

Shiawassee County Parks & Recreation Commission
Thursday, November 12, 2015
Minutes written and submitted by Bonnie Reno, Temporary Recording Secretary

Co-Chairperson, Robert Ebmeyer called the Parks and Recreation Commission Special Planning meeting to order at 6pm located on the 3rd floor of the Surbeck Building.

Members Present: Jeff Bartz, Larry Johnson, Tony Newman, Bonnie Reno, Nancy Zdunic, Steve Zemcik. Quorum was met. Commission John Horvath, consultant Phil Hathaway, and newly appointed/hired Bldg. & Grounds Superintendent Tim Hill were present.

1. Robert E called the meeting to order
2. The Pledge of Allegiance and roll call were completed.
3. Call to the Public was announced. No one else was presented.
4. Jeff B moved with Nancy Z seconded to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried.

Phil Hathaway distributed a communication chart of the Parks & Recreation Commission members to review addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses for communicating with committee members during the planning process.

Phil H distributed a 2-page Goals and Objectives listing 15 goals based on the information gathered during the previous Parks & Recreation Meeting for review and discussion. Bonnie R moved with Nancy Z seconded to accept the goals as written. Motion carried.

Phil H distributed Shiatown County Park Site information sheets, Dam Removing Engineering diagram of earthwork plan from GEI Engineering with the park Bottomlands Boundary map via Google.

After sharing the Shiatown Dam History sheet, Phil H presented the proposed limits of earthwork that is planned for the dam removal project that included the hillside to be tapered, the river waterfall remaining at two feet fall, and the old powerhouse to be removed.

Phil H presented the Shiatown Dam Shareholder's Committee Goals and Objectives for 2015 that included the pond basin area and restoration area of the park.

Phil H presented a Master Plan Decision sheet prioritizing Shiatown County Park issues.

After discussions, the board decided and directed Phil H to address the following issues in the plan:

Canoe Launch Location to remain in the existing location and the need to upgrade with design suggestions,

Expand the parking area for the canoe launch location,

Work on the 'South of Park' boundary Bottomlands area considering: the extent as part of a 5-year plan, Invasive Species control, conservation easements to former riparians, and the level of public access and bottomlands uses.

Additional discussion took place on post-Dam Removal fishing access, West-East Park connections, leaving the Newberry Road woodlot as it is now, consider viewing-decks at a later time, and improving the Sledding Hill considering both safety issues and demarcation improvement to be part of the plan.

Members agree that there needs to be more communication about the Parks and Recreation meetings, actions, goals, and seeking grants and sources of funding. The suggestion of writing articles for the newspaper, including information via the Shiawassee County web-page, and internet were voiced by the board members.

Bonnie R agreed to write a first draft of an article for the newspaper to be emailed to the board members for review and potential submission to The Argus-Press.

The next Special Planning meeting has been set for Thursday, January 14, 2016 6-7:30pm, 3rd floor, Surbeck Building, Corunna.

Robert E. asked for another 'Call to the Public' with no response.

Steve Z made the motion for adjournment, Nancy Z seconded with the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 7:42pm.