



*Parks and Recreation enhances community and quality of life through people, parks, and programs.
Senior Center Network makes longer lives, better lives.*

**Grand Traverse County Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
Thursday, July 9, 2020, 5:30 p.m.
Howe Arena at Civic Center Park
1213 W. Civic Center Drive
Traverse City, Michigan 49686
MINUTES**

A. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: David Grams, Rodetta Harrand, Steve Largent, Andy Marek, Jalen Provo, Whitney Waara, Shirley Zerafa, Alisa Korn

Commissioners Excused: Betsy Coffia

Others Present: Kristine Erickson, Director, Ryan Walsh, Office Manager, Lori Wells, Senior Center Network Manager, Scott Swan, Park Ranger, Grand Traverse County Parks and Recreation Department; Rod Kivell, Parks Business Development Team Chair; John Sohacki, Strategic Planning Subcommittee Citizen Member; Caitlin Early, Campaign and Development Officer, TART Trails, Inc.; Ty Schmidt, Executive Director of Norte; Grand Traverse County Residents Chazz McCall, Jasmine Donofrio, Michael Donofrio, Ruth Ann Bennett

D. First Public Comment

Chazz McCall spoke at public comment about observations of issues with operations and safety at Twin Lakes Park. He presented a letter to the board about Twin Lakes Park and photos related to the issues about which he spoke.

- [Letter from Chazz McCall](#)
- [Photos presented to the Board](#)
- [2014 N. Twin Lake Bathymetry Map](#)

Michael Donofrio introduced himself as a neighbor of Twin Lakes Park and also spoke about observing safety issues at the park.

E. Approval of/Additions to Agenda

MOTION by Waara, second by Marek, to approve the agenda with the addition of Item F. Special Orders of Business 1. High Water at Parks and Item K. New Business, 3. Videographer-Conflict of Interest Disclosure. Motion carried.

F. Special Orders of Business/Presentations

1. High Water at Parks
Scott Swan provided an update about his weekly visits to Power Island.
Commissioner Korn spoke regarding the Twin Lakes swimming area being closed due to high water and actions taken to minimize risk.
2. Boardman Lake Loop Trail Update; Proposed Donor Plaza Structure
TART Trails Campaign and Development Officer Caitlin Early provided an update about the Boardman Lake Loop Trail project and presented a prototype of a sculpture that will be constructed and installed at future trailhead Medalie Park to recognize the donors and supporters of the project.

G. Consent Calendar

Receive and File

1. Parks and Recreation-Senior Center Network Department Report
2. Parks and Recreation-Senior Center Network Financial Report
3. Approved Minutes from July 9, 2019 Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Rules Committee
4. Grand Traverse Conservation District's Invasive Plant Control Agreement
5. June 24, 2020 Letter of Support for Grand Traverse Conservation District's Grant Application
6. Discovery Center Dockage Agreement for Ranger Boat and Legal Review E-mail
7. E-mail Correspondence Between Erickson and Williston
8. E-mail Correspondence Between Erickson and Cormella
9. Article Reprint from July-August 2020 *People, Parks, and Programs Newsletter*

Approvals

1. Draft Minutes from June 11, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission
MOTION by Provo, second by Grams, to receive and file the consent calendar. Motion carried.

H. Items Removed from Consent Calendar

No items were removed.

I. Reports

1. Parks and Recreation-Senior Center Department Report
Director and Senior Center Network Manager verbally supplemented the written report.
2. Committee and Representative Reports
Business Development Team Chair Rod Kivell summarized the July 7, 2020 Business Development Team meeting discussions.

J. Old Business

1. Agreement Renewal: Project Fresh
MOTION by Provo, second by Largent, to approve a budgeted expenditure of \$7,500 to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with Department of Health and Human Services Aging and Adult Services Agency for Senior Project Fresh, and to authorize Director to execute agreement on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Motion carried.
2. Update: COVID-19 Pandemic Impacts
Director reported on how the department has been impacted by the pandemic and strategies strengthening the operation.

K. New Business

1. Norte's Request to Renew Leases at Civic Center Park
MOTION by Grams, second by Provo, to authorize Director to work with Civil Counsel and Norte to develop one three-year rental agreement (2021 through 2023) for Norte's use of the Clubhouse and the Wheelhouse, with rental fee to be based on current market value of "like" rental properties, and to authorize execution of said agreement, following final review and approval by Civil Counsel. Motion carried.
2. Proposed Amendment to Park Rules to Prohibit Smoking in County Parks
Motion by Grams, second by Marek, to accept the language proposed by counsel to revise the smoking policy in county parks. Motion carried.
3. Videographer-Conflict of Interest Disclosure
MOTION by Korn, second by Harrand, to accept Commissioner Marek's conflict of interest, allowing him to invoice the department at \$20 an hour for his video recording services, despite his position of being a sitting Parks Commissioner.
Roll Call Vote
Yeas: (7)
Nays: (0)
Absent: Coffia (1)
Abstentions: Marek (1)
Motion passed, 7 to 0.

L. Second Public Comment

There was no public comment.

M. Notices and Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Largent stated that a wheelchair ramp to restroom at Jack's Landing at Natural Education Reserve was recently installed. He pointed out that the date on the agenda was wrong – June 11 instead of July 9, 2020. Commissioners Grams, Harrand, and Provo all commented in favor of being able to meet in person again. President stated that the governor's orders would continue to be followed if and as they change.

N. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.