

# MANISTEE COUNTY RECREATION COMMISSION

April 1, 2024  
6:15 P.M.

Manistee County Board of Commissioner's Room  
and via Zoom

## MINUTES

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

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

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

Approval of the April 5, 2024, meeting agenda.

**There was a motion by Mr. Lawrence, supported by Mr. Schwaiger, to approve the April 1, 2024, meeting agenda. All in Favor, motion carried.**

Approval of the February 5, 2024, meeting minutes.

**There was a motion by Ms. Cudney, supported by Ms. DeYoung to approve the February 5, 2024, meeting minutes as amended. All In Favor, motion Carried.**

Public Comment: No public comment

Friends of SMARTrails Report: Ms. Cudney referenced the Friend of SMARTrails March 11, 2024, meeting agenda. Ms. Cudney talked about the update Chuck Krauss gave from TARP, and Rob Carson's EDA update.

Benzie/Manistee County Snowbirds Update: Mr. Coe provided an update on behalf of the snowbirds. Mr. Coe commented that the Snowbirds season ended on March 31, 2024, and that they have closed and locked all the landowner gates. Mark touched on the club wanting to purchase season (4 months) or permanent easements with help from the DNR.

Benzie/Manistee County Dirt Birds Update: Tim Knoper provided an update on behalf of the Dirtbirds. Mr. Knoper commented that the first meeting of the season for the Dirtbirds season was on March 16, 2024. The Dirtbirds also contacted all townships and villages where the proposed trail route will go through, which has been received with overwhelming support, both formal and verbal.

Planning Department Update: Ms. Mehl provided an update on the Kaleva RFP release, which is still held up until we hear back from the DNR. Ms. Mehl also informed the committee that the Village of Kaleva has started their planning and engineering for the bathroom facility, which is being worked on by Flies and Vandenbrink. Ms. Mehl also presented the ATIIP grant as another funding opportunity.

Old Business: No Old Business.

New Business: No New Business.

Other Items: Ms. Batzer inquired about if there were any mechanisms / ways that trail segments, equipment, or facilities that could be dedicated in honor or memory of someone. Ms. Batzer also asked if it was worth bringing this issue to SMARTrails to have discussion on the issue. Ms. Richard stated that the public could reach out to SMARTrails attention to create these types of memorials.

Mr. Beldo requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 PM.

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

Next Meeting will be on May 6, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

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Gary Schwaiger, Recreation Commission

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Date