



Tuscola County Parks & Recreation Commission

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

Thursday, August 23, 2018 – 3:00 p.m.

H.H. Purdy Building Commissioners' Board Room

125 W. Lincoln Street, Caro MI 48723

Roll call: Terri Lynn Eden, Steve Erickson, Cynthia Kapa (Planning Commission), Bob Mantey (Drain Commissioner), Julie Matuszak (Designated Road Commissioner), Robert McKay (Chairman), Gerald Peterson (Vice Chairman), & Kim Vaughan (Tuscola County Board of Commissioners).

Excused Absences: Bob Mantey and Julie Matuszak

Call to order: With quorum present consisting of Terri Lynn Eden, Steve Erickson, Cynthia Kapa, Robert McKay, Jerry Peterson, and Kim Vaughan, the 3rd Quarter Regular meeting of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 3:05 pm by Chairman McKay.

Others present: Allison Trinklein, Tuscola Township resident; Mike Miller, Director of Tuscola County Parks and Grounds Department.

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

Approval of minutes: Approval of Minutes of April 26, 2018, 2nd Quarter Regular Meeting moved by Erickson, supported by Vaughan, and 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:

2018-06-11: Board discussed the property near the Caro Center that Senator Green had offered to the County. Commissioner Vaughan has reached out to Senator Green to discuss acquiring the property. Board would still like clarification of the details of the property action.

2018-06-28 Committee of the Whole 06-25-2018 Consent Agenda:

Move that for consistency and to achieve uniform per diem policy, effective July 1, 2018, all county boards and commissions will receive a \$50 per meeting per diem except for those boards that have per diems set by State statute. (Current boards/commissions that received less than the \$50 per diem include: County Planning, County Recycling Committee, Parks and Recreation Commission, Council on Aging, Senior Advisory, Construction Code Board of Appeals, and Board of Public Works.

2018-07-12 New Business:

-- Vanderbilt Park Dump Station and Water Updates: Mike Miller provided an update to the progress of the project. MLR Engineering has submitted a bid I the amount of \$14,800 for engineering of the water distribution and dump station. Commissioner Vaughan has information of a pre-designed system for low-lying areas that he feels may work for Vanderbilt Park. He will complete further research and report back to the Board.

2018-08-1 Committee of the Whole 08-16-2018 Consent Agenda:

Steve Erickson has interested parties in the State property and environmental can begin on the buildings. It is recommended that an ad hoc committee be established for this project. A meeting should be scheduled soon to begin the discussions.

Media coverage and other items related to Parks and Recreation:

Tuscola County Advertiser, June 20, 2018, "Cass City pool open following nearly three-week closure" by Alex Szwark.

Tuscola County Advertiser, July 25, 2018, "Volunteers Sought for Cass River Cleanup on Saturday" by Alex Szwark.

Business carried over from last meeting:

- 1) Letter of support by Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission to Vassar Public School "Safe Routes to School" grant written by Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman Robert McKay and sent to Vassar Public Schools Superintendent Dorothy Blackwell.
- 2) Letter of support by Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission to Village of Cass City grant-funding initiatives regarding repair and improvements to Helen Stevens Memorial Pool written by Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman Robert McKay and sent to Cass City Village Manager Debbie Powell.
- 3) Comments, observations, or discussion of any issues pertaining specifically to 2018 improvements either made or still intended for Vanderbilt County Park and Campground.

New Business

- 1) Presentation of revised Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission 2018 meeting schedule pursuant to 3rd quarter regular meeting of July 26 having been cancelled for lack of a quorum.
- 2) Moved by Peterson, supported by Erickson, and passed unanimously recommending to Tuscola County Board of Commissioners that it request of Michigan Legislature that MCL 45.351 (County and

Regional Parks, Act 261 of 1965) be amended by the inclusion of the underlined language shown as follows:

COUNTY AND REGIONAL PARKS (EXCERPT)
Act 261 of 1965

46.351 County parks and recreation commission; creation; membership; terms; vacancy; commission as county agency; rules and regulations; compensation.

Sec. 1. (1) The county board of commissioners of a county, by resolution adopted by a 2/3 vote of all its members, may create a county parks and recreation commission, which shall be under the general control of the board of commissioners.

(2) The county parks and recreation commission shall consist of the following members:

(a) The chairperson of the county road commission as an ex-officio member or another road commissioner similarly ex-officio designated by the board of county road commissioners.

(b) The county drain commissioner as an ex-officio member or an employee of the drain commissioner's office similarly ex-officio designated in writing by the drain commissioner.

(c) One of the following:

(i) In a county that elects a county executive under section 9 of 1973 PA 139, MCL 45.559, the county executive or a designee of the county executive as an ex-officio member.

