



# Tuscola County Parks & Recreation Commission

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## MINUTES OF 2ND QUARTER REGULAR MEETING OF THE TUSCOLA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup> BUT RESCHEDULED FOR MAY 26<sup>TH</sup>

Held on Thursday, May 26, 2016 – 3:00 p.m.  
as convened in the Commissioners' Board Room of the  
H.H. Purdy Building, 125 W. Lincoln Street, Caro MI

**Roll call:** David Barrios, Steve Erickson, Cynthia Kapa (Planning Commission), Bob Mantey (Drain Commissioner), Julie Matuszak (Designated Road Commissioner), Robert McKay (Chairman), Gerald Peterson (Vice Chairman), Mary Stec, Kim Vaughan, Tom Young, (Tuscola County Board of Commissioners).

**Call to order:** With quorum present consisting of David Barrios, Steve Erickson, Robert McKay, Jerry Peterson, and Kim Vaughan, the rescheduled 2nd Quarter Regular meeting of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

**Others present:** Mike Miller, Director of Tuscola County Buildings and Grounds Department; Vicky Sherry, Communications Director of the Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation; Chuck Dennis, Almer Township Trustee; and Pam Shook, Assistant Park Host of Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds.

**Approval of agenda:** Approval of revised agenda moved by Erickson, supported by Young, and approved unanimously.

**Approval of minutes:** Approval of Minutes (as corrected) of February 17, 2016, Public Review of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Master Plan, moved by Erickson, supported by Young. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of minutes:** Approval of Minutes (as corrected) of February 17, 2016, Special Meeting of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission, moved by Erickson, supported by Young. Motion passed unanimously.

**Public comments:** -- none --

**Review of correspondence(s) received, and/or relevant actions by the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners:** extract of Tuscola County Board of Commissioners meeting minutes as follows:

*2016-03-24: Parks and Recreation Master Plan*

**-- 16-M-044 --**

*Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Trisch that the Vanderbilt Park Capital Improvement Plan be approved.  
Motion Carried.*

**-- 16-M-045 --**

*Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Kirkpatrick that the Resolution of Authorization for the 2016 Michigan DNR Passport Grant application be approved and authorized for submission.  
Motion Carried.*

**-- 16-M-046 --**

*Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Trisch that per the recommendation of the County Parks and Recreation Commission that the 2017 – 2021 Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Master Plan be adopted by resolution.  
Roll Call Vote: Young-yes; Bardwell-yes; Trisch-yes; Kirkpatrick-yes; Bierlein-yes.  
Motion Carried.*

*2016-03-24: IRS Mileage Rate Change*

**-- 16-M-051 --**

*Motion by Trisch, seconded by Young that per Internal Revenue Service guidelines the county mileage reimbursement rate be decreased from the current \$.575 per mile to \$.540 per mile effective March 25, 2016.  
Motion Carried*

*2016-04-14: Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Update*

*- Currently, the EDC is assisting with 8 grant writing projects. The EDC is close to having a year-round Farmer's Market established in Tuscola County. There are various Municipal Projects under way. Vicky has assisted in completing various Park Plans and there are also many Master Plans under way.*

*2016-05-12: Consider the Purchase of Real Property.*

**-- 16-M-079 --**

*Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Kirkpatrick that the Board meet in closed session at 9:03 a.m. under section 8(e) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss the purchase of real property.  
Roll Call Vote: Young – yes; Trisch – yes; Bierlein – yes; Kirkpatrick – yes; Bardwell – yes.  
Motion Carried.*

**-- 16-M-080 --**

*Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Kirkpatrick that in order to evaluate the potential acquisition of land from the State of Michigan (near the Caro Regional Center) authorization is given to obtain assistance from the county attorneys to work with Senator Green and other state officials to determine if a draft satisfactory land conveyance document can be developed for further review and consideration by the Board of Commissioners up to 60 billable hours, contingent on the sale of 25 acres of county property to*

