



Tuscola County Parks & Recreation Commission

125 W. Lincoln Street

989.672.3700

Caro, MI 48723

Fax: 989.672.4011

www.tuscolacounty.org

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE TUSCOLA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, May 20, 2015 – 1:00 p.m.
Commissioner's Board Room, 125 W. Lincoln St, Caro

Pledge of Allegiance to U.S. Flag: Recited in unison

Roll call: Roger Allen (Board of Commissioners), David Barrios, David Barrios, Steve Erickson, Cynthia Kapa (Planning Commission), Bob Mantey (Drain Commissioner), Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman Robert McKay, Parks and Recreation Commission Vice Chairman Gerald Peterson, Mary Stec, Kim Vaughan, Chairman of Road Commission (or designated Road Commissioner).

Call to order: With quorum present that consisted of Roger Allen, David Barrios, Steve Erickson, Chairman Robert McKay, Gerald Peterson and Kim Vaughan, meeting was called to order by Chairman McKay at 1:00 p.m.

Others present: Tuscola County Administrator Mike Hoagland, Mark Miller of Tuscola County Building and Grounds Dept., and Pam Shook of Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds, Eeon Lee of Tuscola County Information Systems Dept., and Scott Zimmer of Air Advantage

Approval of minutes:

Approval of Minutes of February 19, 2015 Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting moved by Allen, supported by Peterson, and approved unanimously

Approval of agenda: Approval of revised agenda moved by Erickson, supported by Peterson, and approved unanimously

Review of correspondence(s) received: Copy of April 20, 2015, letter to Mary Stec from Tuscola County Clerk Jodi Fetting, informing Ms. Stec of her appointment by the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners to the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Review of Newsworthy items:

- 1) 2015-03-04 From Tuscola County Advertiser: "Commissioners OK parks and recreation plan"
- 2) 2015-05-16 From Tuscola County Advertiser: "Horse park plans still being contemplated"

Public comments:

1) Public comments made by Tuscola County Commissioner Craig Kirkpatrick in support of forming an intergovernmental arrangement between the Tuscola County Park and Recreation Commission with the Townships of Wisner and Akron to broaden the base of financial support for costs of operating and maintaining Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds.

2) Pam Shook presented concerns regarding maintenance issues at Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds with particular emphasis on condition of roads, mowing, and tree limbs in need of attention. Also, Shook suggested that members of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission who had not done so already should visit the Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds so as to better acquaint themselves with the details of park-related matters that come before the commission.

Business:

1) Presentation by Eeon Lee of Tuscola County Dept. of Information Systems in conjunction with Scott Zimmer of Air Advantage regarding proposal for internet service at Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds in exchange for a signal tower to be built and maintained by Air Advantage on the property.

Action: Moved by Allen, supported by Peterson: “To allow Air Advantage, Tuscola Dept. of Information Systems, and Tuscola County Dept. of Building and Grounds to move forward to investigate erecting a tower on the grounds of, and wi-fi service to, Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds”

Result: Motion passed unanimously

2) Mention was made by Tuscola County Controller Hoagland that a suitable tower might be available from the Akron-Fairgrove school system, and that he would look into that availability and report back to the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission.

3) Considerable further discussion of general matters pertaining to condition of, and situation(s) surrounding Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds the led to a consensus that the next meeting of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission should take place at the Vanderbilt Park pavilion during which time a number of issues related to the park and campgrounds would be discussed *in situ*.

4) Discussion regarding the suggestion by Tuscola County Commissioner Kirkpatrick of an intergovernmental agreement involving financial support for Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds by local township governments took place, with a proviso by the Chairman that this would involve special involvement commitment by members of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission from the northern part of the county in as much as he felt there would be little or no interest on the part of commissioners from the southern end of the county in pursuing such an initiative. Comments by Tuscola County Commissioner Allen led to the conclusion that there was little likelihood of such a proposal meriting further pursuit. This position was echoed by the Wisner Township Clerk, Pam Shook.

Public comments: none

Business to be carried over to next meeting:

- 1) Report from Tuscola County Prosecuting Attorney on park rule and traffic regulation enforcement at county parks in adjacent counties
- 3) Begin work on identifying project(s) for 2016 DNR Trust Fund grant submission(s) with special emphasis on projects in Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds
- 4) Matters pertaining to legal boundary of Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds
- 4) Wide range of additional maintenance, policy, and capital improvements related to Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds

Announcements and/or member Commissioners’ comments: Chairman McKay mentioned his view that the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission might take a look at US Bike Route 20 that passes through Tuscola County and how that bicycle route might be improved or expanded in Tuscola Township.

Scheduling of next meeting: Next meeting of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission scheduled for Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in the Vanderbilt County Park pavilion, the location of which is 4446 Bath Road, Fairgrove MI.

Adjournment: Moved by Allen, supported by Erickson – unanimous vote to adjourn at 3:07 p.m.