



# Tuscola County Parks & Recreation Commission

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## MINUTES OF 4TH QUARTER REGULAR MEETING OF THE TUSCOLA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Held on Thursday, November 10, 2016 – 3:00 p.m.  
Sheriff's Conference Room, Tuscola County Sheriff's Department  
420 Court 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), Kim Vaughan, Tom Young, (Tuscola County Board of Commissioners) . . . one seat open awaiting appointment.

**Call to order:** With quorum present consisting of David Barrios, Robert McKay, Jerry Peterson, and Kim Vaughan, and Tom Young, the rescheduled 3rd Quarter Regular meeting of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 3:01 pm. Excused absences: none.

**Others present:** No others present.

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

**Approval of minutes:** Approval of Minutes (as corrected) of September 29, 2016, 3rd Quarter Regular Meeting moved by Vaughan, supported by Barrios. 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:

*2016-10-13: New Business-*

*- Vicky Sherry updated the board on the Park Plan and grant.*

*2016-10-27: New Business -*

*- Cass River Greenway Update – Robert Zeilinger*

*Mr. Zeilinger presented to the Board the history and the goals of Cass River Greenway. New kayak/canoe launches have been established along the Cass River with two more planned for 2017. After those two launches are complete, it will complete the vision of the Lower Cass River Water Trail. There is interest in establishing the Upper Cass River Water Trail. Cass City is considering sponsoring a launch site near the waste water treatment plant. Tuscola County Road Commission has worked with Cass River Greenway in spraying and controlling phragmites along the roadsides. A water quality monitoring project sponsored by the DEQ was completed in 2014. In 2015, the Cass River Watershed Management Plan was completed and approved by the DEQ and EPA. Cass River Greenway continues to apply for grants and looks forward to the future of improving the Cass River. Their website is [www.CassRiver.org](http://www.CassRiver.org).*

- Parks and Recreation Commission Membership Appointments - Robert McKay and Clerk Fetting have worked together to determine the current Board membership and expiration dates.*

*16-M-186, passed*

*Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Young that the following actions be taken with respect to appointments to Parks and Recreation Commission and clarify previous appointment actions:*

- Jerry Peterson be reappointed for a three year term expiring December 31, 2019;*
- Kim Vaughn be reappointed for a three year term expiring December 31, 2019;*
- Robert McKay be reappointed for a two year term expiring December 31, 2018;*
- Advertise to fill the open seat formerly held by Mary Stec – the term of the person appointed to this position will expire on December 31, 2018.*

**Media coverage and other items related to Parks and Recreation:**

- 1) M-Live, October 8, 2016, “Bikers, runners celebrate opening of Bay –Saginaw connector trail”;
- 2) Tuscola County Advertiser, October 15, 2016, “Road Commissioner: County shouldn’t ‘spend a nickel’ on 774-mile bike trail”;
- 3) M-Live, October 25, 2016, “27-mile Thumb water trail seeks National park Service designation”.

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

**Business:**

- 1) Discussion of status of DNR Passport Grant application;
- 2) Discussion of status of any grant application(s) made by Tuscola County Economic Development Commission with respect to Sunset Bay Marina;
- 3) Discussion of potential grant application for planning study of Iron – Belle trail route through Tuscola County from Millington to Frankenmuth coincidental with U.S. Bike Route 20.
- 4) Discussion of recommendation that U.S. Bike Route 20 take Frankenmuth Road from Vassar to Frankenmuth and Tuscola County Road Commission expand paved surface to accommodate bike lane similar to that between the City of Vassar and the Village of Mayville.

Motion by Peterson, supported by Barrios: *that recommendation be made by the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission to the Tuscola County Road Commission for U.S. Bike Route 20 to follow Frankenmuth Road from Vassar to Frankenmuth and that the paved surface be extended on each side of the road to accommodate a bike lane similar to those on Saginaw Road (former M-38) between the City of Vassar and the Village of Mayville.*

Motion passed unanimously.

- 5) Discussion pertaining to meeting dates and times tabled until 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2017 meeting of Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission to take place after Tuscola County Board of Commissioners has its first meeting of 2017 and committee-board-commission assignments of County Commissioner have been completed. Moved by chair without objection.

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

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

**Scheduling of next meeting:** The next meeting of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission is the 1st Quarter Regular Meeting which will take place on Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Board Room of the H.H. Purdy Building located at 125 W. Lincoln Street, Caro MI.

**Adjournment:** Moved by Barrios, supported by Young, voted unanimously to adjourn at 3.37 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.*