

# MANISTEE COUNTY RECREATION COMMISSION

February 5, 2024  
6:15 P.M.

Manistee County Board of Commissioner's Room  
and via Zoom

## MINUTES

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

Members Absent: Bob DeYoung; Devin Wegner; Tom Williams

Others Present: Katie Mehl, Manistee County Planning Director and Recording Secretary; David Jarvi, Manistee County Planner; Sarah Herberger, Community Foundation; Rob Carson, SMARTrails President.

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

Approval of the February 5, 2024, meeting agenda.

**There was a motion by Mr. Lawrence, supported by Ms. DeYoung, to approve the February 5, 2025, meeting agenda. All in favor, motion carried.**

Ms. Batzer entered the meeting at 6:17 PM.

Approval of the January 9, 2024, meeting minutes.

**There was a motion by Ms. Cudney, supported by Mr. Schwaiger to approve the January 9, 2024, meeting minutes as amended, adding the respective title for each Officer for the Election of Officers. All in favor, motion carried.**

Public Comment: No public comment.

Friends of Smart Trails Report: Ms. Cudney referenced the Friends of SMARTrails January 8, 2023, meeting agenda. Rob Carson gave a presentation detailing what Friends of SMARTrails is and how community members can support and contribute to the group.

Benzie/Manistee County Snowbirds Update – Mr. Coe provided the January 4, 2024, Snowbirds meeting agenda for review by the Commission and a verbal update on current trail maintenance and ongoing projects.

Benzie/Manistee County Dirt Birds Update – Mr. Coe provided a brief update on behalf of the Dirt Birds regarding ORV routing in Marilla Township and Manistee County in general.

Planning Department Staff Update – Ms. Mehl introduced the new Planner for the Department, David Jarvi, who will eventually take over as staff to the Recreation Commission. Ms. Mehl also updated the Commission on the absence of Mr. Williams. Lastly, will contact Village of Kaleva to

inform they are ready to move forward with entering into a contract with Flies&Vandenbrink to undergo the Planning and Engineering for the bathroom/trailhead facility.

Old Business: No Old Business.

New Business:

- Review Draft RFP for Planning and Engineering of trail route: Thompsonville to Chief

**There was a motion by Ms. Batzer, supported by Mr. Schwaiger to recommend approval of the Request for Proposal for the Preliminary Trail Placement and Proposed Improvement for the trail segment from Thompsonville to Chief as presented (Attachment A), with staff determining the respective issuance and due dates.**

**Roll Call Vote: Schulke – Yes, Lawrence – Yes, Ms. DeYoung – Yes, Cudney – Yes, Schwaiger – Yes, Batzer – Yes, Beldo – Yes. All in favor, motion carried.**

Other Items: Ms. Mehl provided the Commission with information on the City of Manistee Beach Master Plan update. Spicer is carrying out the plan update and requested a couple of individuals on the commission to participate in Stakeholder interviews for the public involvement portion of the plan. Four members showed interest in participating.

Mr. Beldo requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7: 25 PM.

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

Next meeting will be on February 5, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

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Gary Schwaiger, Recreation Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Club Meeting - Benzie-Manistee Snowbirds



"SNORV"

Date 3 - 6 -24

1. Call to order
2. Pledge
3. Introductions members and guests
4. President's Report- Working together with our DirtBird HIK,BIK,friends
5. Minutes of previous meeting - Prepared
6. Treasurer report - John provided

additions or corrections?  
motion to approve  
2<sup>nd</sup> for motion - discussion  
all in favor/opposed  
motion carried

## 7. Communications

1. Letters, e-mails - Little River golf outing, applied for, volunteers?
2. Website, Facebook Shobe, trails closed, Polaris Ride Command
3. Membership Tom Leases update - Checks to go out this week

## 8. Trails / ORV

1. Trail Committee report - Reroute for spring, Thompsonville to Tomasek, Possible Henery to Big Four, Got DNR land person information, meeting here on March 21, New gate list.
2. Map Committee report Committee - Next big move we need to get this going!!
3. DNR - Jessica has GPS meetings, Friday 1pm.
4. Dirt Birds update - Tim Knoper DB- Goot meetings with Thompsonville, Weldon, Dickson Twps. High Bridge and Coats Manistee river crossings

## 9. Events

1. Safety Class - New instructor training announced at Groomer workshop,
2. Vintage Show - Anyone want to take this on?
3. Empire drags - Went off, small turnout Great spirit! Met Benzie DNR Weaver there
4. Grant Opportunity - Joe B did Polaris application,Grant committee met, discussed options, club grant information is available to share
5. Dinners -

## 10. Equipment

1. Equipment committee - Jim Morris, Joe Bartlett and I attended Groomer Workshop - Report? Tractors draining batteries, using a disconnect switch, verify with Jessica,
2. Trail Maintenance - Status Dean,
3. Grounds - Tom any needs?

## 11. MISORVA - Joe B update?

12. Old Business septic work finished up, needs leveling. Road coatings, Mark and Joe, getting the process info on this..Crystal Mtn group, Kyle Nash request, researching MDARD Grant for quonsets for groomer fuel station

## 13. New Business -

## 14. Date of next meeting: April 3 2024

Reminder, Saturday Clubhouse sign up Fill out VOLUNTEER form for the month

## 15. Adjournment (motion to adjourn)

## 16. 50/50 drawing

**Standing Committees; We have a good start.**

**Thank you, to all that are actively working on our club projects, this is like running a business and no one person can do it all!**

**All help is much appreciated!**

We need to work on these to define them a little better and get some activity, notes and information documentation. As all can see there is a lot of work to be done for this club and we encourage someone to chair the committees, take the initiative to lead and report to the Board and membership at meetings. There does not need to be a huge report but we need to share information to the right people.

**Membership;** Tom Picciotti, Amy McKinley, Mark Coe

**Leases;** Amy McKinley, John Girvin, Mark Coe

**Trails;** Joe Bartlett, Mark Coe, Rick Dryour, Pat Dooley

**Equipment;** Dean Grossnickle, Tim Wheeler, Mike Picciotti, Todd Dumas, Jeff Haver

**Maps;** Nate Grossnickle, Jeff Pyciak, Jeff Haver, Mark

**Facility;** Tom Picciotti and ???