



Tuscola County Parks & Recreation Commission

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MINUTES OF 3RD QUARTER REGULAR MEETING OF THE TUSCOLA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Held on Thursday, September 29, 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), Dara McGarry (designated employee of Drain Commissioner Bob Mantey), 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, Cynthia Kapa, Dara McGarry, Robert McKay, Gerald Peterson, and Kim Vaughan, the rescheduled 3rd Quarter Regular meeting of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 3:02 pm.

Others present: Mike Miller, Director of Tuscola County Buildings and Grounds Department, and Pam Shook, Assistant Park Host of Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds.

Approval of agenda: Approval of revised agenda moved by McGarry, supported by Vaughn, and approved unanimously.

Approval of minutes: Approval of Minutes (as corrected) of May 26, 2016, 2nd Quarter Regular Meeting moved by Barrios, supported by Peterson. 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:

2016-06-30: Consent Agenda, Committee of the Whole Reference D:

Move that \$1,500 be approved to remove tree limbs that are a safety issue to people using the campground at Vanderbilt Park. Also, budget amendments regarding this change reauthorized..

2016-07-14: Brief Public Comment Period

Nancy Barrios: Nancy questioned which areas are planned to be treated with the phragmites grant. She had heard Vanderbilt Park will not be treated although the area near Roger Allen's house will be.

Commissioner Bardwell explained that Roger Allen and his neighbors hired an independent company to treat the phragmites.

She also questioned who would be responsible for a tree that fell on resident's property near a road in Vanderbilt Park. She stated the homeowner thought the remainder of the tree needs to be removed. If the road was certified then whose responsibility would it be to remove? Ziggy had also called Mike Hoagland regarding trees that had fallen from the storm. Mike Miller met with Pam Shook who confirmed there were two trees that had fallen. The Road Commission had already been there to remove the fallen trees. Mike Miller also stated we needed to revisit who will plow the uncertified portion of the road prior to the winter season. The Road Commission plowed last year for a nominal fee.

2016-09-15: Brief Public Comment Period

Clerk Fetting informed the Board that applications have been mailed to current Boards and Commissions members to start the reappointment process for 2017.

Newsworthy items related to Parks and Recreation:

- 1) Tuscola County Advertiser, June 4, 2016, "Hail to the Trail: Millington, Columbiaville get festive";
- 2) Tuscola County Advertiser, June 4, 2016, "Krystal Lake shines as Tuscola County destination";
- 3) Tuscola County Advertiser, June 22, 2016, "Big plans in store at Tuscola County's Vanderbilt Park";
- 4) Tuscola County Advertiser, June 29, 2016, "Read all about it: Cass City seeks donations";
- 5) Tuscola County Advertiser, August 6, 2016, "Exchange Club of Caro hosts 10th trail walk";
- 6) Tuscola County Advertiser, August 24, "Sunday event set at Vassar Township park".

Public comments: none at this time, though comments by Mike Miller and Pam Shook were interspersed in business agenda items that followed.

Business:

- 1) Presentation and discussion of Tuscola County Ordinance 2015-08, "Ordinance Governing Activities at all Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Areas" with emphasis on posted rules regarding parking (and fees associated therewith).
- 2) Status of DNR Passport Grant application: Reported by Chairman that preliminary scoring had been received along with suggestions for increasing scoring somewhat.
- 3) Status of phragmites control effort: Reported by Chairman that one spraying had been completed and that a second would be performed next year under the grant in effect. However, subsequent sprayings and further control would become the responsibility of Tuscola County.

4) Grounds maintenance requirements at Vanderbilt County Park and Campgrounds: Open discussion including comments by Mike Miller and Pam Shook as needed. Topics included a) dead or dying ash trees; b) possibility of clearing overgrowth north of Gilmore Road in the upcoming year; and c) installation of split rail fence near ditch by pavilion next year after tree trimming in the area has been completed.

5) Iron – Belle trail from Millington to City of Vassar: Chairman reported on meeting with representatives of East Michigan Council of Governments, City of Vassar, and Vassar Township Parks and Recreation Committee regarding identification of Iron – Belle trail as it passes through Millington Township, Vassar Township, and into City of Vassar.

6) Terms of Parks and Recreation Commissioners expiring as of December 31, 2016: Chairman presented document from County Clerk showing term expiration dates noticing that two or more dates did not appear to be correct. Chairman said he would meet with County Clerk Fetting in the near future to sort out the details and subsequently suggest appropriate action(s) to be taken by the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners vis-à-vis upcoming reappointments to the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Public comments: Mike Miller and Pam Shook commented on ice fisherman parking fees to begin as of November 1st with fee collection and enforcement protocol to be the same as last year. Parking fees are \$3 per day or \$20 per season from November 1 through March 31.

Announcements and/or further comments by Commissioners: Discussion of meeting times was raised owing to multiple 2016 meetings of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission having lacked a quorum which necessitated rescheduling of those meetings. It was asked that this topic be placed on the 4th Quarter Regular Meeting agenda.

Commissioner Barrios announced that he would not be present at the 4th Quarter Regular Meeting of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission owing to his being out of the country on October 27.

Scheduling of next meeting: The next meeting of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission, the 4th Quarter Regular Meeting, is scheduled for October 27, 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 Barrios, supported by Vaughan, voted unanimously to adjourn at 4:10 pm.

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.