*the Tuscola County Medical Facility. Final approval of a conveyance document is contingent upon completion of a Baseline Environmental Assessment with findings that are acceptable to the Board of Commissioners.*

*Motion Carried with Commissioner Trisch voting nay.*

**Review of Newsworthy items:** four items from local media:

- 1) Tuscola County Advertiser, March 12, 2016, “Bayside bully: ‘Phrag’ fight expands from beaches to ditches”;
- 2) Tuscola County Advertiser, May 14, 2016, “Tuscola County close to acquiring 600 acres”;
- 3) Mlive.com, May 15, 2016, “‘Public Enemy No. 1’ on Great Lakes in crosshairs of phragmites demo project”;
- 4) Tuscola County Advertiser, May 18, 2016, “Millington park boss: Homeless, stragglers cause camping ban”.

**Public comments:** Pam Shook commented on issues regarding dead tree limbs and the danger those limbs impose to campers. Chuck Dennis reported that one such dead tree limb fell on his camper and he had to cut the limb into smaller pieces himself so as to remove it from the top of his camper. Questions were also raised as to when phragmites control might begin at Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds.

**Business:**

- 1) Review of Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commissions Capital Improvement Plan for 2015 – 2019;

**TUSCOLA COUNTY – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE –  
2015 – 2019 PARK & RECREATION MASTER PLAN**

FACILITY / PROJECT	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	TOTAL COST
<b>Vanderbilt County Park and Campground</b>						
1 Install Potable Water Lines	X					\$2,000
2 Open up Access to Saginaw Bay	X					\$5,000
3 Construct Restrooms w/Showers			X			\$100,000
4 Construct a Sanitary Station for Campers				X		\$50,000
5 Install Playground Equipment					X	\$25,000
6 Refurbish or Replace Picnic Tables				X		\$15,000
7 Develop Walking Trail			X			\$5,000
8 Install Water Lines at Improved Campsites		X				\$10,000
9 Improve Driveway					X	\$5,000
10 Update Lighting to energy efficient		X				\$15,000
11 Acquire land to expand campgrounds					X	\$400,000
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>\$632,000</b>

2) Review of Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission’s 2016 – 2021 Master Plan – goals, objectives, etc. with particular respect to future grant applications.

Moved by Barrios, supported by McKay that the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission support an investigation by the Tuscola County Economic Development Commission of issues pertaining to the acquisition of Sunset Bay Marina and to formulate a proposal for presentation to the Commission before the end of the year. Motion carried with 4 yeas and one abstention.

3) Review of working agreement with Tuscola County Road Commission for plowing of snow from Beach Road in Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds for a fee as has been instituted as of last winter and by all appearances worked well.

4) Brief mention of establishing small county roadside parks along the lines of State of Michigan roadside parks. Subject tabled to future date owing to lateness of the hour.

5) Mention of Vanderbilt County Parks and Campgrounds’ absence in “Michigan Campgrounds 2016 Directory” (pages 32 – 40).

**Public comments:** Comments by Chuck Dennis to the effect that whatever the cost of maintaining the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission, it is too much, and therefore a waste of money, until such time as the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners will support Vanderbilt County Parks and Campgrounds more fully and vigorously.

**Announcements and/or further comments by Commissioners:** -- none --

**Scheduling of next meeting:** The next meeting of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission, the 3rd Quarter Regular Meeting, is scheduled for July 29, 2016, at 3:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Board Room of the Purdy Building, the location of which is 125 W. Lincoln Street in Caro MI.

**Adjournment:** Moved by Vaughan, supported by Barrios, voted unanimously to adjourn at 4:21 p.m.

**Tuscola County Parks & Recreation Commission Mission Statement**

*The mission of the Tuscola County Parks & Recreation Commission is to provide and coordinate year-round recreational opportunities for people of all abilities, and to meet the needs of area residents and regional visitors while protecting wildlife and nature.*