

SHIAWASSEE COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, August 5, 2015
3rd Floor Surbeck Building
201 N. Shiawassee Street
Corunna, MI 48817
6:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting called to order at 6:01PM by Chairperson Buckelew
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call:** Board Present: Commissioner Jeffrey Bartz, Tanya Buckelew, Robert Downer (arrived later), Robert Ebmeyer, Road Commissioner Mike Constine, Bonnie Reno and Nancy Zdunic. Also present: Commissioner John Horvath, Superintendent Phil Heavilin.
4. **Call to the Public** – No public comments
5. **Approval of Agenda:** Items were added by Ebmeyer to the New Business portion of the proposed agenda. Motion by Bartz to approve the revised Agenda, supported by Zdunic. Motion passed.
6. **Approval of the minutes.** A motion was made by Bartz to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2014 meeting as presented. Motion supported by Ebmeyer. Motion passed
7. **Old Business:**
 - No Old Business presented at this time.
8. **New Business:**
 - Master Plan Update discussion – Heavilin updated the commission on activities of the Living Healthy Coalition and efforts by Board of Commissioners Chairman Aue to advance the development of a Parks & Recreation Master Plan. Motion by Downer to support the hiring of Phillip Hathaway to develop Phase 1 of a Parks & Recreation Master Plan using \$5,508.00 from the \$15,000.00 authorized by the Board of Commissioners at their July meeting, with future funds to develop a more comprehensive Parks & Recreation Master Plan utilizing future Waste Management Solid Waste contributions. Motion supported by Reno. Motion passed.
 - Commissioner Ebmeyer brought forward suggestions for board structure for the Parks Commission. In his research, he has discovered that most Parks boards without a millage, employees and programming are not designated as a “commission” but as a Parks Board. He feels that our board name is misleading as to what we do with our parks and what the actual authority of the board is: our “commission” is actually only an advisory board to the county Board of Commissioners and has no true authority on its own. Its members are appointed by and serve at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Ebmeyer recommends that we have the “Parks Commission” revert back to a “Parks Board.” The question was raised as to whether the name has to do with the wording of the public act that enables such boards as it is referred to as a “Parks and Recreation Commission” in Act 261 of 1965 which the body is organized under. This matter might require more research and an opinion from the Prosecutor and would also affect the commission’s bylaws.
 - Additionally, Commissioner Ebmeyer recommends that we discuss and adopt a Mission Statement to provide the public... and the Parks Board... a definition of what and who the Board is and does. Again, this is a matter of clarification and is a step toward clearing up misconceptions about what the purpose of the board is, the reason we have parks and what needs we envision them fulfilling for the public. Ebmeyer offered a draft mission statement and it was suggested that commissioners think about it, discuss it among themselves, suggest revisions and come back in October prepared to adopt a Mission Statement for recommendation to the Board of Commissioners.

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9. Buildings and Grounds Superintendent's Report

- The current **Reservations Report** was distributed for review
- Update on caretakers at Henderson, Kerby and Shiatown Parks
- Heavilin reported that we had a spring freeze of the pipes in the well house. He made the repairs.
- 2016 budget requests were submitted to mirror the allocations given in 2015.
- Parks volunteers are active in most of the parks, and the result is that our parks are looking much better maintained this year:
 - A. Henderson – Abba's House Men's Group under the guidance of Doug Peterson, part-time Buildings & Grounds employee and spouse of the caretaker
 - B. Kerby Park - Hoot 'n Holler 4H Club under the guidance of Mike Storm, part-time Buildings & Grounds employee and spouse of the caretaker.
 - C. Shiatown Park – we still need a group to take ownership of this park
 - D. Geeck Road – under the continued care of Durand AMVETS

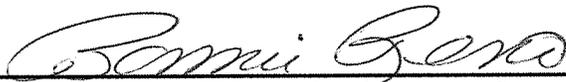
10. Commissioners heard:

- No comments at this time.

11. Good and Welfare:

12. Next Meeting: October 7, 2015, 6:00 p.m., 3rd floor Surbeck Bldg., 201 N. Shiawassee St., Corunna, MI.

13. Adjourn: 6:55 p.m.



Bonnie Reno, Secretary to the Shiawassee County Parks & Recreation Commission