

Shiawassee County Parks & Recreation Commission

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Minutes written and submitted by Bonnie Reno, Temporary Recording Secretary

Chairwoman, Tanya Buckelew called the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6pm located on the 3rd floor of the Surbeck Building.

Members Present: Tanya Buckelew, Jeff Bartz, Mike Constine, Bob Downer, Robert Ebmeyer, Bonnie Reno, Nancy Zdunic. Quorum was met. Tony Newman joined at 6:45pm. In addition, guest Phil Hathaway was present.

1. Pledge of Allegiance and roll call was taken.
2. Bob D moved with Robert E seconded to appoint Bonnie R as temporary recording secretary. Motion carried.
3. Tanya B request a call to the public and it was noted that Phil Hathaway was present. No other people were present in the room.
4. Jeff B moved with Robert E seconded to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried.
5. Jeff B moved with Robert E seconded to approve the minutes of August 5, 2015 as written. Motion carried.

Jeff B reported that he has been helping operations within Parks & Recreation/Buildings and Grounds with the departure of Phil Heavilin, past Superintendent. They are conducting interviews this week. Jeff B also reported the parks official closure date is 10-19-15 for this season.

6. Old Business – Master Plan discussion took place with Phil Hathaway providing his qualifications; the involvement with Owosso’s Master Plan and the Shiawassee County’s plans in 1976 and 1982.

Phil H explained the need to follow the State of Michigan’s requirements in planning; the need to communicate regularly; recommend sharing Parks & Recreation meetings; results; obtaining public input through various communication tools, the need to talk with commissioners regarding funding sources, consider holding board meetings at various locations to include township participations, etc.

Phil H shared multiple ideas and provided a 9-point draft of a Parks and Recreation Plan that included proposed goals, questions to consider, and future Master Development Plan meeting. Phil asked the board members what they would like to see/addressed as part of the plan.

The board members shared:

Ongoing maintenance for the parks

Funding for the parks – No budget for the last five years. Provided \$5,000. No money for equipment.

Capital Improvements

Areas that need to improve based on complaints include the need to mow more often at some of the parks, trash collection, and bathrooms need to be cleaned.

Board members recommended beginning the needs of Shiatown Park.

Bob D suggested re-naming some of the parks for the group that cares for the park. Discussion followed.

A Master Plan Development Meeting has been set for **Thursday, November 12, 2015 6pm-8pm**, location to consider Surbeck Building. Jeff B to check on the room availability and contact Shiawassee Township group. Tanya will call for the meeting. Phil H will lead the meeting. Bonnie R will provide flip chart paper and pens for recording ideas.

9b. Old Business – Board Structure discussion on changing the title to Shiawassee County Parks Board. Attempting to recall previous discussion from August 5, 2015 meeting and the need for more research via the opinion from the Prosecutor and bylaws, a motion was made by Robert E, seconded by Bonnie R to table this item until the additional research is completed. Motion carried.

9c. Old Business – Mission Statement discussion. Robert E reported he did not receive any changes or suggestions on the statement he wrote and proposed back in August. Jeff B motioned to adopt the mission statement written and presented by Robert E, Bob D seconded. Motion carried. Robert E agreed to send the mission statement to Julie to place it onto the Parks and Recreation webpage.

New Business

- a. Reservations Report – Jeff B reported the numbers are up.
- b. 2016 Schedule – Bob D motioned and Nancy Z seconded to approve the 2016 meeting schedule sent to the members as:

03-02-16 05-04-16 06-01-16 08-03-16 10-05-16

Motion carried

Supervisor's Report – Jeff B stated that interviews are being conducted and the hope is to fill the Superintendent's position soon.

Commissioners Heard – No one had anything to address at this time.
Good & Welfare – No additional information or topics were discussed.

Nancy Z made a motion to adjourn, Bob D seconded, Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35pm.