



Louis M. Groen Nature Preserve
Irontone Springs
Libke Field
Pontresina Park

Otsego Lake County Park
Wah Wah Soo
Community Center

Proposed Minutes
Regular Meeting Otsego County Parks and Recreation Commission
October 12th, 2020

Call to order at 5:57pm by President Dave Baragrey at the Otsego County Community Center.

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

Members Absent: Justin Wing.

Others Present: Tom Pratt, Rachel Frisch and Keri Swantek.

Previous Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes as presented from the meeting held on September 14th 2020 was made by Abe Cruz and seconded by Bill Holewinski. Motion carried.

Bills: A motion was made by Scott Courterier and seconded by Bonny Miller to approve the bills dated 9/6/20 – 10/6/20 in the amount of \$13,131.07. Motion carried.

Justin Wing arrived at 6:02 pm.

Financial Reports – the members discussed the financial reports from September for the County Parks, the Community Center and the Groen Preserve.

- **General Ledger** – Tom Pratt discussed the amount of property tax revenue and interest incurred at this point.
- **Capital Outlay Plan** – Tom Pratt presented the members with a copy of the current capital outlay plan as well as an updated copy. Tom asked the members to present ideas for this plan to be discussed at a future meeting. Tom Pratt said a new truck needs to be purchased for safety reasons.
- **Proposed Budget for 208, 209 and 494 Funds** – Tom Pratt present copies of the proposed budgets for 2021 to the members. A motion was made by Bonny Miller and seconded by Doug Johnson to approve the proposed budgets and recommend them to the Budget and Finance Committee. Motion carried.
- **Officer at CC (\$7500)** Tom Pratt and Rachel Frisch met with Sherriff Nowicki regarding having an officer present during the after-school program. Sherriff Nowicki said he can provide an officer presence and officer training of the staff and the protection of the staff and the students and adults who come to the facility.
- **Advanced Deposits** – Tom Pratt said advanced deposits for camping and cabin rentals have increased since the last meeting. The current amount is \$96,494.76 for the 2021 fiscal year.
- **Refunds** – Tom Pratt said the total refunds issued for this camping year was \$60,616.30.



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Old Business:

- **Irontone Fence** – Tom Pratt said that the company that present an estimate for installing the fence backed out of the project. Tom said this project will be moved to 2021.
- **Re-Keying** – Tom Pratt said that the County Park and the Community Center has several locks re-keyed.
- **Opening of the CC** - Tom Pratt and Rachel Frisch met to discuss re-opening the Community Center with organized activities. The members discussed the Community Playgroup. A motion was made by Doug Johnson and seconded by Bonny Miller to direct Laura Cherry, the playgroup coordinator, to develop a COVID 19 plan and to resume the program at the Community Center if the plan meets the requirements of the Northwest Michigan Health Department. Motion carried.

New Business:

- **Website** – Rachel Frisch discussed that the current parks and recreation website is out dated. Rachel said Otsego County government is upgrading their website and the Otsego County Parks and Recreation website will be incorporated into this.
- **Parks & Recreation Director N.M. Chapter** – Tom Pratt said he wants to start a chapter to meet with other park directors periodically to exchange ideas.

Director's Update:

- **Groen** - Tom Pratt said they are in the final stages about the current projects including the gate, lighting and the electrical. Tom said he is getting some drawings for the pavilion to present the foundation members.
- **County Park:** Tom Pratt said the campground is closed. Tom said the buildings still have to be winterized, and the power turned off and the boat dock removed.
- **Irontone Springs:** Tom Pratt said the park is closed. Justin Wing said his best guess is it would cost approximately \$20,000.00 to improve the walking trail to an acceptable level.
- **Libke Fields** – Tom Pratt said the sprinkler system will be winterized next week.
- **Dog Park** – Tom Pratt said the water will be turned off and the system winterized next week.
- **Community Center** – An opening date is still to be determined by the board members.
- **Wah Wah Soo** – Tom Pratt said the park is closed.

Wade Trim - Tom Pratt presented a proposal from Wade Trim to give cost options for fixing the campsites surface water issues at the park and compile a topographic survey. The cost of this plan is \$4,800.00. Randy Stults suggested the potential future new campsites be included in the survey. A motion was made by Abe Cruz and seconded by Bonny Miller to provide a topographic map for a cost of \$4,800.00 and not to exceed \$7,500.00 in total including the potential future new campsites. This plan will be completed 60 – 90 days weather permitting. Motion carried.

Commissioner Comments:

- Judy Jarecki said some posts were installed for the trail town.
- Bill Holewinski said the road commission has a new foreman and a new manager.



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- Randy Stults asked if a signed contract with the Otsego Lake Association for the fireworks reimbursement has been completed. It is on Tom's list of tasks to complete. Randy also asked about the crawl space project at the County Park ranger station. Tom said this project will begin on October 15th.
- Bonny Miller showed the members a picture of a community firepit she would like to see at the County Park and asked to have this idea in the capital outlay plan.
- Rachel Frisch reminded Bonny Miller and Scott Courterier that their terms are set to expire on December 31st 2019 and asked them to turn in the applications by November 9th 2020.
- Abe Cruz said he will not be at the next meeting and asked if a Zoom meeting could be arranged. Rachel Frisch said this a possibility.

The next meeting is Monday November 9th, 2020 at the Otsego County Building, room 100.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bill Holewinski and seconded by Justin Wing. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm

Attachments as part of these minutes

- Bills dated 9/6/20 – 10/6/20 in the amount of \$13,131.07.
- Financial reports from September for the County Parks, the Community Center and the Groen Preserve.
- Proposed budgets for 2021 for 208, 209 and 494 funds.
- Current capital outlay plan and an updated capital outlay plan.
- Wade Trim Proposal.
- Updated Parks and Recreation Staff List.