



Louis M. Groen Nature Preserve • Otsego Lake County Park • Irontone Springs • Wah Wah Soo • Libke Fields • Community Center
These are the minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Otsego County Parks and Recreation Commission held on Monday January 11, 2016.

Meeting called to order at 6:02pm.

Members Present: Randy Stults, Scott Courterier, Dave Baragrey, Judy Jarecki, Abe Cruz, Bill Holewinski, Doug Johnson and Tom Johnson.

Members Absent: Butch Fleming and Bonny Miller.

Others Present: John Burt, Keri Swantek, Laura Hansmann, Cathy Johnson, Sue Smith, Shelia Simpson, Chuck Simpson, Sindy Steffner, Marian Lammers, Chuck Lammers, Karen Gruchiek and Bill Michaels.

A motion to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2015 meeting was made by Doug Johnson and seconded by Judy Jarecki. Motion carried.

Budget: John Burt informed the members that the 2015 budget is incomplete at this time due to payroll and 2015 bills yet to be paid. John Burt stated Rachel Frisch will be attending the February meeting to discuss the budget.

Bills: The bills were approved to go to finance for payment. A motion to approve the bills was made by Randy Stults and seconded by Tom Johnson. Motion carried.

Administrator's Update: John Burt reported that the interviews for the new director had recently taken place. John Burt reported that the parks millage is due to expire this year. Randy Stults asked that this item be placed on the February meeting agenda. John Burt reported that the Otsego County Community Recreation Plan is also due to expire this year.

Old Business:

- A. Election of Officers:** A motion was made by Abe Cruz to nominate Dave Baragrey to President, Scott Courterier to Vice President and Randy Stults to Secretary. This motion was seconded by Doug Johnson. Motion carried.

New Business:

- A. Community Recreation Plan Public Hearing:** The hearing was opened by Dave Baragrey at 6:18pm. Laura Hansmann spoke on the proposed construction of the tennis courts at the Sportsplex and the funding being sought.

Tom Johnson – what type of surface will the courts have?

Laura Hansmann – a hot mix asphalt surface.

Tom Johnson - are there any tennis courts in Northern Michigan with this same surface?

Bill Michaels – Sidock Group has designed tennis courts with this surface.



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Judy Jarecki - there are some tennis courts in the Pigeon River that have been designed by Sidock and they are in good condition.

Tom Johnson – when do you expect to break ground on this project?

Laura Hansmann – we will apply for the grant April 1, 2016. The project may not start until the spring.

Karen Gruchiek – are any improvements planned for the tennis courts at the Community Center?

John Burt reported he has discussed with the City the possibility of improving the city courts as well as the courts at the Community Center at the same time.

Randy Stults expressed interest in having an ongoing operation and maintenance plan designed.

Bill Michaels stated that fees will be charged to reserve the courts and these fees will go towards maintenance costs and the maintenance will be done by the Sportsplex staff.

Cathy Johnson stated maintenance costs may be covered under grants.

Randy Stults stated that since the skate park is on the county property it should be included in the Community Recreation Plan.

Bill Michaels reported the skate park is expected to be completed this year.

Randy Stults asked who was responsible for maintenance costs to the ~~Vanderbilt trail head~~ [Iron Belle Trail/North Central State Trail?].

John Burt reported the Bagley Township, Otsego Lake Township and Otsego County share the cost.

Randy Stults stated the ~~Vanderbilt trail head~~ [Iron Belle Trail/ North Central State Trail] should be noted in the Community Recreation Plan as a dual purpose trail.

The public hearing was closed at 6:33pm by Dave Baragrey.

A motion to adopt the Community Recreation Plan Resolution was made by Tom Johnson and seconded by Scott Courterier. The roll call vote was as follows: Judy Jarecki – yes, Scott Courterier – yes, Abe Cruz – yes, Randy Stults – yes, Bill Holewinski – yes, Tom Johnson – yes and Dave Baragrey – yes.

Commissioner Comments:

Randy Stults stated a boat hoist near Wah Wah Soo may be on county property.

Judy Jarecki was concerned about the sign at Irontone Springs falling down.

Dave Baragrey welcomed Randy Stults back to the board.

Next meeting is Monday February 8th at 6:00pm at the Otsego County Building, Room 100.



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A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Abe Cruz and seconded by Scott Courterier. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:38pm.

Attachments made a part of these minutes:

1. Adopted Community Recreation Plan changes

Keri Swantek

Recording Secretary