$150.00. Discussion ensued.
- Cedar Point Park – Mr. LundBorg reported that the steps will be completed by April 2024 and he has started working on the handrail.

Motion made by Mr. LundBorg to spend up to \$1500.00 as needed to finish the walk way at Cedar Point Park, stairs and handrails from Fund 408 seconded by Mr. Bengston.

Roll call vote: Mr. Bengston – yes; Mr. Mikkelsen – yes; Mr. LundBorg – yes; Mr. Wyns – yes; Mr. Wilson – yes; and Chairman McKeen – yes. Absent: Mr. Hiddema and Mr. Warner. Motion carried.

- Crystal Valley Park – None to present
- Doolittle – None to present.
- Gales Pond – Mr. McKeen has received multiple good reports about the new walkway that was put in and it has held up well over the winter. Mr. McKeen was out there and did some trimming and blew the leaves off the deck.
- Mill Pond – None to present
- Marshville Dam – None to present
- Stony Lake – None to present

Old Business

- Stony Creek/Marshville Dam Restoration ground breaking ceremony, set a day. Mr. Wyns reported that it would be best to do the ground-breaking ceremony when the road is blocked off for safety reasons to the public. Will revisit setting a date at the next meeting.
- Talked with Pam Blough regarding material for the pathway at Gale's Pond. She recommended a new type of material that is a mix of different types of aggregate that has worked really well for pathways.
- Starting point to bring the parks up to ADA standards. Discussion ensued on what park to start with and what will need to be done.
- Updates
 - County Wide Rec Program – Mr. Wilson reported that he attended a meeting on March 6th, 2024, and it was stated that progress has been put on the back burner. Discussion ensued.
 - Various Grants- Mr. McKeen discussed Trinity Foundation grant in the amount of \$10,000 or \$25,000 for education and programming for parks and other entities. Mr. Bengston made the commission aware that the Pentwater Service Club has a surplus of \$4,000.00 available for a project.

To Be Paid Claims - \$0.00

No money was spent from Fund 408 for the month.

Introduce Mr. Stephen Carlson

- Mr. Stephen Carlson, Program Manager, West MI Regional Shoreline Development Commission from Muskegon, MI.
- Mr. Carlson reported that most of the work is done for the Recreation 5-year plan for Park. Duties at this point in the process are: a 30-day public review period and a public review hearing at the end of that period.
- Mr. Carlson's goals are to have a draft completed before the next meeting on April 4th, 2024, with enough time for the Parks and Recreation Commission to review the draft.
- Mr. Carlson is working on a GIS map of the County Parks to include in the Recreation Plan.
- The tentative date for adoption of the Recreation plan is the June 6th, 2024, meeting.

Introduce Ms. Suzie Knoll

- Suzie Knoll, Executive Director, Oceana County Conservation District.
- Ms. Knoll has been the Executive Director for almost 10 years.
- Ms. Knoll presented the Parks and Recreation Commission with a power point presentation highlighting a brief overview of the programs offered by the Conservation District focusing on four major areas.
 - Landowners Assistance – there are three grant funded positions that are hired specifically to work with private landowners in Oceana County. They work with farmers to help minimize their environmental impact to ground water and surface water.
 - Stewardship and Restoration Activities – every year the Oceana Conservation District hosts three highway clean ups, a large-scale beach cleanup in coordination with adopt-a-beach program every September, and the annual tree sale which orders are due March 20th, 2024. Oceana Conservation District works closely with Muskegon and Ottawa County organizing “strike teams” to help control invasive plant species.
 - Education - birding field trips, wild flower walks, forest school programs (one for preschool age and one for adults), large field days, and three summer camps. The conservation district was able to reach about 1,000 people last year with their education programs.
 - Land preservation – started in 2019 and preserving lands for future generations. Oceana Conservation District has two preserves; Otto Nature Preserve and Stony Creek Nature Preserve they help protect the land and create public nature preserves.
- The priorities for 2024 are to figure out funding for the educational programming, developing the Oceana Conservation Coastal Corridor, and creating the Stony Creek Nature Preserve.

Correspondence

- Text and phone call with Mike Poole regarding pictures on County Parks website.
- Call into the office, Janet Dodge, ACE 1 Porta Potty. Wanting to quote on our sanitation needs for parks.
- Call into the office, Aledia Gorenflo, inquiry for Black Lake Seasonal spot.
- Email from Lee Hyslop, telling of a local Crystal Valley man interested in volunteering at the Crystal Valley Park. Contact information of the gentleman looking to volunteer was given to Dave Spittler.
- Email from Anne Pawlli, Earth Day committee requesting a Parks board member to give a program on Earth Day regarding the Stony Creek project. John Wyns has agreed to give a presentation on the Stony Creek Project.
- Pentwater Service Club, requesting a program on County Parks.

The Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission meeting was called to order by Chairperson McKeen on Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 3:00 pm.

Present: Chairperson McKeen, Mr. Spitler, Mr. Erickson, Mr. Wilson, Mr. LundBorg, Mr. Wyns, Mr. Bengston and Mr. Mikkelsen. Mr. Warner arrived at 3:56 pm.

Absent: Mr. Hiddema

Also Present: Lee Hyslop, Crystal Valley Township Supervisor, Stephen Carlson, Program Manager, WMRSDC, and Ms. Suzie Knoll, Executive Director, Oceana County Conservation District.

Approval of the March 7, 2024 Agenda

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. LundBorg to approve the March 7, 2024, meeting agenda as amended. Voice vote - all ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Mr. Hiddema and Mr. Warner.

Approval of the February 1, 2024, Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Mikkelsen to approve the February 1, 2024, minutes as presented. Voice vote - all ayes. Motion Carried. Absent: Mr. Hiddema and Mr. Warner.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

Financial Report

- **Fund 408 Revenues & Expenditures** – as of January 31, 2024, Revenues were \$41.34; Expenditures were \$98.24, with a Fund Balance of \$23,917.88.
- **Fund 288 Revenues & Expenditures** – as of January 31, 2024, Revenues were \$132.69; Expenditures were \$0.00, with a Fund Balance of \$37,120.30.
- **Fund 208 Revenues & Expenditures** – as of January 31, 2024, Revenues were \$34.42; Expenditures were \$445.45, with a Fund Balance of \$12,905.81.

Motion made by Mr. Wilson and supported by Mr. Mikkelsen to accept the Financial Report Revenues & Expenditures as presented. Voice vote - all ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Mr. Hiddema and Mr. Warner.

Claims for Payment

Fund 208 – Parks & Recreation Commission for February 2024

Prepaid Claims - \$2,554.35

To Be Paid Claims - \$0.00

Moved by Mr. Erickson and supported by Mr. Wilson to approve the Fund 208 Claims for Payment in the amount of \$2,554.35.

Roll call vote: Mr. Bengston – yes; Mr. Mikkelsen – yes; Mr. LundBorg – yes; Mr. Wyns – yes; Mr. Wilson – yes; and Chairman McKeen – yes. Absent: Mr. Hiddema and Mr. Warner. Motion carried.

Fund 408 – Parks & Recreation Capital Projects Fund for February 2024

Prepaid Claims - \$0.00