



MANISTEE COUNTY RECREATION COMMISSION

Monday, March 6, 2023
6:15 P.M.

Manistee County Board of Commissioner's Room
and via Zoom

MINUTES

Members Present: Wayne Beldo, Chair; Margaret Batzer, Vice Chair (Arrived at 6:22 PM); Gary Schwaiger, Secretary; Linda Cudney; Devin Wegner; Jeff Lawrence; Eleanor DeYoung;

Members Absent: Bryan Dunlop;

Others Present: Robert Schulke, Recreation Commission Member (Via Zoom); Kristyn Malkowski, Recording Secretary; Katie Mehl, Manistee County Zoning Administrator/Planner I; Joanne Montgomery, Norman Township Clerk; Nikki Koons, County Commissioner;

Mr. Beldo called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM, roll call was taken.

Approval of the March 6, 2023, meeting agenda.

There was a motion by Mr. Schwaiger, supported by Ms. Cudney, to approve the March 6, 2023, agenda as stated. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of the February 6, 2023, meeting minutes.

There was a motion by Mr. Lawrence supported by Ms. Cudney to approve the February 6, 2023, meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Trail Champions: No update.

Staff Reports: Ms. Mehl wanted to update the commission on the Community Foundation's Leadership Program. They received the approval of 7 life vest loaner stations that will be installed near the waterways of Manistee County.

Friends of Smart Trails Report: The February 13, 2023, Friends of SMARTrails meeting minutes were presented, along with the March 13, 2023, meeting agenda (Appendix A).

Old Business:

Spark Grant Update: No update.

Minger Grant Update: Ms. Mehl stated there will be more information coming once the Community Foundation releases the grant information.

Railroad Relocation Update: No update.

Parks & Recreation Manager Update: No update. Mr. Beldo would like to reach out to Mr. Bill Kennis, County Grant Administrator, for an update.

County ORV Map: Ms. Mehl stated the Planning Department had received responses from local municipalities regarding their ORV mapping data. They are still looking for communication from the following townships, Arcadia; Bear Lake; Village of Bear Lake; Village of Copemish; Onekama; and Stronach. Mr. Beldo will reach out to the mentioned townships in hopes to receive all the proper data that is needed for the community's awareness of the uses of Manistee County's trail systems.

Dam Update: No update. The commission requested that the Planning Department create the letter of opposition to the removal of the dams. Ms. Mehl will work with Mr. Szokola on the next steps to move forward.

Bylaws Update: The commission would like to update the By-Laws and Rules of Procedure of the Manistee County Parks and Recreation Commission.

There was a motion by Ms. Batzer, supported by Mr. Schwaiger to update the wording in the XVI - Advisory Group. The commission shall utilize the "Friends of SMARTrails", instead of "Friends Group". All in favor. Motion Carries.

There was a motion by Mr. Beldo, supported by Ms. Batzer to approve the By-Laws and Rules of Procedure of the Manistee County Parks and Recreation Commission, as amended (Appendix B). All in favor. Motion Carries.

The commission would like to identify that the, XVII – Annual Report, shall be addressed and followed. The commission will work on finding the person to create such an annual report to present to the Manistee County Board of Commissioners on the required basis.

New Business: No new business.

Other Items from Committee Members: The commission is still looking for a candidate to fill the open seat.

Mr. Beldo adjourned the meeting at 6:47 PM. Next meeting will be on April 3, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Schwaiger, Recreation Commission

Date