(ii) In a county with a population of 1,000,000 or less, the chairperson of the county planning commission or another member of the county planning commission designated by the county planning commission as an ex-officio member. In a county that does not have a county planning commission, the chairperson of the regional planning commission shall serve on the county parks and recreation commission as an ex-officio member if that person is a resident of that county. If the chairperson of the regional planning commission is not a resident of that county, then the board shall, by a 2/3 vote, appoint a member of the regional planning commission who is a resident of that county to serve on the county parks and recreation commission as an ex-officio member.

(d) Seven voting members appointed by the county board of commissioners, not less than 1 and not more than 3 of whom shall be members of the board of commissioners.

(e) For counties with a population greater than 750,000 but less than 1,000,000, the county board of commissioners shall appoint a neighborhood representative. The appointee under this subdivision shall be an officer of the homeowners or property owners association that represents the largest area geographically that is located totally or partially within 1,000 feet of the property boundary of the most frequently used county park who is willing to serve on the county parks and recreation commission. If a homeowners or property owners association is not located within 1,000 feet of that park or no officer is willing to serve, then the appointee shall be a resident who lives within 1/2 mile of that park and who is willing to serve on the county parks and recreation commission. If no resident lives within 1/2 mile of that park or no resident is willing to serve, then the appointee shall be a resident of the city, village, or township in which that park is located who is willing to serve on the county parks and recreation commission. The first appointment under this subdivision shall be made not more than 60 days from October 17, 2003 or not more than 60 days from the date a county qualifies for an appointment under this subdivision.

(3) Of the members first appointed by the county board of commissioners, 2 shall be appointed for a term ending 1 year from the following January 1, 2 for a term ending 2 years from the following January 1, and 3 for a term ending 3 years from the following January 1. The first member appointed by a qualifying county under subsection (2)(e) shall be appointed for a term ending 2 years from the following January 1. From then on, each appointed member shall be appointed for a term of 3 years and until his or her successor is appointed and qualified. Each term shall expire at noon on January 1. A vacancy shall be filled by the county board of commissioners for the unexpired term.

(4) The county parks and recreation commission is an agency of the county. The county board of commissioners may make rules and regulations with respect to the county parks and recreation commission as the board of commissioners considers advisable. The members of the county parks and recreation commission are not full-time officers. The county board of commissioners shall fix the compensation of the members.

3) Report from Chairman McKay on July 3, 2018, Project Kickoff Meeting on extension of Southern Links Trailway from Millington to City of Vassar and subsequent "walking the tracks" by Spicer Engineering on July 25.

4) Annual election of Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission officers who will assume office as a result of these elections immediately prior to Roll Call of Regular 4th Quarter Tuscola

County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. Moved by Erickson, supported by Vaughan, and passed unanimously to reelect current Chairman Robert W. McKay and Vice Chairman Gerald Peterson to positions of Chairman and Vice Chairman, respectively.

5) Moved by Erickson, supported by Vaughan, and passed unanimously that the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission supports the acquisition of land currently held by Michigan Land Bank along the Cass River in the general vicinity of the Chambers Road bridge in Wahjamega by Tuscola County for the purpose of establishing a park designed to accommodate access to the Cass River and a canoe – kayak launch site.

6) Moved by Erickson, supported by Peterson, and passed unanimously to request that the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners fund and engage in continued phragmites elimination efforts in and around Vanderbilt County Park and Campground.

Business to be carried over to next meeting: --

- 1) Developments pertaining to Caro dam repair;
- 2) Matters pertaining to nonmotorized transportation and extension of Southern Links Trailway northward from the Village of Millington to the City of Vassar;
- 3) Letters sent pursuant to motions passed at this meeting.

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

Public comments: -- none --

Adjournment: Moved by Kapa, supported by Eden, and voted unanimously to adjourn at 4:09 p.m.

Next scheduled meeting: The next scheduled meeting of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission is the 4th Quarter Regular Meeting to take place on Thursday, October 25, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Board Room of the H.H. Purdy Building located at 125 W. Lincoln Street in Caro, Michigan.

Mention: Though not mandated by the laws of the State of Michigan, policy of the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners, or by-laws of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission, past practice has been that the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission takes place annually at the 3rd Quarterly Regular Meeting of the commission, typically held at Vanderbilt County Park and Campground. The terms of office for both Chairman and Vice Chairman shall begin with the 4th Quarter Regular Meeting, at which time the following calendar year's Regular Meeting Schedule is to be established by the Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Tuscola County Parks & Recreation Commission Mission Statement

The mission of the Tuscola County Parks & Recreation Commission is to advise the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners on matters of policy and practice pertaining to the encouragement, establishment, and provision of recreational opportunities for residents of, and visitors to, Tuscola County.