

The Oceana County Parks & Recreation Commission meeting was called to order by Chairperson McKeen on Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 3:00 pm.

Present: Chairperson McKeen, Mr. Spitler, Mr. Erickson, Mr. LundBorg, Mr. Wyns, Mr. Bengston and Mr. Mikkelsen. Mr. Warner, and Mr. Hiddema.

Absent: Mr. John Wilson

Also Present: Stephen Carlson, Program Manager, WMRSDC, Gary Jorissen, former member of the Hart Rec club.

Approval of the April 4, 2024 Agenda

Moved by Mr. Warner and supported by Mr. Hiddema to approve the April 4, 2024, meeting agenda as presented. Voice vote - all ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Mr. Wilson.

Approval of the March 7, 2024, Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Moved by Mr. Mikkelsen and supported by Mr. Bengston to approve the March 7, 2024, minutes as presented. Voice vote - all ayes. Motion Carried. Absent: Mr. Wilson.

Public Comment

Gary Jorissen, who served as the manager of the Hart Rec Club for nearly two decades, recently expressed his apprehensions regarding the recreational club scenario in Oceana County. He highlighted two primary issues affecting the clubs' effectiveness. Firstly, there's a persistent problem with turnover among staff and volunteers, which is impeding the smooth operation of programs. Secondly, there has been a noticeable decline in the number of volunteers available, posing a significant challenge to sustaining the clubs' activities. Mr. McKeen, speaking on behalf of the Oceana County Parks and Recreation Board, indicated a desire for collaborative efforts by seeking partnerships with all the recreational clubs in the area.

Financial Report

- **Fund 408 Revenues & Expenditures** – as of February 29, 2024, Revenues were \$55.05; Expenditures were \$0.00, with a Fund Balance of \$23,972.93.
- **Fund 288 Revenues & Expenditures** – as of February 29, 2024, Revenues were \$132.86; Expenditures were \$0.00, with a Fund Balance of \$37,260.16.
- **Fund 208 Revenues & Expenditures** – as of February 29, 2024, Revenues were \$20,030.05; Expenditures were \$5, 672.98, with a Fund Balance of \$27, 262.88.

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

Claims for Payment

Fund 208 – Parks & Recreation Commission for March 2024

Prepaid Claims - \$247.30

To Be Paid Claims - \$0.00

Moved by Mr. Warner and supported by Mr. Mikkelsen to approve the Fund 208 Claims for Payment in the amount of \$247.30.

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

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

Prepaid Claims - \$835.78

To Be Paid Claims - \$0.00

Moved by Mr. Spitler and supported by Mr. Erickson to approve the Fund 208 Claims for Payment in the amount of \$835.78.

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

Introduce Mr. Stephen Carlson

- During the board meeting, Mr. Stephen Carlson, the Program Manager from the West MI Regional Shoreline Development Commission based in Muskegon, MI, presented the Parks and Recreation board with an electronic draft of the Recreation 5-year Master Plan for review. The discussion that followed highlighted several key points:
 - Updated Park rules and regulations
 - Additionally, there was a proposal to include several parks that were not initially part of the draft, such as the Otto Nature Preserve, Shelby Township Park, and Getty Park in Shelby. Other parks recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission were also to be added to the Recreation 5-year plan.
- Mr. Carlson agreed to prepare the notice for publication and initiate the review process in May 2024. The tentative date set for the adoption of the Recreation plan is the June 6th, 2024 meeting, which will also service as the public meeting. Following adoption by the Parks and Recreation Board, the plan will be forwarded to the Oceana County Board for the final vote for adoption of the Recreation 5-year plan.

Correspondence

- Pentwater Library open house is on June 1st, 2024, 11 am to 1pm. Mr. McKeen participated last year and it was a success. Mr. LundBorg will be doing it this year.
- Drain Commissioner, final approval of the Soil and Erosion plan for Marshville Dam project.
- Email of the Stony Creek Boardwalk Construction plan, which was provided electronically to the Parks and Recreation Board members.

