

# MANISTEE COUNTY RECREATION COMMISSION

Draft

June 3, 2024

6:15 P.M.

Manistee County Planning Department Conference Room  
and via Zoom

## MINUTES

Member Present: Wayne Beldo, Chair; Margaret Batzer, Vice Chair; Gary Schwaiger, Secretary; Linda Cudney; Eleanor DeYoung; Bob DeYoung; Jeff Lawrence; Robert Schulke

Members Absent: Tom Williams, Devin Wegner

Others Present: Katie Mehl, Manistee County Planning Director and Recoding Secretary; David Jarvi, Manistee County Planner; Sarah Herberger, Community Foundation; Sally Trisch, Dickson Township.

Mr. Beldo called the meeting to order at 6:20 PM, roll call was taken.

Approval of the June 3, 2024, meeting agenda.

**There was a motion by Mr. Schwaiger, supported by Mr. Lawrence, to approve the June 3, 2024, meeting agenda. All in Favor, motion carried.**

Approval of the May 6, 2024, meeting minutes.

**There was a motion by Ms. Cudney, supported by Mr. Schulke to approve the April 1, 2024, meeting minutes as amended. All In Favor, motion Carried.**

Public Comment: No public comment

Benzie/Manistee County Snowbirds Update: No update from the Snowbirds

Friends of SMARTrails Update: Ms. Cudney gave an update on behalf of Friends of SMARTrails, from their May 13, 2024, meeting.

- Ric Alameddine attended the meeting via zoom. Updated the Friends of SMARTrails on the Onekama Renewal Trail project. Ric asked for a letter of support from the group.
- Dylan Walker, from the Shoreline Cycling Club attended the meeting. Dylan gave some background on the group and some of the projects they are a part of.
- The June 10, 2024, meeting is cancelled, so the members can be part of the roundtable community discussion at the west Shore Community building.
- EDA Update: The Attorney general still has not signed off on the letter yet. They requested a third party to be contracted to perform the deed research, which is being secured by the DNR.

Benzie/Manistee County Dirt Birds Update: No update from the Dirt Birds

Ms. Batzer enters at 6:27

# MANISTEE COUNTY RECREATION COMMISSION

Draft

Planning Department staff Update: Mr. Jarvi and Ms. Mehl gave an update on behalf of the Planning Department.

- Mr. Jarvi stated that the meeting brought up a lot of new questions regarding the trail segment, which is pushing back the timeline. Issues included expanded road shoulders on segments of the trail between McMartin and McClellan Rd., and the want by the DNR to have local units of governments maintain the trail, not non-profit groups.
- Ms. Mehl stated that the objective is no longer to bundle the DNR grant with the Kaleva bathroom Facility project, in order to not delay the bathroom facility project.
- Ms. Mehl stated that it was a productive meeting with the DNR. Ms. Mehl also pointed out the forest road issue that was brought up, as the DNR wouldn't improve a road for non-motorized if it could be torn up by motorized traffic.
- Ms. Mehl stated that the road shoulders were also a big part of the meeting, as the DNR would like to see planning and engineering for how the trail will be facilitated on the roads.
- Had a very productive meeting with the Manistee County Road Commission regarding road shoulders along the trail segment.
- Ms. Mehl stated that our timeline for the project has been pushed back, and that it would be in our best interest to get some of these questions brought up by the DNR answered.
- Regarding road shoulders, Ms. Mehl said the next step would be to have an onsite visit with Scott Slavin of the DNR and Brad from the Road Commission to talk about what we are trying to accomplish.
- Planning staff will attend the next Village of Kaleva meeting to provide an update and will search for more grant opportunities.

Old Business: No Old Business

New Business: No New Business

Mr. Beldo requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 PM.

**There was a motion by Mr. Schulke, Supported by Mr. Schwaiger, to adjourn the meeting.  
All in favor, motion carried.**

Next Meeting will be on July 1, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Gary Schwaiger, Recreation Commission

---

Date