Chairperson's Report

- Attended the Newfield Township board meeting.
- Attended two County Commissioner's meetings, one ORC meeting.
- Met with the Pentwater Lake Association.
- Met with the GVSU Annis Water Resources Institute regarding the Pentwater River Watershed survey. Information was given to Mr. McKeen regarding help with available Grants associated with water projects.
- Attended the Mason/Oceana 911 board meeting and it was decided not to go forward with the millage.
- Presented the Parks PowerPoint program to the Pentwater Service Club and Hart Rotary. Mr. LundBorg was recognized and received an award.

- Attended the MTA meeting.
- Mark Tonello, Fish Biologist MDNR, presented a great program on streams and rivers in the county at the Ag Natural Resource Banquet.
- Met with Jack Linehan, National Fitness Campaign, and Tracy Byard via zoom.

Parks Reports

- Black Lake – Mr. McKeen informed the commission members that Jenny Hoskos and her husband cannot serve as campground hosts for 2024 due to family health issues. Additionally, Jenny shared that six seasonal campers will not be returning for the upcoming season. During the meeting, Mr. Wyns presented spreadsheets detailing the fees for Black Lake Campground in 2024 and the expenses incurred in 2023. The discussion then revolved around the future prospects of Black Lake Campground. It was noted that repairs are needed for the piping running from the pump to the spigot at Black Lake.
- Cedar Point Park – Mr. LundBorg would like to recognize the Oceana County Road Commission for all the work that they have done out by the park. Mr. LundBorg also stated they need to have a meeting with Mark Timmer of the OCRC and talk about the road going out to the park and the turn around.
- Crystal Valley Park – Mr. Spitler stated that the gate to the baseball diamond needs repaired. There are also a few trees that need to be trimmed. Mr. Spitler will reach out to Custom Tree Services for a quote on removing trimming the trees.
- Doolittle – the Conservation District has started the Knee-High Naturalists program out there. The group has taken over the maintenance of the trail.
- Gales Pond – None to present
- Mill Pond –

Motion made by Mr. Hiddema to authorize the expenditure to M & M Property Services (Milton Kreigh) to not exceed \$130.00 every two weeks for lawn care at Mill Pond, supported by Mr. Erickson.

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

Mr. McKeen made mention that some maintenance needs to be done at the canoe launch spot. Mr. Warner to look at the spot and apply for an EGLE permit for that to be taken care of. Mr. McKeen made mention of getting the pavilion repainted. Mr. Hiddema will look for someone to receive a quote from.

- Marshville Dam – April 15th, 2024, is still the estimated start date for the project. Mr. McKeen stated that they are still waiting for the approval from SHPO (State Historic Preservation Office) before moving forward.
- Stony Lake – None to present

Old Business

- Motion to give final approval of the Parks Rules and Regulations amended April 4th, 2024, and then presented to the Oceana County Board of Commissioners for final approval.

Motion made by Mr. Wyns to approve the Parks Rules and Regulations amended April 4th, 2024, supported by Mr. Warner.

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

- Updates
 - Crystal Creek Dam – Mr. Tiffany is done with the boring and are currently waiting for the results back. At this time, we do not know what the extent of the work that needs to be done.

New Business

- Review Marshville Dam/Stony Creek Boardwalk Construction Plan. The plan that was presented electronically was drawn up by a professional engineer that is working with GEI. The construction plan is a switchback configuration of 260 linear feet of boardwalk. At this time the plan meets all ADA requirements, meets EGLE requirements and is ready to go out for bids. Discussion ensued.
- Mr. McKeen is presenting his annual Parks and Recreation review to the County Commissioners at their April 25th, 2024, Board meeting.
- National Fitness Campaign partnered with Priority Health and other insurance organizations to create an outdoor body weight movement pad. The meeting involved a review and discussion of a fitness court. The cost being about \$225,000 capital expenditure, possible \$30,000 - \$50,000 grant. This would be a 38 x 38 outdoor body weight movement pad. They lay rubber over concrete and build stationary structures. Designed to provide a full body workout in only seven minutes.
- Mr. McKeen presented the commission members with a picture of the invasive pests to be on the lookout for: Spotted Lanternfly, Hemlock Wooley Adelgid Oak Wilt.
- Mr. Spitler mentioned the Parks and Recreation Commission during the OCRC quarterly report meeting. Specifically, highlighting Mr. McKeen's dedication and the contributions of the other commissioners with the Parks and Recreation Commission.

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 4:29 pm.

The next meeting will be held on May 2, 2024, at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



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